

About these slides

Before beginning these slides with your class, ensure you can view the speaker notes attached to each slide. They contain additional information and class discussion questions to help guide you through the content. You may wish to cover the material over two or more class periods, depending on what best suits the needs of your students. Understanding and creating meaningful territorial land acknowledgements should take time and thoughtful reflection.

The Division 1 & 2 slides, as well as the Division 3 & 4 slides, can be adapted as needed to meet your students' needs and level of understanding.

After your whole class and/or individual students have created their land acknowledgements, you are encouraged to share them with your school community through morning announcements, school broadcasts, or by displaying them around the school throughout the month of June.

CONTEST: Remember, you can ENTER TO WIN great prizes for your classroom in two easy steps!

Step One: Tag Indigenous Learning Services on social media:

- Facebook: @IndigenousLearningServices
- Instagram: @indigenousecsd

Step Two: Email your photos, class/grade along with school info, and a short write-up of your activity to ILSGeneralInquiries@ecsd.net for a chance to win.

- 1st Prize: Indigenous Artist Experience (for the 2025–2026 school year)
- 2nd Prize: Indigenous Novel Bundle
- 3rd Prize: Treaty Canvas Triptych





Dear Educator,

Before leading this lesson, take time to learn about the Indigenous Peoples and Treaty territory where your school is located. Understand that land acknowledgements are more than a written/spoken script — they are a meaningful way to recognize and respect the ongoing presence and contributions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples. This lesson is a starting point to help you and your students connect to the land and honour Indigenous peoples of this territory.

5 Tips for Creating Meaningful Territory Land Acknowledgements:

1. **Research.** Take the time to learn about the Indigenous Peoples of the territory you are on. Learn about their histories, treaty relationships, Métis homelands, and worldviews. Understanding this context is essential to a meaningful acknowledgement.
2. **Lead with Values.** Approach your acknowledgement with humility, honesty, gratitude, respect, and responsibility. These values should guide both your words and your actions.
3. **Acknowledge Time and Continuity.** Address the past, present, and future. Indigenous Peoples are not just part of history — they are vibrant, living communities who are still here and continue to care for and protect the land.
4. **Take Responsibility.** Go beyond an acknowledgement by sharing a personal or collective commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. What action will you take to support this journey?
5. **Inspire Learning.** Your land acknowledgement should spark curiosity and encourage others to learn more. It's an opportunity to foster a deeper understanding and support reconciliation through education.

It's okay to say, "I'm still learning." In fact, that's an important part of this journey. Whenever possible, involve local Indigenous voices and seek guidance — such as through community Elders and members.

Remember: this lesson is not a one-time event. It's part of an ongoing journey of relationship-building, reflection, and reconciliation through education. Visit the [ILS SharePoint](#) for further resources.

Dear Educator, continued

It's important to remember that land acknowledgements are not intended for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students in your classrooms. When an Indigenous person chooses to acknowledge the land, it may take a different form—such as a welcome if they are on their own territory, or an honouring of both their home territory and the land they are currently on, or by honouring the land as a relative. First Nations, Métis, or Inuit students should never feel pressured to offer a welcome or land acknowledgement if they are not comfortable doing so. Take the time to have thoughtful and respectful conversations with your students in advance to ensure they feel supported.

An acknowledgement/welcoming from an Indigenous person may include the following:

Identity and Belonging. Students can reflect on:

- Who they are (name, nation, family, language)
- Where they come from (community, territory, land)
- Honouring their relationship with the land (feelings, stories, traditions)

Acknowledge their position: Host or Guest

- If they are on their own territory: They may speak as a host, recognizing their ancestors' care for the land, inspiring education, encouraging others to take responsibility and action, or welcoming others respectfully.
- If they are on another Nation's territory: They may speak as a guest, offering thanks and respect to the host Nations/treaty while honoring their own traditional territory/homelands.

Language that reflects their identity

Relationships

- Connection to the land
- Gratitude to land, ancestors, and culture
- Living in a good way (following traditional teachings, care, responsibility)

Create a safe, empowering space

- Let students choose how and what they want to share.
- Involve family or community if possible.
- Offer private or small group settings if needed.
- Never pressure a student to disclose cultural identity.



Indigenous Peoples

Watch [this video](#) to establish an understanding of the word Indigenous. Indigenous people are the first people who lived on this land, and they still live here today.



Connect with the Land

Learn from Indigenous worldviews about what it means to be a good ancestor



Listen to [this book](#) and discuss how you can be a good ancestor and care for the land.

KISISKÂCIWANI-SÍPIY



Learning about Treaties



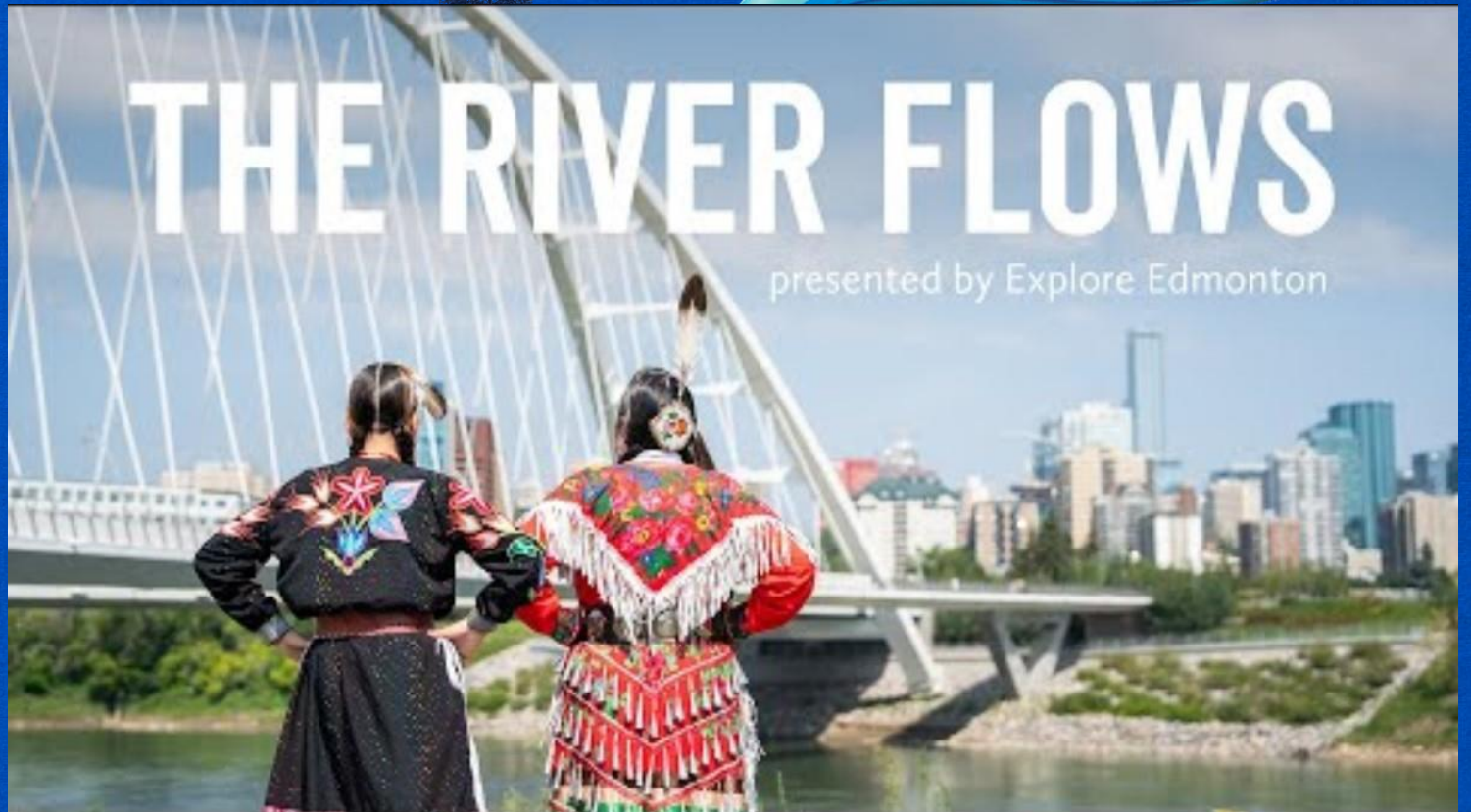
Watch [this video](#) and share your learning

Edmonton - Treaty 6 Territory

Did you know Edmonton is located on Treaty 6 territory? We are on the traditional lands of many Indigenous Peoples, including:

- Nêhiyawak (Cree)
- Dene
- Niitsitapi (Blackfoot)
- Stoney Nakota Sioux
- Saulteaux
- Métis (Otipemisiwak)

Watch [this video](#) and discuss what you learned about amiskwacîwâskahikan (Edmonton)



KISISKÂCIWANI-SÏPIY

What is a land acknowledgement?

Go to [this site](#) and click through the slides to learn about land acknowledgements

KISISKÂCIWANI-SÎPIY



What is a Land Acknowledgment?

We all live on land that has a story. Indigenous Peoples have been caring for the land that we live on for thousands of years, long before the arrival of early settlers.

We can show respect and humility by honouring the land and the people who have and continue to care for it.

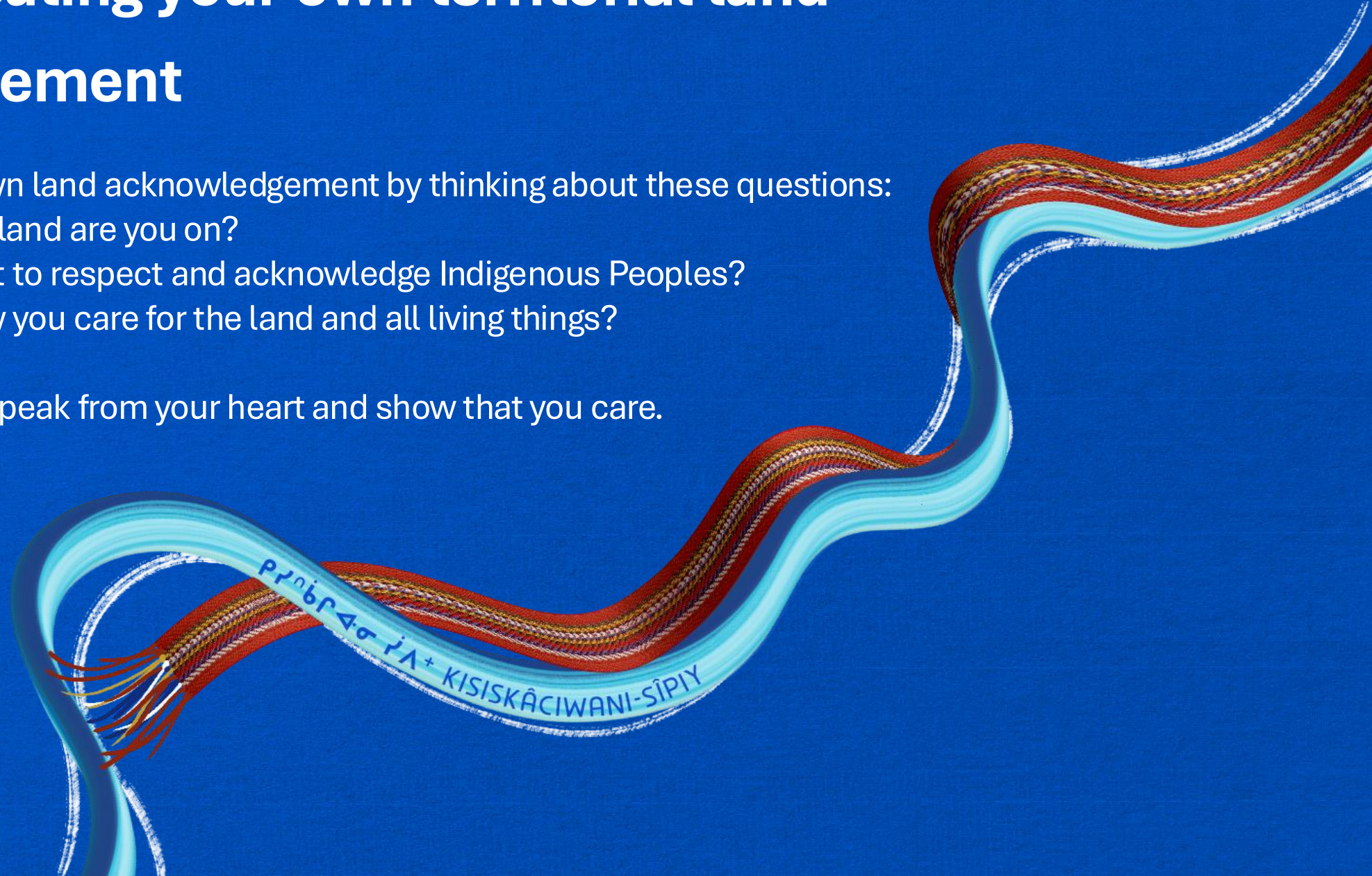


Activity: Creating your own territorial land acknowledgement

You can make your own land acknowledgement by thinking about these questions:

- Whose traditional land are you on?
- Why is it important to respect and acknowledge Indigenous Peoples?
- How can you show you care for the land and all living things?

Your words matter—speak from your heart and show that you care.



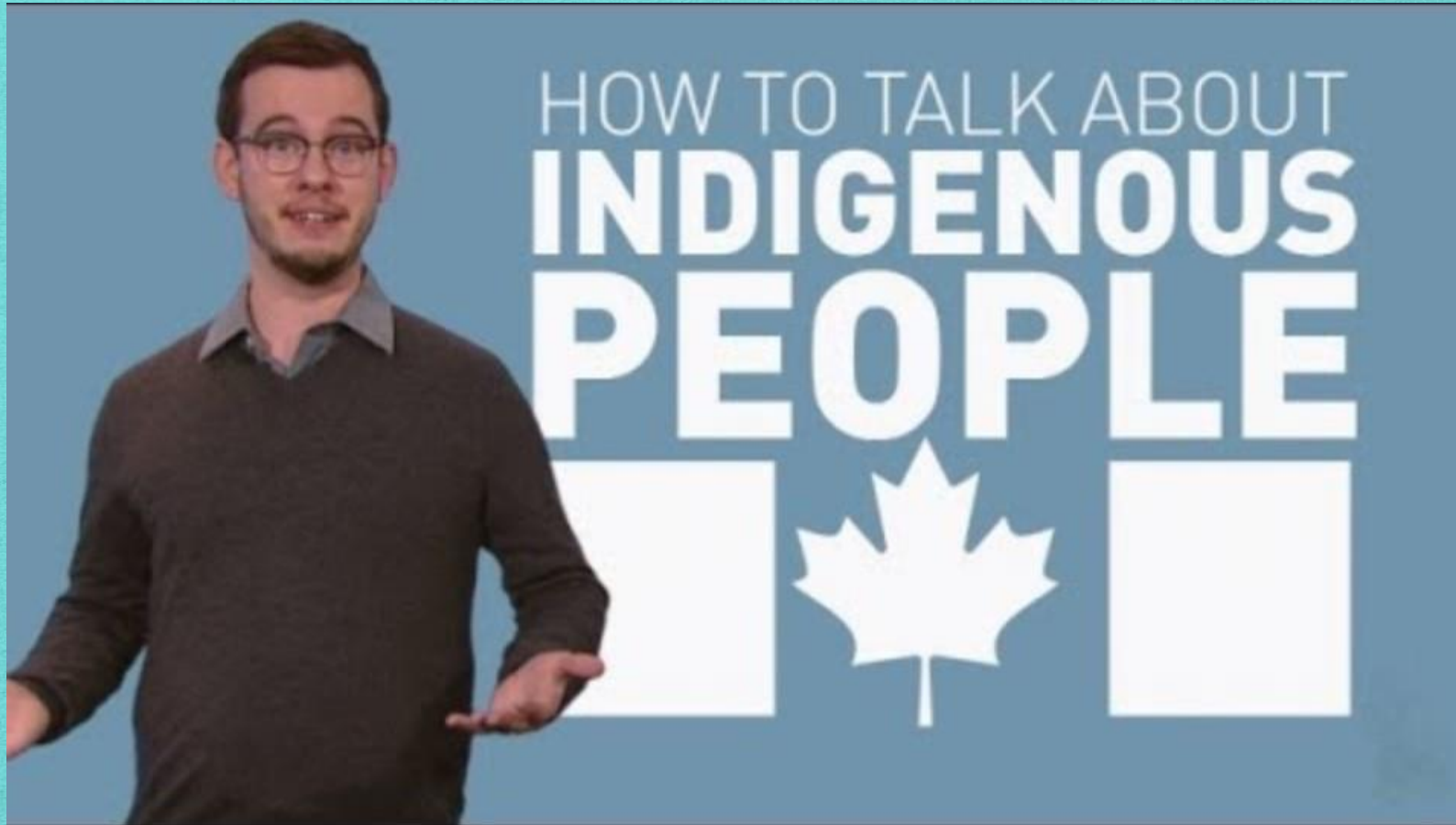
What is a Land Acknowledgement?

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Indigenous Peoples

Watch [this video](#) and discuss who Indigenous peoples are.



How to create an effective and personal Land Acknowledgement

Watch [this video](#) and learn about ways you can create an effective and personal land acknowledgement



Understanding Treaties

You may have heard the word “Treaty.” What does it mean? Do you know what it means to be “in Treaty” with someone? What does it mean to be in a relationship that lasts forever?



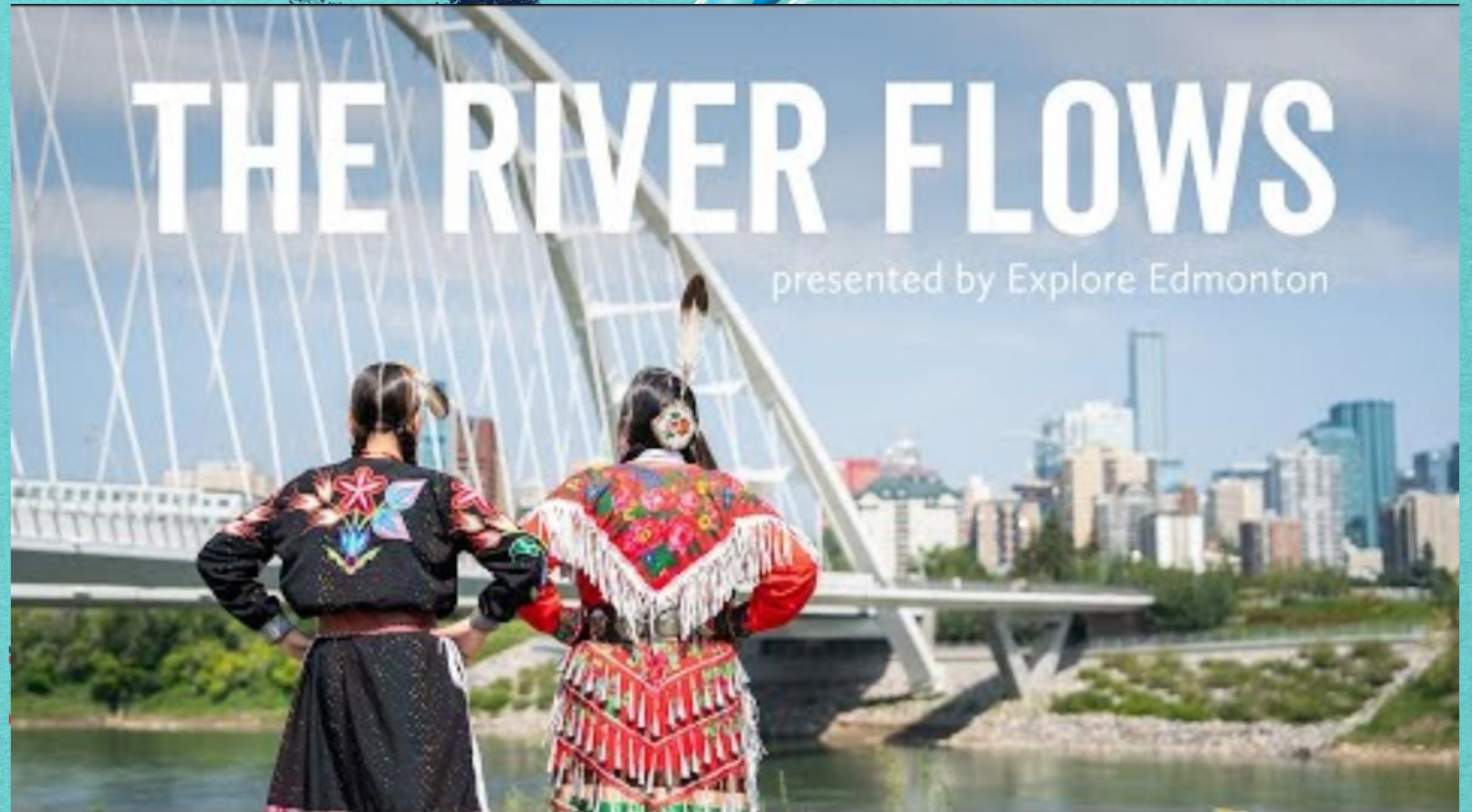
Watch [this video](#) and discuss what you learned about treaties

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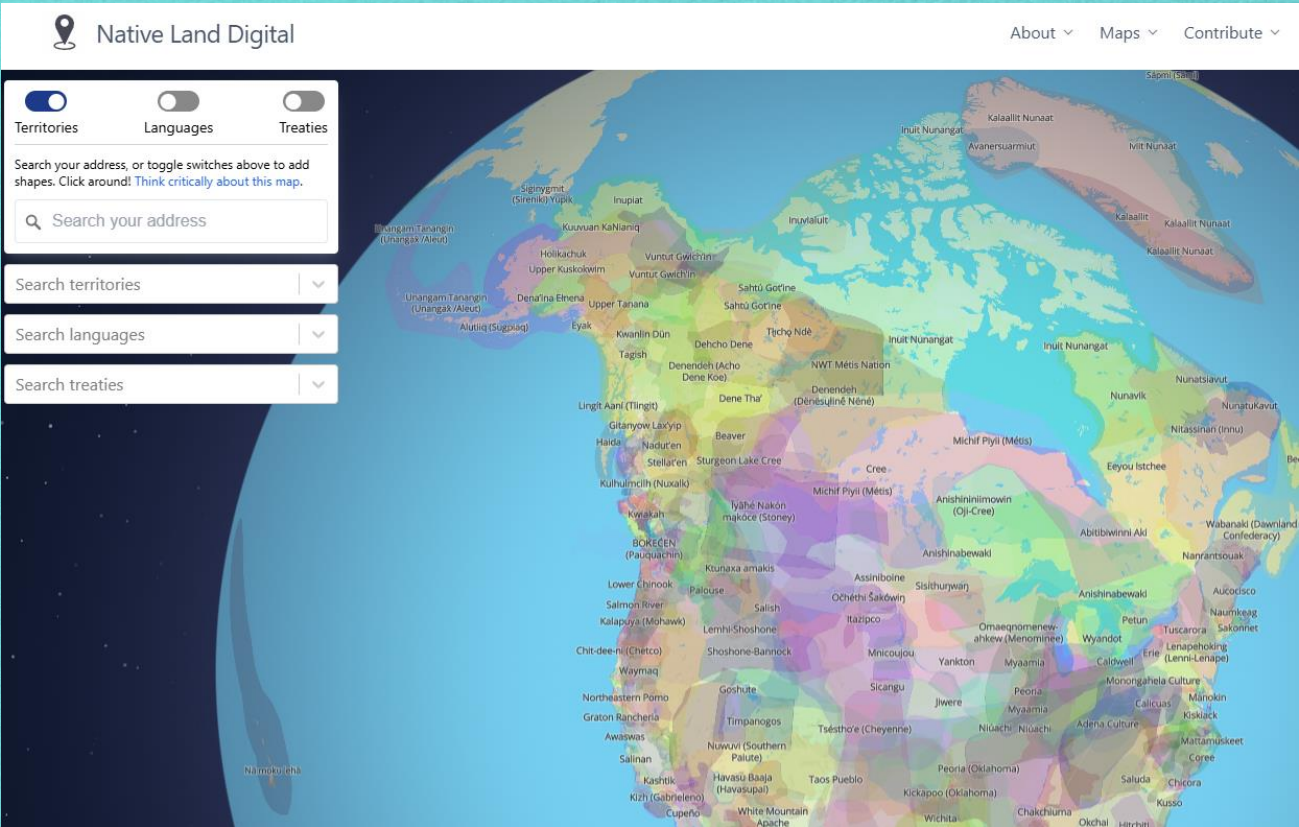
Watch [this video](#) and discuss what you learned about amiskwacîwâskahikan (Edmonton)



KISISKÂCIWANI-SÍPIY

Native Land

KISISKÂCIWANI-SÏPIYI



Scan the QR code or visit Native-land.ca

Explore the website to learn about the traditional territory, languages, and treaties of this territory.



What is your commitment?

Watch [this video](#) and discuss ways you can be part of Truth & Reconciliation.
What is your commitment to repairing relationships?



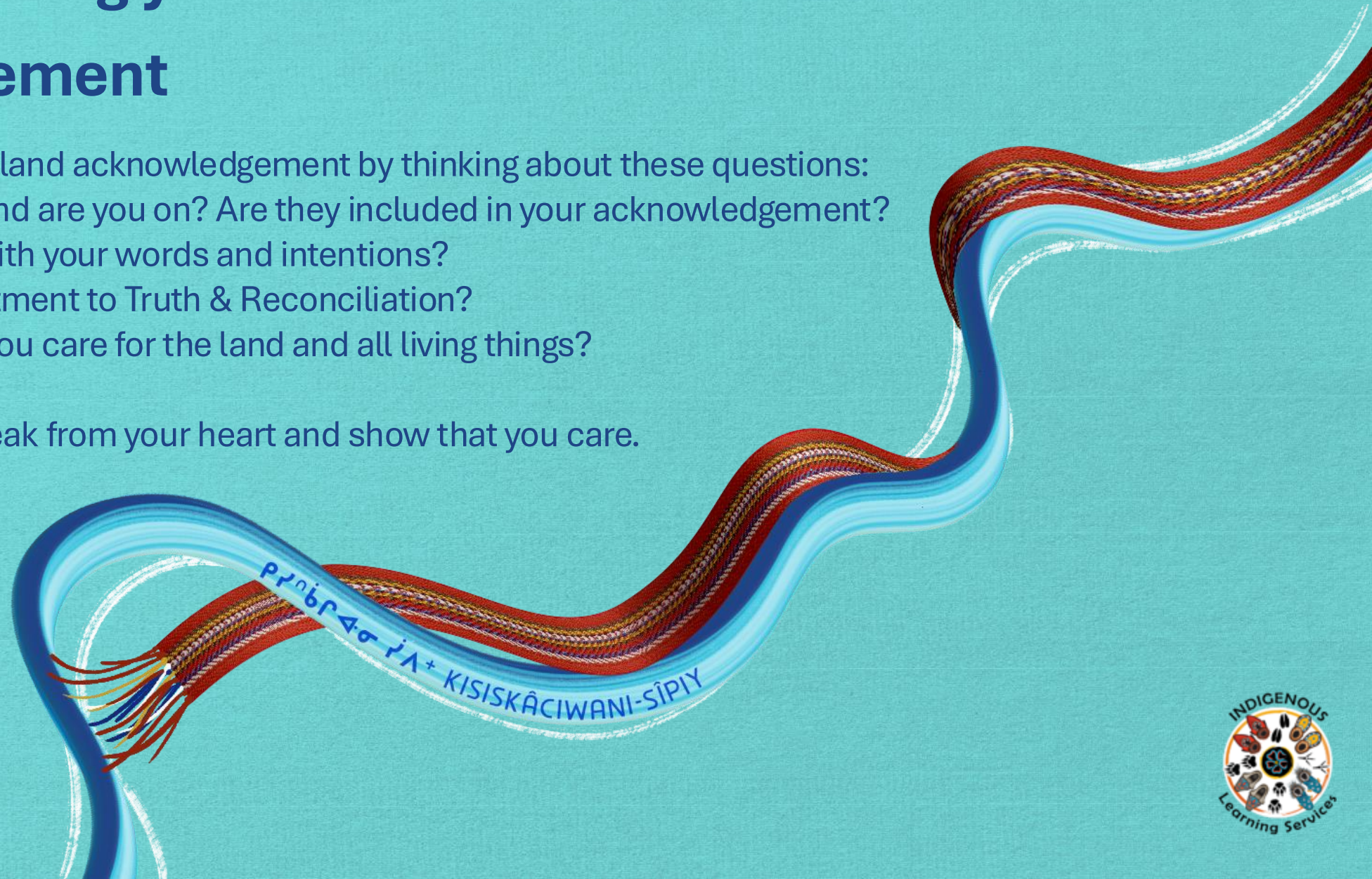
**KN
EXPLAINS
RECONCILIATION**

Activity: Creating your own territorial land acknowledgement

You can make your own land acknowledgement by thinking about these questions:

- Whose traditional land are you on? Are they included in your acknowledgement?
- Are you respectful with your words and intentions?
- What is your commitment to Truth & Reconciliation?
- How can you show you care for the land and all living things?

Your words matter—speak from your heart and show that you care.



Contest

Remember, you can ENTER TO WIN great prizes for your classroom in two easy steps!

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Next week: Indigenous Kahoot

A blue rectangular graphic with white text. The text reads "NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH". Below this, it says "Week 2: Indigenous Kahoot". The background of the graphic features a stylized, colorful wave pattern in shades of blue, red, and orange, and a faint image of a person in a canoe on water. The wave pattern is also present as a decorative element on the left and right sides of the slide.

NATIONAL
**INDIGENOUS
HISTORY
MONTH**

Week 2:
Indigenous Kahoot

