



Kenora Public Library Board

POLICY

SECTION: Foundation	NO: FOU-03
TITLE: Truth and Reconciliation	DATE: March 25, 2026
	Next Review Date: March 2030

The Kenora Public Library understands the need to recognize and embrace the principles of Truth and Reconciliation with the Indigenous population, as outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report.

Declaration

With this understanding, the Kenora Public Library acknowledges the First Peoples on whose traditional territories we live and work. We believe that acknowledging territory shows recognition of, and respect for, Indigenous Peoples, both in the past and the present. We believe that the territorial acknowledgements are not simply a *pro forma* statement made before a meeting; but a vital *part* of the business. We believe that recognition and respect are essential elements of establishing healthy, reciprocal relations and are key to reconciliation.

The Kenora Public Library will use this Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration at the beginning of all meetings held at the library.

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Kenora Public Library acknowledges that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Metis of Treaty #3. The Kenora Public Library recognizes the importance of a strong relationship with Treaty #3 partners based on recognition of rights, respect, and co-operation. The library acknowledges the rich culture of Indigenous people and the subsequent injustices faced historically and today, and strives to be a safe resource for all people to learn, read, listen, and reflect, while respectfully and thoughtfully moving forward with collective healing and true reconciliation.

Collection

The Kenora Public Library will provide collections relating to Indigenous cultures, languages, and peoples, including books, audio and video materials. Our collection will include titles by and about First Nation communities and will include titles presented in the First Nation Communities READ program.

Services and Programs

The Kenora Public Library will provide welcoming spaces and library services to Indigenous peoples and share elements of First Nations culture with non-Indigenous persons. Library spaces, programs, and services reflect truth and reconciliation efforts and calls to action.

Relationships

Indigenous partners are consulted and invited to participate at the beginning of milestone projects or initiatives to ensure planning and implementation are done “in a good way”. **(see Appendix)**

History			
Approval Date:	March 23, 2022	Approved by:	Maureen Wasacase
Amendment Date:	Mar. 25, 2026	Approved by:	Marj Poirier
Amendment Date:		Approved by:	
Amendment Date:		Approved by:	
Amendment Date:		Approved by:	

Appendix

“in a good way” meaning

The University of Calgary provides the following definition of what “in a good way” means when working in relationship with First Nations:

In a good way is a concept used by many Indigenous peoples to recognize work that is conducted in authentic and meaningful ways, with intention and sincerity, through reciprocal and respectful relationships. It is a demonstration of working with clear purpose and with high levels of integrity, moral strength and communal spirit.