



Guidelines – Acknowledging the Musqueam People & Territory at Ceremonies and Events

Prepared by the UBC Ceremonies Office in conjunction with the Musqueam Protocol Office and the First Nations House of Learning for Congress 2019

The University of British Columbia, where we will gather for Congress 2019, is located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəy̓əm (Musqueam) people. We give thanks to the Musqueam people for welcoming us on their territory. We will be working diligently to live up to our collective responsibility to honour and respect their protocols and homeland, to build relationships, and to engage meaningfully with their knowledge in this Congress and beyond.

The University of British Columbia and the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences are committed to creating an inclusive and respectful environment for the 2019 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. The purpose of this document is to provide guiding principles for association organizers as you strive to respect and honour the protocols of Musqueam people.

Background Information: Musqueam First Nation

The traditional territory of the Musqueam people comprises what is now Vancouver, the University of British Columbia's Vancouver Campus and surrounding areas. For more information, please go to <http://www.musqueam.bc.ca/>.

Relationship with UBC

UBC's main Vancouver campus is located on the traditional territory of the Musqueam people. These lands have always been a place of learning for Musqueam youth, who were instructed in their culture, history, and tradition, and who in turn shared their knowledge with a new generation.

For more information, please go to <http://aboriginal.ubc.ca/community-youth/musqueam-and-ubc/>.

How to acknowledge the Musqueam

The preferred way of honouring and showing respect to the Musqueam people is to acknowledge Musqueam territory at the beginning of the event.

For official university-wide events (involving the President, Chancellor, Board of Governors), the UBC Ceremonies and Events Office is responsible for contacting the Musqueam Protocol Office for a representative. Contact us at ceremonies.office@ubc.ca.





Points to Note

Acknowledging territory is a way of honoring and showing respect to the Musqueam, who have long inhabited this land. This does not need to be done at every meeting and gathering at UBC but should be done when it is meaningful or appropriate to do so.

The only people who would provide a 'Welcome' are the Musqueam; anyone else, including other Indigenous people, would simply acknowledge the territory.

The host or Emcee is the only person who needs to acknowledge Musqueam. It is not necessary for any other speaker to do so (although it is appropriate for another Indigenous speaker to do so, should they wish)

For larger events, it is respectful to have a member of the Musqueam First Nation, preferably an elder, provide a welcome.

Acknowledgement of Territory/Introduction of Representative

The following are common phrases that can be used by an Emcee or host to acknowledge UBC's presence on Musqueam traditional territory prior to introducing the Musqueam representative (if present):

"I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered today on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Musqueam people and I will now ask *** to bring a welcome on behalf of the Musqueam."

If there is no representative attending your event, you should use the following phrase:

"I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered today on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Musqueam people."

It's important that this recognition of Musqueam territory and our relationship with the Musqueam people don't appear as just a formality. Take a moment to appreciate the meaning behind the words we use:

Traditional: recognizes lands traditionally used and/or occupied by the Musqueam people or other First Nations in other parts of the country.

Ancestral: recognizes land that is handed down from generation to generation.

Unceded: refers to land that was not turned over to the Crown by a treaty or other agreement.

Musqueam Welcome to Territory at Congress

Note that it is not possible for Musqueam community members to do individual welcomes for individual associations so instead there will be an official welcome at the opening of Congress





reception on May 31 and then again at each of the four President's receptions (June 2,3, 5, and 6).

Smudging

As smudging is not a Musqueam tradition, it is respectfully requested that guests refrain from smudging unless it is your traditional practice. As referenced in these Guidelines, we encourage you to acknowledge the Musqueam territory at the beginning of your event. Please contact info.Congress2019@ubc.ca if you have any further questions on this.

How to Request a Culture Tour

It is possible to arrange for a tour of the Musqueam Community and Cultural Centre.

Option A: Historical Tour (accessible)

Option B: Ecological and Historical: Building and walking tour (not accessible because of unpaved path)

Maximum of 30 people per tour.

Rate: \$330 per tour

Time: 2 hours

Transportation: Associations are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from the Musqueam Cultural Centre and UBC.

Note that there are limited spots available for tours.

Please contact info.Congress2019@ubc.ca to arrange a date and time.

The association coordinator responsible for the event should contact via e-mail the office of UBC Programming for Congress (info.Congress2019@ubc.ca) who will serve as liaison for Congress-Musqueam requests.

When making your request, please provide the following information:

Association name:

Date & Time (with suggested time of arrival):

On-site contact at event:

Flag

If you plan to have flags (Canada, BC, UBC) at an event not coordinated by the Ceremonies Office, you may request permission from the Musqueam Main Office to also use the Musqueam flag. Once approved, please forward copy of approval by e-mail to ceremonies.office@ubc.ca and for a small deposit, you will be provided with the Musqueam flag as well as advice on the placement of the Musqueam flag when used with the other flags on campus.

For your information, the Musqueam flag is usually displayed at major UBC ceremonies coordinated by the Ceremonies Office (Graduation, Remembrance Day, building openings, etc.) when the other three flags noted above are also displayed.





Downtown Vancouver Campus

(this applies to Robson Square, VGH, etc.)

“I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered today on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

NB: the anglicized pronunciation of Tsleil-Waututh is ‘slay-wah-tooth’. It is recommended that you name the communities because ‘coast Salish’ is regarded by some in the communities as a depreciated anthropological term.

For Additional Information

These guidelines outline observances to be followed by community members who wish to respectfully engage Musqueam knowledge. However, we encourage individuals to connect with us and/or Musqueam knowledge keepers for more in-depth knowledge on any of these topics.

UBC Ceremonies Office

Ph: 604-822-2484 E-mail: ceremonies.office@ubc.ca

UBC Congress Office

E-mail: info.Congress2019@ubc.ca

Additional Resources

Fonts

If you are in need of a font that supports all the Indigenous languages of the Americas, we suggest using Huronia. To obtain Huronia, please contact Ross Mills at ross@tiro.com.

Additionally, UBC Brand and Marketing, in consultation with members of the Musqueam community, has created many diacritic characters for typesetting Musqueam words in the Whitney font. Please contact the Congress Office at info.Congress2019@ubc.ca and we will liaise with UBC Brand and Marketing

Another option is to install the First Nations Unicode Font, which allows you to render certain characters used in First Nations languages in your preferred font.

Online Resources

Indigenous Peoples: Language Guidelines

http://assets.brand.ubc.ca/downloads/ubc_indigenous_peoples_language_guide.pdf

Musqueam: Who we are

<https://www.musqueam.bc.ca/our-story/who-we-are/>

UBC Vancouver Aboriginal Portal

<http://aboriginal.ubc.ca/>





2018 Indigenous Strategic Plan, Developed as part of UBC's Next Century strategic plan
<http://aboriginal-2.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2018/07/ISP-Draft-19072018.pdf>

