



MEMORANDUM

Memo No. 19-089

TO: Trustees
Student Trustees

FROM: Camille Williams-Taylor, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board

DATE: 21 June 2019

RE: **Land Acknowledgement on 2019-2023 Strategic Plan**

Following the Committee of the Whole meeting, staff has had an opportunity to review in more detail the proposed amendment to the land acknowledgement on the cover of the strategic plan. The original text is the land acknowledgement currently used by the OCDSB. This statement acknowledges both the land and the guidance of the Algonquian Nation. The statement was generated and has been refined through our work with and learning from our Indigenous community.

The proposed amendment seeks to explain the current text to acknowledge the history of colonisation and our commitment to reconciliation. These are important issues which warrant careful consideration in collaboration with our Indigenous partners.

Recognizing the limited time available to consult with the Indigenous community, staff recommends that we continue to use the land acknowledgement that has been developed with our Indigenous partners. Our strategies with respect to addressing the impact of our colonial history and how we will address the call to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission are priorities in our work that will be in each of the three priority areas in our plan.

The development of a strategic action plan for Indigenous education will identify key work for each of the four years of the Strategic Plan.

c.c. Senior Staff
Manager, Board Services
Corporate Records