

## **Land Acknowledgement - J. Maurice**

We are gathered here today on sacred and stolen land. This land is governed by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant. This is an agreement to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Today, this sacred land is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory.

This is simply just one step of unlearning and recognizing the harm colonization has had.

To further honour the lands of which we are gathering on, we would like to share words of thanks also known as a thanksgiving address. We give thanks to the people, the mother earth, the waters, the fish, the plants, the medicines, the animals, the four directions, the sun, grandmother moon, the stars, the creator; and now our minds are one.

It was not our intent to leave anything out. If something was forgotten we leave it to each individual to send such greetings and thanks in their own way.