Land Acknowledgement – September 2023

Welcome	We begin our LA with the voice of Murray Sinclair who was the chair of the TRC of Canada: "The road we travel is equal in importance to the destination we seek. There are no shortcuts. When it comes to truth and reconciliation we are forced to go the distance." Therefore, as Canadian citizens, we too must go the distance as we participate in seeking truth from which reconciliation may evolve. For this meeting we have based today's Land Acknowledgment on the Land Acknowledgement of the University of Guelph as developed in consultation with The Aboriginal Resource Centre at Guelph University.
Treaty	We begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron Wendat, the Seneca and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit River, and which is still the home for many indigenous people from across Turtle Island. We offer our respect as we strive to strengthen our relationships with them.
General Comment	We recognize the significance of the Dish with One Spoon Covenant to this land. The Dish with One Spoon Covenant is a peace agreement made among Indigenous nations before the Europeans arrived. It characterizes our collective responsibility to each other and Mother Earth – we should take only what we need, leave enough for others and keep the dish clean. Today, this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples and acknowledging them reminds us of our important connection to this land where we learn and work.
Personal Question	(Pause) How does this LA compel you to take action this month?
Club Commitment	(Pause) Our CFUW Mission Statement commits us to strive to promote equality, social justice and lifelong learning. That includes working towards truth, healing, justice and reconciliation. Please join in this action to increase your understanding of the Land Acknowledgement.