

Learning from Our Mistakes: The Journey of Writing a “Land Acknowledgement”

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As interest grows in land acknowledgement statements, many are unsure of where to begin. Online resources are informative, but don't tell the full story of Native peoples' history and contemporary experiences in a given place.

Presenters will share their journey of attempting to write a land acknowledgement, the challenges they faced, and the lessons they learned. Attendees will leave the session with recommendations and resources for exploring their own relationships with Native people and land.

🔍 how to |



🔍 how to **write a land acknowledgement**

🔍 how to **do a land acknowledgement on zoom**

🔍 how to **say a land acknowledgement**

🔍 how to **find land acknowledgement**

🔍 how to **acknowledge native land**

🔍 how to **vote**

🔍 how to **meditate**

🔍 how to **get rid of gnats**

🔍 how to **do proper land acknowledgement**

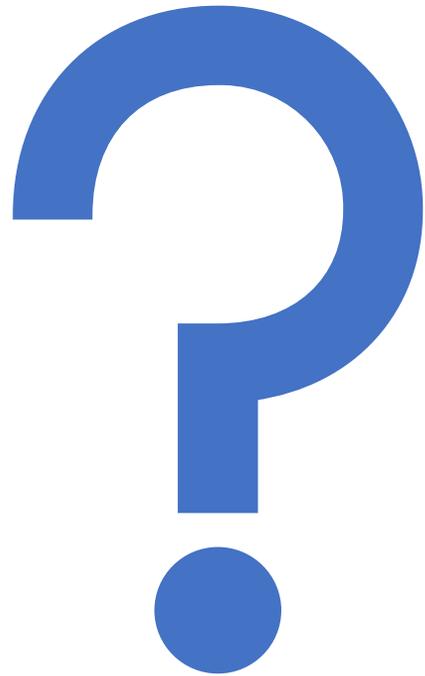


What is a land
acknowledgement?



What IS a land
acknowledgement?

Land Acknowledgements are formal statements which articulate an awareness of Indigenous history and current presence in a given place.



Where might
things go wrong?



Our Journey

(a.k.a our mistakes)

Mistake 1: Listing Tribes

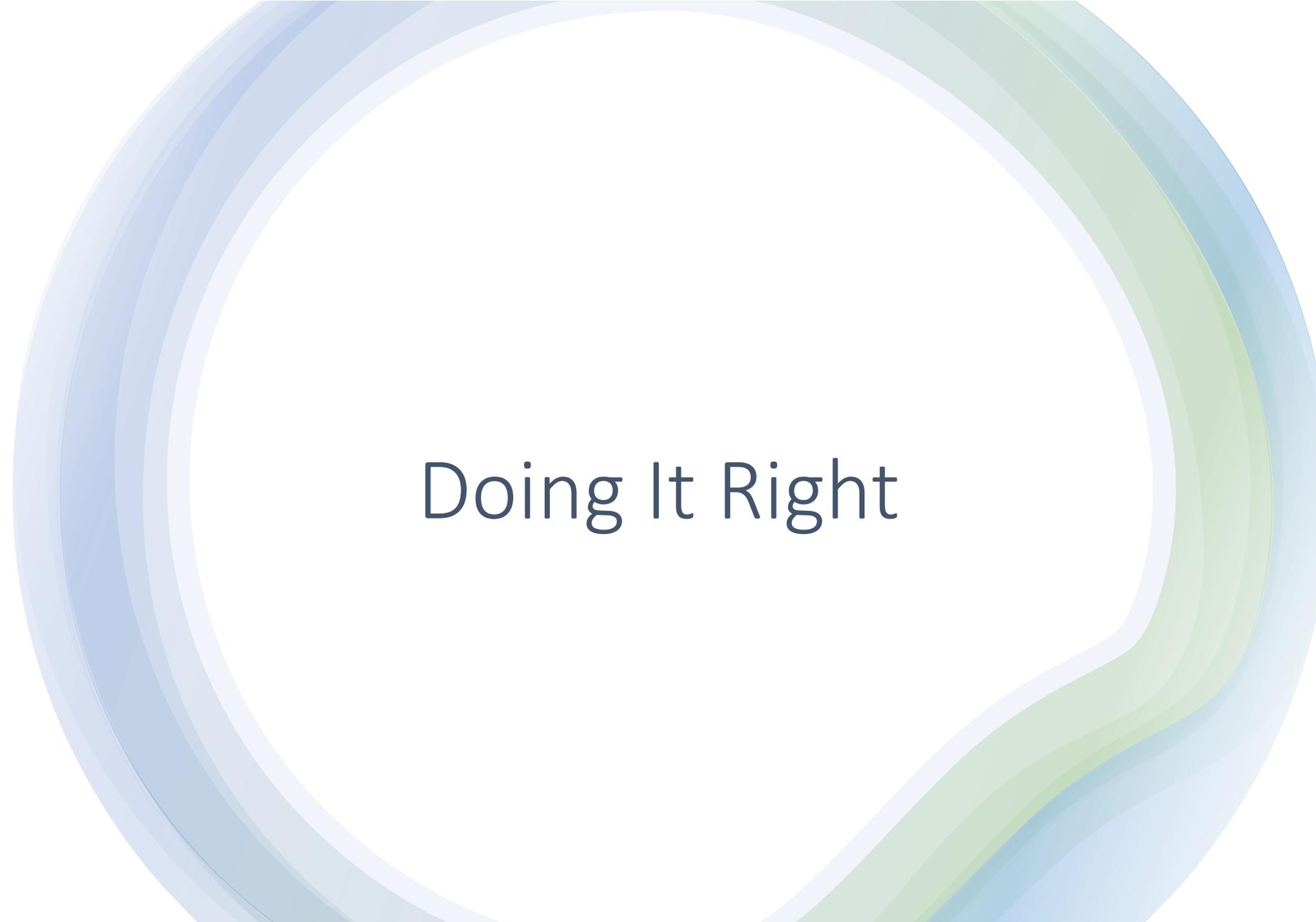
- The nature of Native experience in this region
- Historical versus current contexts
- Relationships (or lack there of)

Mistake 2: Rushing

- Difference between Native and Indigenous
- Have we learned?
- We learned but from whom?
- Requiring a statement be made at all events, classes, etc.

Mistake 3: Copy and Paste

- Plagiarism is never good...Trust us, we know.
- Your institution has a land acknowledgement – does it resonate with *you* and *your team*?
- Does the top search result reflect the ongoing *learning* and *action* you are taking?
- Do you know how to pronounce everything?



Doing It Right

Our Learning Process

- Attending webinars
- Building relationships with Native people and leaders at KU
- Creating a real commitment and serving our Native people and leaders at KU
 - Learning more about how we can take steps to better serve
 - What areas need support; can we provide what's needed or advocate for the support?
- Moving away from Land Acknowledgment towards a Commitment to Native & Indigenous Populations and People.
- Asking for guidance prior to putting out a Land Acknowledgement that would have fallen short of our values and mission.

Balancing Education versus Performance

- Focus on commitment and what does that mean to you?
- Be prepared to guide others towards education even if that means correcting their current statements
- Allowing others to take the steps to learn
- Educate others on the harm they are causing by being performative rather than intentional



.....It Might Get
Worse

When I Return to Campus I Will....

- What is one action you will take after today to strengthen your *individual commitment* to Native people?
- What is one action you will take after today to strengthen your *institutional commitment* to Native people?

Resources

- Kansas Association for Native American Education (KANAE) Land Acknowledgement [Toolkit](#)
- 2022 K-State Indigenous Peoples Day Conference – [details](#) about in person and online engagement
- Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer
- Learn from [past](#) and future events
- [All My Relations](#) Podcast
- [NAGPRA & Repatriation at KU](#)

Questions & Discussion



Session Evaluation

You are invited to evaluate this presentation by scanning this QR code below and completing the survey. Your constructive feedback is appreciated.



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