Oxford OHT Land Acknowledgement

It is important to recognize the significance of this land where we live and work across Oxford County. We acknowledge the traditional Territories of the Nations of the **Haudenosaunee (hoh-DEE-noh-SHOH-nee)**, the **Mississauga (Mi-suh-saa-guh)**, and the **Attiwonderonk (At-ti-won-da-ronk)** and **Neutral** Peoples. We stand on the **Anishinabewaki (uh-nee-shee-nah-bay-wah-kee)** the Homelands of the **Anishinaabeg (Ah-nish-in-ah-beg).**

Oxford County primarily lies within territory connected to Treaty 3 – the Between the Lakes Purchase (1792) and Treaty 29 – the Huron Tract Purchase (1827). These treaties involved the large-scale transfer of lands for minimal compensation and continue to shape relationships, responsibilities, and the conditions affecting Indigenous Peoples' health and well-being.

In 1792 the land including Woodstock, most of Oxford County, and surrounding areas was acquired by the Crown during the signing of Treaty 3. It's disheartening to note that even though this treaty was signed between the Mississauga and the Crown, the Mississauga received only £1,180 (pounds) worth of goods for granting access to 3 million hectares of land and waterways.

With the intention of learning and unlearning, we reaffirm our commitment to and responsibility toward Indigenous communities and their diverse, all-encompassing cultures. It is important to think about the past wrongs and mistakes, to acknowledge them, and to consider how we, as a group and as individuals, might continue to work toward justice, unlearning and reconciliation.