

Cradle-to-Career Governing Board Staff Report

Date Report Issued: April 17, 2024
Attention: Members of Cradle-to-Career Governing Board
Subject: **Cradle-to-Career Land Acknowledgment**
Staff Contact: Shannon Serrato, Director of Engagement

At this meeting, the Governing Board (Board) will learn about the Office of Cradle-to-Career Data's (Office) Land Acknowledgment.

Requested Action:

There is no requested action for this item. This is an informational item only.

Background:

A land acknowledgment is a formal statement honoring the Indigenous communities on whose homelands Californians work and reside. It recognizes the original people who have been, and still are, living and working on the land - past, present, and future. The implementation of a Cradle-to-Career (C2C) Land Acknowledgment was raised as a future agenda item during the February 28, 2024 Governing Board meeting.

Overview:

Office staff have drafted land acknowledgments for in-person and virtual meetings that will be presented to Board members. The intent is to use the Land Acknowledgment at the beginning of public C2C meetings and events.

In advance of the May 1, 2024 meeting, the Office will consult with Tribal representatives to ensure the statement is rooted in understanding, respect, and humility. While an important first step, C2C's Land Acknowledgement will be an ongoing effort as the Office works to bolster connections and engagement with Tribal communities.

Draft land acknowledgment:

As we begin this [meeting/event], we acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory and homelands of the Nisenan and Miwok people, whose connection to this land we honor and remember, and whose presence – past, present, and future – we respect. We will now pause for a moment to reflect.

We recognize the ancestral land on which we are collectively gathered and our responsibility to support the Nisenan and Miwok people and foster learning through the dissemination of knowledge, consistent with the Cradle-to-Career Data System's work to advance equity.

We hope this acknowledgment encourages individuals to think about what it means to occupy space on indigenous lands, and invite you all to learn more about the ancestral lands on which you reside.

For virtual events:

As we begin today, we acknowledge this virtual meeting is taking place throughout the unceded territory of California, home to nearly 200 tribal nations. I am joining today from [City], the traditional land of the [Tribe] people, whose presence – past, present, and future – we honor and respect. We will now pause for a moment to reflect.

We recognize the ancestral land on which we are collectively gathered, and our responsibility to support and foster learning through the dissemination of knowledge, consistent with the Cradle-to-Career Data System's work to advance equity.

We hope this acknowledgment encourages individuals to think about what it means to occupy space on indigenous lands, and we invite attendees to learn more about the ancestral lands on which they reside here:

<https://native-land.ca>.