

**Dated:** March 4, 2019

**Expires:** until position is filled

**Land Acknowledgement Walk Coordinator**  
**Office of Sustainability**  
**Part time position (up to 35 hours per week)**

The Office of Sustainability, the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives, and the Department of Health Sciences are looking to hire a student to research and develop a land acknowledgment walk that explores the history of the land Thunder Bay's campus is situated on.

**Context**

An important first step toward reconciliation, or the revitalization of relationships between Indigenous peoples and Canadian society, is to acknowledge the land on which the University stands--both to acknowledge the presence of Indigenous peoples, as well as their rights and relationship to the land. Land acknowledgements are more than statements; they call for the ongoing recognition of the protocols and processes of local Indigenous peoples. Like other acts of reconciliation, land acknowledgements must be followed with continued and meaningful concrete actions.

Over the past year, the Office of Sustainability has had various conversations with Indigenous faculty, staff, and students as part of an ongoing process to include Indigenous perspectives in the University's Sustainability Action Plan. Throughout these conversations, many people identified an interest and need for the University community to have opportunities to learn about the history and stories of the campus land.

This project seeks to develop a "walking land acknowledgement" that will engage participants on the history of this place, the campus.

The walk will explore the following themes:

- The history of Thunder Bay campus land, including Fort William First Nation and their relationship to the land over time, how this relationship changed with settler contact, and present day implications
- Memories and stories of the land collected from the community that explore identity and relationships to this land

We are seeking to hire a student to compile background research on these themes, through journals and archives, as well as in person conversations with Elders and members of the community, and other methods. Questions to explore include: when will this walk be used, where will it be housed, will it be self-directed or guided, and how will it be shared?

The student will use this information to develop a walking land acknowledgment on campus that engages participants on these issues. An advisory committee with at least 60% Indigenous representation will be established to oversee the project and advise the student throughout.

Preference will be given to Indigenous students, graduate students, and students in Indigenous Learning. The position will earn \$20/hour and will work flexible, irregular hours. A maximum of 200 hours will be worked between May 2019-August 2019.

Ideal candidates should have interest, knowledge, and experience working with Indigenous communities. The position will require ongoing conversations with local Elders, Senators, traditional knowledge keepers, and other Indigenous peoples. Therefore, candidates should have strong interpersonal and multi-tasking skills.

# Employment Opportunity

The individual should work well independently and as part of a decentralized, non-hierarchical team. Further, the candidate should be comfortable working within an emergent setting, as this project is likely to change based on the direction of the advisory group and the type of information learned.

Lakehead is looking for candidates who bring unique perspectives to decolonization work and who seek to build a sense of community and well-being at the University. Strong research, written and verbal communication skills are required.

Video and graphic design skills are an asset.

Interested applicants are invited to apply by submitting a cover letter and resume to:

**Office of Sustainability**

**CASES FB 2008**

**Tel: (807)343-8703 Email: [coordinator.sustainability@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:coordinator.sustainability@lakeheadu.ca)**

Lakehead University is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment and welcomes applications from all qualified individuals including women, members of racialized groups/visible minorities, Indigenous persons and persons with disabilities, and persons of any sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Lakehead University is committed to an environment of open access to employment opportunities. Accommodations are available for all applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process. If you require accommodations for interviews or other meetings, please contact Human Resources at (807) 343-8334. We appreciate your interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be notified.