



Genealogical Society of Victoria Inc.

Acknowledgment of country.

Following review at the July GSV Council meeting, we have formally adopted a refreshed Acknowledgement of Country that better reflects the relevance of First Nations history to genealogical research and our Society.

This revised wording will now guide our practice, and convenors are encouraged to use the short version at the beginning of meetings.

Use is discretionary, and not every meeting or discussion group is expected to include the acknowledgment. The purpose of this update is to ensure the GSV continues to present its work and values with cultural sensitivity and respect.

Short version

The Genealogical Society of Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we gather, and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We recognise the First Peoples of this country as the oldest continuous storytellers, whose knowledge and connection to Country continue to guide us.

The long version is intended for publication on the GSV website and potentially in *Ancestor*. It offers fuller context and expresses the GSV's ongoing commitment to cultural respect.

Long version

The Genealogical Society of Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we live, work, and gather. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, and to all First Nations peoples whose cultures, languages, and histories continue to shape this place.

As a society dedicated to preserving and sharing stories, we recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the oldest continuous storytellers in the world. Their knowledge, traditions, family histories, and connection to Country extend back countless generations.

May we walk together with respect, listening, and with a shared commitment to truth-telling as we continue our work of exploring and preserving the stories that connect us.