

Patriotic Observances and Land Acknowledgements

Beautiful Plains School Division is committed to fostering a spirit of positive citizenship, respect for national history, and a commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. In accordance with *The Public Schools Act*, this policy establishes the requirements for patriotic observances and the acknowledgement of Indigenous lands and treaties within our school division.

1. The National Anthem (O Canada)

- As mandated by the *Public Schools Act*, "O Canada" shall be sung or played at the beginning of each school day in every school within the Division.
- Students and staff shall be encouraged to participate in a respectful manner.
- Schools will consider versions of the anthem that reflect the diversity of Canada.

2. Land and Treaty Acknowledgements

- The purpose is to promote an understanding of our history, respect for all people, and awareness of the historical Treaties in Canada.
- A formal Land and Treaty Acknowledgement shall be part of:
 1. The opening of all Board of Trustees meetings.
 2. The beginning of all official major division events.
 3. At other times our schools deem appropriate

3. Remembrance Day Observances

- The purpose of these services shall be to honor the sacrifices of Canadian veterans and peacekeepers and promote an understanding of the significance of Remembrance Day at a level deemed appropriate by the school.
- Each school shall hold a Remembrance Day service annually on a school day between November 4 and November 10.

Approved: March 3, 2026