

Responding to The Truth and Reconciliation Commission

STARTING THE
CONVERSATION

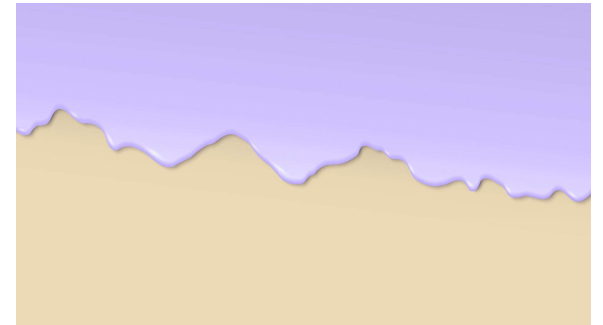
BLOOMINGDALE
MENNONITE CHURCH,
FEBRUARY 27, 2022



Truth and
Reconciliation
Commission of Canada



Mennonite
Church





Land Acknowledgment

We at Bloomingdale Mennonite Church acknowledge that we live and work on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (Neutral), Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples.

Bloomingdale Mennonite Church is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land that includes ten kilometers on each side of the Grand River that was promised to the Six Nations in perpetuity.

Bloomington & the Land

We also recognize that Bloomington Mennonite Church has its beginnings in the long and complex history of Settler-Indigenous relationships and treaties in Canada.

The land that BMC is situated on, was sold to Jacob Schneider in 1805. It was then settled by the Schneider family in 1806. The land has been the subject of ongoing settlement disputes up to this day.

One written history of Bloomington* notes that "the Schneiders were the only occupants in the Bloomington area" from 1806-1826, and yet it is also clear that the Schneiders interacted with and traded "sour milk and bread for meat" with local Indigenous peoples.



* From, Sauder, Dorothy. *Trail's End, the Oxbow: History of the Bloomington Church*, 1972.