


Welcome to

## Native Land Digital


A space where the stories of land and waters are carried by those who walk in ancestral relationship with them.

 Search your address or an Indigenous gr...

Explore Map

*or visit the classic map*



© Click here to speak with Kōrero, our AI Territory Acknowledgement helper! 

# 2026 Annual Report

NATIVE LAND DIGITAL





native-land.ca



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### 01 INTRODUCTION

### 02 ABOUT US | WHAT WE DO

### 03 MISSION + VISION + VALUES

### 04 REACH

### 05 GEOGRAPHIC ENGAGEMENT

### 06 SHIFT

### 07 NEXT STEPS

### 08 CONCLUSION





## Opening Acknowledgment of Land, Waters, and Peoples

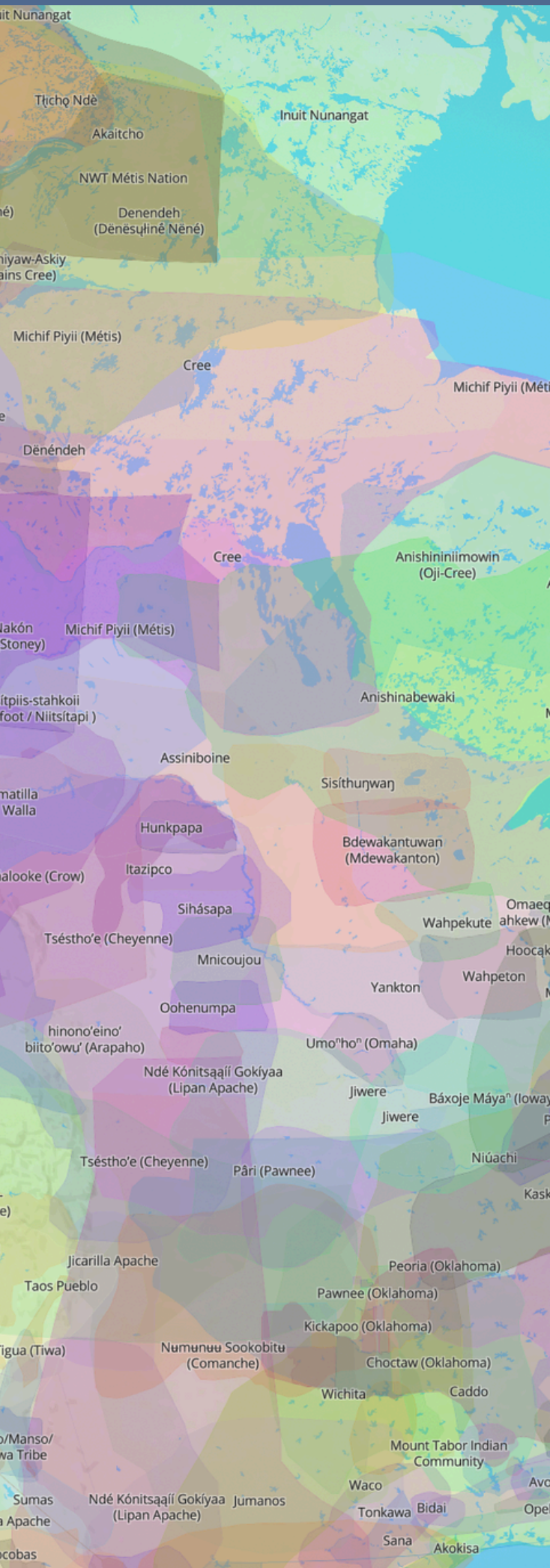
Native Land Digital acknowledges the Indigenous homelands, waters, and spiritual beings across the globe who uphold the knowledge, languages, genealogies, and responsibilities that guide our work.

We honour the sovereignty of Indigenous peoples past, present, and emerging whose enduring relationships with land and water remain the foundation of our collective future.

We recognise that Indigenous geographies are rivers, mountains, animals, ecosystems, and the many unseen beings. The maps we create reflect these living relationships a constellation of stories.

This Annual Report is grounded in Indigenous data sovereignty and respect for the many nations present on our maps.





## 2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Native Land Digital is an Indigenous-led digital platform supporting ethical, community-centred mapping of Indigenous lands, waters, and relationships worldwide.

The 2025–2026 year marked a period of consolidation and renewal, strengthening governance, deepening Indigenous-led innovation, and caring for a platform used by millions globally.

This report reflects a commitment to stewardship over scale, and to futures grounded in relationship, reciprocity, and Indigenous sovereignty.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year required calm leadership, ethical clarity, and care.

Operating within a shifting funding and political landscape, Native Land Digital focused on the technical updates required to evolve with Indigenous-led mapping futures.

The organisation invested in consolidation, governance, and relational design. Ensuring that growth remains aligned with Indigenous values, consent, and responsibility.



# ABOUT US

Native Land Digital (NLD) is an Indigenous-led, global non-profit stewarding a platform that maps Indigenous territories, languages, and relationships with land. Our work honours story, layered kinship, and knowledge systems reshaping digital mapping to reflect Indigenous sovereignty.

We support Indigenous nations' rights to define, represent, and share their own data and homelands.

With millions of interactions per minute on our API, NLD remains one of the few Indigenous-led global tech platforms run by a small team of 2-3 Indigenous staff, supported by community relationships, partnerships, and user generosity.



## What We Do

- MAINTAIN ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY ACCESSED INDIGENOUS DIGITAL PLATFORMS IN THE WORLD
- SUPPORT INDIGENOUS NATIONS UPDATING, CORRECTING, OR DEFINING THEIR TERRITORIES
- PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES USED IN CLASSROOMS, MUSEUMS, UNIVERSITIES, AND INSTITUTIONS
- DEVELOP INDIGENOUS-LED DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE
- ADVOCATE FOR ETHICAL AND ACCOUNTABLE DATA PRACTICES GLOBALLY



# MISSION

TO UPHOLD INDIGENOUS  
DATA SOVEREIGNTY BY  
PROVIDING A GLOBAL  
PLATFORM WHERE  
INDIGENOUS NATIONS CAN  
SELF-REPRESENT THEIR  
TERRITORIES, LANGUAGES,  
STORIES, AND  
RELATIONSHIPS WITH LAND  
AND WATER.

# VISION

A WORLD WHERE  
INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE  
SYSTEMS GUIDE DIGITAL  
FUTURES; WHERE MAPS  
HONOUR LIVING  
RELATIONSHIPS; AND  
WHERE INDIGENOUS  
GOVERNANCE SHAPES  
TECHNOLOGY, AND  
ENVIRONMENT.



# VALUES

- RESPECT FOR LAND, WATERS AND PEOPLES
- RELATIONALITY - MAPPING BEYOND BOUNDARIES
- INDIGENOUS SOVEREIGNTY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES  
DEFINE THEIR OWN TERRITORIES AND DATA
- CARE- RECOGNISING THAT NLD HOLDS STORIES  
AND RESPONSIBILITIES WITH HUMILITY
- COLLABORATION - GLOBAL INDIGENOUS  
SOLIDARITY AND COMMUNITY-LED DESIGN



# NLD's API Data Sovereignty Treaty

Native Land Digital's API is governed by an Indigenous Data Sovereignty Treaty that all users must acknowledge and agree to before accessing the platform. Rather than treating Indigenous land data as open or extractable by default, the treaty establishes clear ethical boundaries around use, consent, attribution, and responsibility.

It affirms that Indigenous lands, waters, and knowledge are not neutral data points, but living relationships held by Indigenous peoples.

By requiring explicit agreement, the treaty shifts technical access into a relational agreement.

It asks institutions, developers, and researchers to engage with the platform in ways that uphold Indigenous authority, prevent misuse, and respect community governance.

This approach reflects Native Land Digital's commitment to building digital infrastructure that centres care over convenience, and accountability over extraction – setting a precedent for how Indigenous data can be protected and respected in global digital systems.



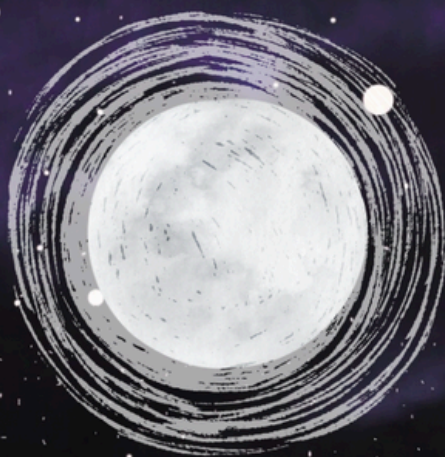


**4M**

NLD Website page views

**2M**

Unique users annually

**1.5**Minutes average time  
on site per visitor**100K**Followers across  
social media platforms

## Native Land Map

Our classic searchable map of Indigenous territories, treaties, and languages.

[View Map](#)



## Placenames Map

Explore a collection of placenames from Indigenous nations around the world.

[View Map](#)



## Reciprocity Map

Explore a collection of actions happening in Indigenous nations around the world.

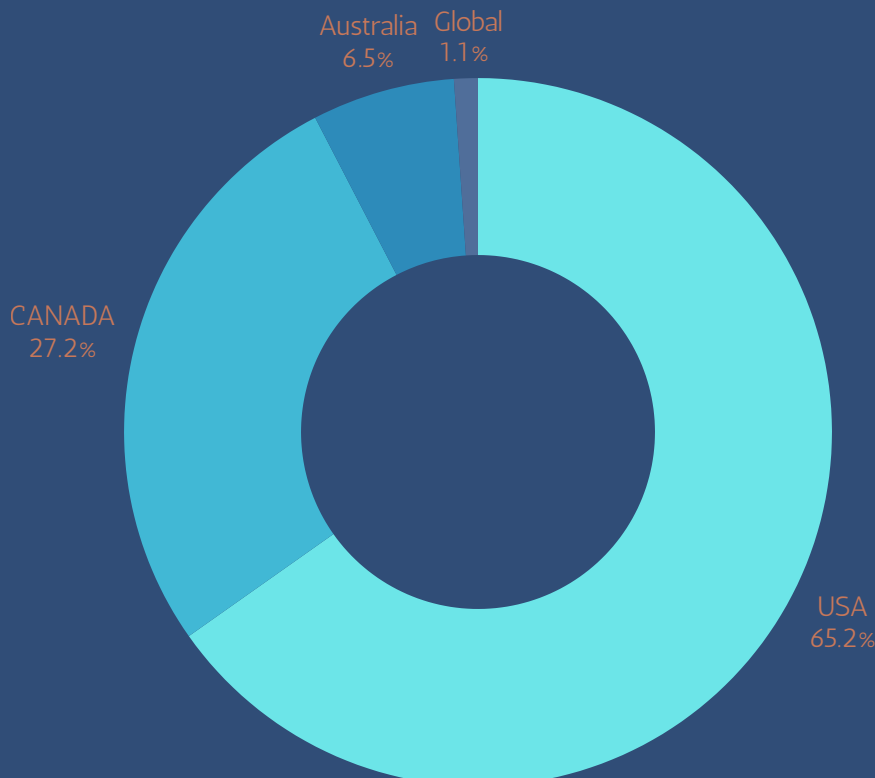
[View Map](#)



[About Our Maps](#)

## 5. GEOGRAPHIC ENGAGEMENT

NATIVE LAND DIGITAL 2026



Our current outreach strategy prioritises strengthening relationships in Aotearoa New Zealand, expanding engagement across Australia, and building meaningful connections throughout the Pacific, where land, water, and kinship are deeply interconnected.

At the same time, we are beginning focused work on regions that remain under-mapped.



*A Year's Overview*

# THE GREAT UNFLATTENING



*Inspired by ancestral navigation through stars, skies, seasons, and living waters, Native Land Digital's mapping work centres relationship, movement, and more-than-human worlds. Unflattening the map means returning relationship, responsibility, and acknowledgement to how land and water are seen.*

Conventional maps flatten the world. They reduce living lands and waters into borders, shapes, and labels, often stripping away relationship, movement, and story. Indigenous ways of knowing place are different. They are relational, shaped by people, memory, story, and connection.

Native Land Digital's evolving mapping work responds to this difference, seeking to unflatten the map and reintroduce relationship into how land and water are represented in digital space.

Relational Indigenous mapping shifts focus away from rigid boundaries and toward presence, and coexistence. It asks "Who and what is in relationship here, and how?"

Through constellation views, layered narratives, and non-linear forms, the map becomes less a tool of control and more a space for learning, listening, and orientation.

This approach reflects Indigenous worldviews where land and water are living relatives, not static objects.

This work is ongoing and intentionally slow and careful.

By developing new mapping languages grounded in Indigenous knowledge systems, Native Land Digital is contributing to a future where digital cartography can support sovereignty, care, and responsibility.

The Great Unflattening is not about replacing one map with another, it is about opening space for many ways of seeing, and being.

For Indigenous peoples to lead how their worlds are represented.

Constellation Map

Our relationship-focused map of Indigenous peoples.

[View Map](#)



Native Land Map

Our classic searchable map of Indigenous territories, treaties, and languages.

[View Map](#)



Placenames Map

Explore a collection of placenames from Indigenous nations around the world.

[View Map](#)



Reciprocity Map

Explore a collection of actions happening in Indigenous nations around the world.

[View Map](#)



[About Our Maps](#)

Native Land Digital offers multiple mapping views, each designed to support different ways of understanding place. The original map brings together Indigenous territories, languages, and treaties, providing an accessible entry point for learning about Indigenous presence and sovereignty. Alongside this, the **Reciprocity Map** highlights contemporary realities on Indigenous lands, including environmental pressures, renewal projects, and issues affecting land and water today.

The **Place Names Map** surfaces Indigenous place names, revealing the deep linguistic and cultural layers that exist beneath colonial naming systems.

Together, these views lay the groundwork for the **Constellation Map**, a new relational approach that moves beyond fixed boundaries altogether. Rather than organising land by edges and borders, the Constellation Map centres connection, movement, and relationship, drawing attention to how Indigenous peoples relate to place through story, journey, and responsibility.

The maps reflect an intentional shift: from static representation toward living systems, and from viewing land as territory to understanding it as relationship.



# Know Where You Stand

Explore your relationship to place and create an acknowledgment grounded in care, respect, and commitment.



## Know Where You Stand

### A Land and Waters Acknowledgment Guide

Kōrero isn't just about writing a land acknowledgment — it's about starting from the heart. Through a series of thoughtful questions, it invites you to slow down, listen, and reflect on where you are, whose land you're on, and how you can show respect and care.

Let Kōrero guide you in creating a meaningful land or water acknowledgment rooted in connection and responsibility.

Let's talk about Richmond, British Columbia, Canada.




Kia ora, I'm Kōrero. I'm here to help you reflect on your connection to the Indigenous lands and waters you're on. We'll go slowly, one question at a time. Let's start.

**What is your relationship to the land and waters of this place?**

Let me know your thoughts on the first question, and we'll move from there.

Write your message here

 Send

[Explore the full guide to Kōrero](#) →

## KŌRERO AI

NLD'S LAND & WATER  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TOOL



Kōrero AI is a relational learning tool co-designed to move beyond static land acknowledgements. Rather than providing a scripted response, Kōrero invites users into reflection by asking three simple questions about their relationship to land and water. This conversational approach encourages people to consider presence, responsibility, and connection, supporting learning that is personal, situated, and ongoing rather than performative.



30-40K

Kōrero AI messages per month



10K

Users engaging in dialogue each month



# NEXT STEPS

Over the coming year, Native Land Digital will focus on strengthening its foundations while carefully expanding how communities engage with the platform.

A key priority is building financial resilience through diversified, values-aligned support. This includes growing the Koha campaign as a reciprocity-based model, developing modest merchandise to support community participation, and continuing to pursue international project funding.

Alongside this, NLD will deepen global relationships with educators, Indigenous-led organisations, and research partners, ensuring that support for the platform grows steadily and sustainably rather than rapidly or extractively.

At the same time, Native Land Digital will continue evolving its technology, research, and communications in ways that centre Indigenous leadership and care. This includes further development of relational and constellation-based mapping, strengthening the Reciprocity and Place Names layers, supporting community-led research contributions, and expanding youth-led digital storytelling.

Looking ahead, longer-term planning is underway for a decentralised, subscription-supported platform that protects Indigenous data sovereignty while providing ethical access for education and research. Together, these next steps reflect a clear commitment: to move forward with intention, to remain accountable to communities, and to ensure that Indigenous peoples continue to lead how land, water, and relationship are represented in digital space.



# CONCLUSION

2026–2027 will focus on rebuilding capacity, strengthening Indigenous and community partnerships.

Moving toward a sustainable financial model that honours our values.

[WWW.NATIVE-LAND.CA](http://WWW.NATIVE-LAND.CA)