

# Considerations in Developing an Environmental Protection Regime

Course Workbook



 **FIRST NATIONS  
LAND MANAGEMENT  
RESOURCE CENTRE**

 **Training, Mentorship &  
Professional Development**

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## Considerations in Developing an Environmental Protection Regime

[https://labrc.com/public/courselet/Considerations\\_in\\_Developing\\_an\\_Environmental\\_Protection\\_Regime/presentation\\_html5.html](https://labrc.com/public/courselet/Considerations_in_Developing_an_Environmental_Protection_Regime/presentation_html5.html)

### Welcome

Welcome to Considerations in Developing an Environmental Protection Regime courselet. This courselet focuses on the development of an Environmental Protection (EP) regime. The key topics that will be explored are:

- The context of EP regimes (EP Regime Backgrounder)
- Environmental management gaps

Suggestions for creating EP regimes under the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management (*Framework Agreement*)



The material provided in this courselet is current to the date of courselet. Thank you to the environmental experts to the Lands Advisory Board (LAB), for aiding in the development of this courselet. <https://labrc.com/>

### Overview

The three main topics covered by this courselet are key considerations when developing EP laws, regulations, and policies, and processes for monitoring and enforcing them.

A Lands Governance Director (LGD) likely already understands why EP is important on reserves. An EP regime can assist in the identification, prevention, mitigation and remediation of contamination on reserves, and in assuring compliance with laws and regulations and enforcement of violations. See the Introduction to Environmental Protection

[http://labrc.com/public/courselet/Introduction\\_to\\_Environmental\\_Protection/player.html](http://labrc.com/public/courselet/Introduction_to_Environmental_Protection/player.html) courselet for more information on EP.



### Big Picture

In developing an EP regime, the LGD will need to:

- Identify potential or actual contamination of land, water, or air and associated risks of ongoing or planned actions on the reserves
- Understand the First Nation's (FN) capacity to develop and implement an EP regime

- Under the direction of Council, be responsible for developing and managing proposed environmental laws, regulations, monitoring and enforcement procedures, including adjudication
- Be familiar with Federal and Provincial EP laws, guidelines, and standards as they apply on First Nation Lands
- Work with Council to develop and implement an EP regime that includes laws, regulations, policies, practices and procedures, and officers and employees that have appropriate skill sets
- Design and carry out an ongoing training and professional development program
- Develop policies and procedures that may include agreements with federal, provincial, and municipal governments and other FNs
- Seek Council approval of measures, agreements and policies in case of alleged contravention of regime elements involving a Councillor or a FN employee or volunteer
- Create a proper records management system including but not limited to financial records, applications, permits, authorizations, fee payments, ongoing investigations, and adjudication matters

The foregoing governance elements will reduce the likelihood that the FN will incur a liability arising out of environmental management of First Nation Lands.

### EP Regime Backgrounder



#### Introduction

Under the *Framework Agreement*, <http://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Framework-Agrmt-Exec-Summary-June-2013.pdf> the development of EP laws, regulations, policies, and procedures form the foundation of the FN's EP regime. Topics discussed include:



- Background information
- Gaps in environmental regulations on reserves
- Considerations for developing EP regimes.

#### Federal and Provincial Guidelines

To draft effective laws, a LGD will need to be aware of federal and provincial laws, regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines that apply to EP and contaminants. See the EP courselet for further information on this topic. <http://www.labrc.com/public/courselet/Federal-Provincial Environmental Protection Laws- Presenter output/presentation.html>



## **Regulations and Enforcement**

Because an EP regime includes laws, regulation, inspection, enforcement and adjudication <https://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Laws-Regulations-and-Policies.pdf%20> the LGD needs to consider how those functions will be delivered by the FN in support of the EP regime. EP often involves complex technical issues and scientific procedures associated with assessing presence, concentrations, and risks posed by chemical contaminants in soil, air, or water. Appropriately trained specialists from private firm or provincial or federal agencies are likely to be involved in EP procedures on reserves. A FN should determine the level of EP services that can be delivered by FN staff, and identify companies or agencies that can be engaged to provide additional assistance in support of the FN's EP regime.

## **What is an Environmental Protection Regime?**

### **Introduction**

A FN Land Code (LC) <http://www.labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Land-Code-Summary.pdf> deals with land governance. FNs adopt long term legal and administrative processes that facilitate implementation of the LC, including an EP regime and EP law.



### **What is Environmental Protection Regime?**

An EP regime is a set of laws, regulations, policies, and procedures designed to empower a FN to reduce the risk of contamination and protect the health of people and ecosystems on reserves.



### **What does the Framework Agreement say?**

The following sections of the *Framework Agreement* <http://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Framework-Agreement-Amendment-5-edited.pdf> stipulate that an operational [http://www.labrc.com/public/userfiles/files/Operational%20Phase%20Chart%20v\\_March%202012.pdf](http://www.labrc.com/public/userfiles/files/Operational%20Phase%20Chart%20v_March%202012.pdf) ng FN **must** develop an EP regime:

- 23.2 The Parties intend that there should be both an environmental assessment and an environmental protection regime for each First Nation.
- 23.4 The environmental assessment and protection regimes will be implemented through First Nation laws.
- 23.5 The Parties agree to harmonize their respective environmental regimes and processes, with the involvement of the provinces where they agree to participate, to promote effective and consistent environmental regimes and processes and to avoid uncertainty and duplication.

- 24.1 Subject to clause 27, a First Nation with a land code in effect will develop an environmental protection regime, with the assistance of the appropriate federal agencies to the extent that they agree to participate.

### **What about the Capacity of the First Nation?**



FNs will need to decide how best to deliver EP services on reserves in ways that are consistent with their capacity to implement and enforce EP laws, policies, and procedures. For instance, a staff member may seek the training needed to respond to contaminant management issues. In addition, a FN may decide to retain the services of qualified consultants and laboratories on an “as needed” basis. A combination of in-house and retained services may be a sensible approach for most FNs.

### **Does your FN have Sufficient Resources?**



The process for developing and implementing an EP regime depends on resources available to the FN. Such resources include, staff, office space, staff training in EP topics, equipment, and funding to hire additional staff or consultants when needed.

The *Framework Agreement* (Sec. 27.1) is intended to ensure that the FN’s ability to develop and implement an EP regime depends on the availability of adequate funding and resources.

- 27.1 The Parties understand that the obligation of a First Nation to establish environmental assessment and environmental protection regimes depends on adequate financial resources and expertise being available to the First Nation.

### **What about Environmental Experts?**



The process of developing an EP regime will require considerable time and effort. Most FNs preparing EP regimes will find that they need to involve lawyers, environmental professionals, and representatives of federal, provincial and local jurisdictions. Responding to EP issues typically involves challenging technical issues (e.g., soil or water sampling, laboratory analysis, interpretation of results, developing remediation plans) that requires the use of properly qualified specialists. Through preparation of Environmental Site Assessments [https://labrc.com/public/courselet/Environmental\\_Site\\_Assessment/player.html](https://labrc.com/public/courselet/Environmental_Site_Assessment/player.html) (ESAs) before a LC vote, FNs are likely to have worked with EP professionals. The firms that prepare ESAs typically have the suite of skills, experience, and credentials to be involved in EP initiatives.

## **Effective EP and its Challenges**

### **Effective Environmental Protection Regime**

- An effective EP regime may include but is not limited to the following elements:
- Developing and applying policies to reduce the risk of contamination on reserves and to protect people and ecosystems from contamination
- Approving actions associated with potential or actual contamination, including the issuance of permits
- Adopting an EP law and associated regulations, policies, standards or guidelines
- Monitoring and inspecting EP-related activities
- Enforcing laws and regulations, conducting successful investigations and adjudication
- Finding approaches to encourage compliance and raise public awareness
- Building capacity in the FN to do all these things (adapted from Edgar and Graham, 2008)

### **Challenges**

In developing an EP regime, a FN needs to consider:

- The nature of contamination issues on First Nation Lands or on adjacent property that has the potential to affect First Nation Land
- Findings and recommendations of the FN's ESAs (Phase I, II, or III)
- Recommendations contained in a FN's Environmental Management Plan (EMP), if prepared
- EP concerns expressed by FN members
- Direction provided by Chiefs and Council regarding EP issues and an EP regime
- Member, Council, and staff awareness of contamination issues and potential responses
- Extent, kind, and location of existing or planned development that could be affected by contamination or related EP issues
- Reliance of the community on food or water that could be affected by contamination
- The ability of FN staff to effectively manage EP issues
- Availability of EP-qualified firms to serve the FN's needs
- Adequacy of monetary, staff, and equipment resources to deal with EP issues

A FN is likely to encounter other issues as it prepares policies, programs, laws, and regulations to achieve EP goals. For EP laws, in particular, a FN needs to have access to appropriately qualified

legal counsel, to make sure the EP law's content and commensurate with contamination issues on reserves, and to consider implications for implementing the law (e.g., issuing permits, monitoring compliance, and enforcement and adjudication processes).

### **FN as the Regulatory Authority and Operator**

The *Framework Agreement* provides a FN with the legal authority to manage reserve lands. FN laws adopted under the authority of its LC give the FN the ability to regulate land and resources on reserve. FNs with LCs generally implement and operate developments on their reserves. Therefore, a FN may be both the regulatory authority and be the owner-operator of a development or project on First Nation Lands (i.e. operates a landfill and owns a business that could produce contaminated waste).

If the FN is both the regulator and owner-operator of a development, utility, or other FN activities, a conflict may arise because, as the regulator, the FN will conduct inspections and enforcement and, potentially, imposition of penalties on the operational arm of the FN. A FN's EP law should establish who has the regulatory authority for specified developments, projects, or other FN activities. One solution for the FN is to clearly delineate and, preferably, separate regulatory and operational functions (e.g. regulating and operating a wastewater facility) to reduce potential conflicts and to specify responsibilities for the two functions.

The following LC sections typically include a set of EP laws and regulations that must be followed:

- Regulate land and resources
- Prepare regional land use plans to guide development
- Carry out Environmental Assessment (EA) and associated reviews of proposed projects on First Nation Lands
- Adopt and apply EP laws on First Nation Lands

Although LGDs are not expected to have a comprehensive understanding of federal, provincial, or local EP laws and regulations, they should know who the regulatory authority is (i.e. FN or federal) and who to contact on matters associated with environmental contamination.

### **Emergency Plans**

With regard to EP, it is particularly important that FNs prepare and update Emergency Plans that provide detailed instructions for responses to environmental emergencies. Emergency Plans should include directions for requesting provincial or federal governments to issue a Declaration of an Emergency, and to specify roles and responsibilities to access services and funding in the case of unmanageable emergencies. Many FNs have adopted Emergency Plans, though it is important to regularly update the plans to ensure their effectiveness when they are needed.

As part of the policies and guidelines, a FN's designated emergency response staff should receive proper awareness training and equipment provided as first responders. It is important that FN staff know what to do in an emergency, but also when it is appropriate to seek outside support or advice.

## Qualified Staff

EP laws will require that technical and potentially complex regulations be developed and implemented. The complexity arises mainly from the variety of chemicals that are considered potential contaminants, and the variety of concentrations that constitute human or environmental risk under differing environmental conditions. Chemists, engineers, and specialized technicians are generally involved in developing EP standards and guidelines that are contained in EP regulations.

The FN will require access to highly qualified personnel with relevant EP experience, accreditation and technical capacity. A FN may rely on environmental experts and legal advisors until their staff can build their internal capacity through the necessary training. A FN should not expect to be able to deliver all EP functions internally. Even in large government departments, technical EP functions (such as sampling, analysis, interpretation of results) are commonly conducted by properly licensed and accredited contractors with appropriate specialties. Most FN should focus its staff and training efforts on developing appropriate laws, policies, and procedures, training and on applying those regulatory tools to developments or projects on reserves. Technical specialists should be retained as needed.

## Enforcement

It is the obligation of FNs under a LC to enforce their own laws and regulations. Enforcement processes may require entering into agreements with Federal, Provincial agencies or local government to assist in conducting those complex investigations. Enforcement of these technical laws and regulations can be cost prohibitive as they may require strict enforcement steps and adherence to investigative procedures to achieve the goals of protecting environmental quality, managing resources, and achieving desired conditions in the FN community. The first step in enforcement is to encourage compliance with the EP laws. A FN should consider the potential Risk of Harm resulting from an environmental emergency or violation of an EP law. Risk of Harm also should influence the setting of penalties, which should be sufficient to discourage further violations of a FN's EP laws and regulations. For all of these reasons, a FN should ensure that it has the necessary resources (both human and financial) to implement its FN law and regulations.

## **Environmental Protection Gaps**



## Introduction

The Auditor General of Canada, <https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1338471861166/1454964057806> in the Fall 2009 Report of the Auditor General of Canada, Chapter 6, "Land Management and Environmental Protection on Reserves" ("2009 Fall Report"): [http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/parl\\_oag\\_200911\\_06\\_e\\_33207.html](http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/parl_oag_200911_06_e_33207.html), observed that the environmental regulatory gap is particularly significant for FNs that enter into the First Nations Land Management Act (FNLMA)

[summary of the fnlma.pdf](#) regime. In entering into this regime, a FN becomes responsible for closing identified gaps in environmental regulations on its reserve.” \*

\*The Auditor General correctly identifies the regulatory gap, but misstates the role of the FNLMA. FNs become signatory to the *Framework Agreement* (not the *FNLMA*) and then ratify that document and their LC through a vote. The *FNLMA* ratifies and brings into effect the *Framework Agreement*.

### **The “Regulatory Gap”**

A "regulatory gap" is the absence of adequate laws (including regulations and monitoring and enforcement systems) to govern a proposed or actual activity. For example, the provincial and territorial governments manage provincial and territorial lands and federal government manages federal lands, including Indigenous lands. The environmental laws and regulations adopted by federal and provincial jurisdictions are not fully harmonized, and gaps can occur in the topics covered or the areas of land to which the laws apply.

The current federal environmental regulatory regime that applies to FN reserve lands has created an EP regulatory gap because the constitutional authority over environmental issues off reserves is divided between federal and provincial governments. The *Constitution Act of 1867* divided the powers <http://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/fnjurisdictionunderthefamap.pdf> of the Federal and Provincial governments. The courts further clarified provincial law and reserve lands. This has created the “Gap”:

- Section 91(24) of the *Constitution Act* of 1867 specifies that legislative authority of “Indians and lands reserved for Indians” rests with the federal government.
- As a result, provincial laws relating to lands and their use are not applied to reserve land.
- Section 88 of the *Indian Act* specifies that all provincial laws of general application “are applicable to and in respect of Indians in the province”, but Courts have ruled that provincial laws of general application referring to reserve lands and their use do not fall under Section 88 (IOG, 2008).

### **Differing Guidelines and Standards**

As discussed in the Federal/Provincial Environmental Protection Laws [http://www.labrc.com/public/courselet/Federal-Provincial Environmental Protection Laws-Presenter\\_output/presentation.html](http://www.labrc.com/public/courselet/Federal-Provincial_Environmental_Protection_Laws-Presenter_output/presentation.html) courselet, federal and provincial EP laws often differ in the guidelines and standards used to regulate contaminants and pollution. Because the FN EP laws will have to meet or exceed both federal and provincial laws a LGD should be familiar with the guidelines, standards, and criteria that reflect the current scientific understanding of potential risks posed by contamination and pollution.

Off reserve, federal and provincial governments have developed a comprehensive set of laws and regulations, with local governments playing a key role in implementation. Provincial and municipal EP laws and regulations generally do not apply on reserves and cannot be enforced there. Some FNs have service agreements with local governments for hazardous material response services, which are often provided by municipal or regional fire departments.

FN reserves are federal land, so the contaminant standards and regulations that apply are those developed by Canada. The *Framework Agreement* recognizes the need to harmonize regimes among jurisdictions:

- 25.3 The Parties agree to harmonize their respective environmental regimes and processes, with the involvement of the provinces where they agree to participate, to promote effective and consistent environmental regimes and processes and to avoid uncertainty and duplication.

Note that provincial involvement in such harmonization is voluntary. LGDs should check with provincial agencies and LABRC personnel to obtain updates on the status of potential FN-provincial agreements on harmonization of EP regulations. By way of implementing environmental inspections in the context of compliance with a FN’s environmental governance regime, the following four principles should be applied.

### Environmental Protection Regulatory Concerns



Uncertainty, confusion, and weakness in EP regulations are a concern for the following five main reasons:

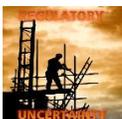
1. Weak EP regulation allows adverse impacts on the environment and the health and safety of community members.



2. Current gaps in EP regulation are fundamentally unfair to FN communities. Reserve residents should not be subject to greater environmental and health risks than people living off-reserve because of legal and regulatory framework limitations



3. Regulatory uncertainty may undermine economic development, due to lack of clarity over environmental laws that apply on reserve



4. Impediments to self-government are created, because of the inability to effectively protect reserves from harmful contamination.



5. Federal and Provincial EP laws do not consider traditional cultural practices. Environmental contamination is a serious matter for FN culture due to possible transmission of contaminants through aquatic and terrestrial food chains that supply traditional foods. While traditional cultural practices are not incorporated into federal or provincial EP laws, Operational FNs will have the opportunity to build protection of culturally important resources and activities into their EP regimes. For more information on Traditional Knowledge click here.

<https://adrp.jibc.ca/resilience-knowledge-sharing-toolkit/>



## **Lack of Federal Support to Implement Environmental Protection**

### **Federal Government**

The Office of the Auditor General of Canada (OAG) found that although the federal government has the authority to regulate environmental hazards on reserves, it has done little to monitor and enforce compliance with existing regulations. The many contaminated sites identified through FNs' ESAs provide evidence of this failure to properly manage FN land and that Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is not fulfilling its fiduciary responsibility for on-reserve environmental regulation.

The OAG also found that INAC and Environment Canada have not addressed the gaps in the federal regulatory framework to protect reserves from environmental threats. Furthermore, INAC and Environment Canada have not addressed the regulatory void that occurs when provincial environmental laws do not apply on reserves, nor have they adequately managed the environmental threats that this void creates (OAG, 2009).

In recent years, INAC has failed to adequately fund FNs' environmental regimes, despite recognition by Canada and FNs in the *Framework Agreement* that environmental management—including EP—is an important component of land management. Chronic underfunding means that FNs have struggled to design and implement their environmental regimes. This “funding gap” between the required funding and amounts provided by INAC will need to be considered by FNs as they plan for EP and other components of their environmental regimes.

## Options for Council



In balancing a FN's needs, legal obligations, contamination risk, liability, and capacity, a FN Council may wish to consider the following alternatives to EP:

- a. Developing and implementing its own independent EP regime, paying for such work with the FN's funds,
- b. Collaborating with other FNs, tribal councils, or similar indigenous organizations to share EP approaches and resources
- c. Continuing to rely on Canada to provide EP services on First Nation Lands, using *Framework Agreement* section 27.1 as justification

Regardless of the approach taken, a FN may continue to seek support from LABRC on technical, legal, or other EP matters.

## **Examples of EP Gap Concern**



The Kashechewan FN water crisis example highlights the inadequacy of EP on reserves, and the possible consequences of the gap in federal and provincial regulations. This example also highlights the importance for LGD to be aware of the responsibilities of the federal and provincial government when it comes to EP on reserves. It is useful for the LGD to identify a contact person in the federal and provincial governments, who can be contacted to discuss environmental issues and decide on appropriate actions.

## Kashechewan FN Water Crisis

In 2005, the bacterium *e. coli* was confirmed to be present in the drinking water supply of the Kashechewan FN, located in northern Ontario. Initially there was little support from the federal government to assist the community members who become ill from the contaminated water. It has been reported that the Ontario provincial government contended that the crisis in Kashechewan was under federal jurisdiction. The federal government responded by saying Ontario is responsible for water quality and health in the community. Eleven days after the initial confirmation of the *e. coli* contamination, the Ontario government started to evacuate the sickest community members, approximately 50% of the reserve population.



The Kashechewan story highlights the poor living conditions on the reserve, and the effects of inadequate design and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities (in this case, the community's sewage lagoon). The reporting of this story in the media put national pressure on both levels of government to act.

Source: CBC. <http://www.cbc.ca/news2/background/aboriginals/kashechewan.html>

Other Resource:

Curio [http://media.curio.ca/filer\\_public/f8/4e/f84e2dd8-76c5-4fbf-b9b7-b9d053b4ac2f/kashechewan.pdf](http://media.curio.ca/filer_public/f8/4e/f84e2dd8-76c5-4fbf-b9b7-b9d053b4ac2f/kashechewan.pdf)

## Considerations for First Nation Environmental Protection Regimes



The EP regime should be specific to each FN reserve's EP issues and capacity. The EP regimes must comply with terms of the *Framework Agreement*, meaning that any EP laws will meet or exceed the provincial and federal standards as they relate to areas of contamination and pollution, and punishments must be equivalent to those of the province or Canada. When building a FN EP regime, a FN must consider EP laws, regulations, compliance monitoring, adjudication, and administration of the EP Regime. For more information on laws, regulations, and policies:

- Laws Regulations and Policies <http://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Laws-Regulations-and-Policies.pdf>
- Law Making Guide <http://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Law-Making-Guide-for-FA-FNs-June-2010-FINAL.pdf>
- Law Making Workshop [https://labrc.com/public/courselet/Considerations in Developing an Environmental Protection Regime/presentation.html](https://labrc.com/public/courselet/Considerations_in_Developing_an_Environmental_Protection_Regime/presentation.html)

## Why develop Environmental Protection Laws?

### Introduction

Some of the reasons why a FN may want to develop its own EPs laws are to:

- Comply with the *Framework Agreement*
- Assume full responsibility for FN land and resources
- Manage contamination risk and liability resulting from land and resource use decisions
- Clarify regulations and relationships among government agencies.

An EP law and regulations should establish environmental quality standards and the FN's methods of protecting reserves from future contamination.

A FN's ESAs and EMP will help determine the kinds of contamination-related issues to be addressed by a FN's EP regime. See the "[Environmental Management Plan Preparation](#)"

[http://labrc.com/public/courselet/EMP\\_Preparation\\_Courselet\\_Final/player.html](http://labrc.com/public/courselet/EMP_Preparation_Courselet_Final/player.html) courselet for more information on the EMP.

### **FN Assumes Full Responsibility**

Once a FN has a LC in effect, the FN assumes full responsibility for land and resources decisions it makes. The FN may be liable for environmental contamination to First Nation Land after the LC comes into effect. The *Framework Agreement* provides FNs with the opportunity to manage its lands, and an EP regime is an expression of that management responsibility.



### **FN Bears the Risk and Liability**

The FN will bear the risk and potential legal and financial liability that arises from its decisions, acts and omissions – whether made or done by Council, a Council delegate, FN administration, FN Council and its employees either paid or volunteer or members – in the management of First Nation Lands under any new EP regime, without recourse to Canada. Failure to design and implement an EP regime could increase a FN's liability.

The LGD should ensure that a FN's insurance policies protect the community members, Chiefs and Councillors, employees, and volunteers from injury and from civil liabilities associated with FN laws, discoveries, investigations, and civil court repercussions. In some provinces, band councils are exempt from mandatory participation in employee Worksafe programs. Such exemption may not relieve a FN from liability associated with workplace accidents and injuries. For more information click here. [https://ccohs.ca/oshanswers/information/wcb\\_canada.html](https://ccohs.ca/oshanswers/information/wcb_canada.html)

## **What is contained in an EP Law**

### **Introduction**

EP laws should clearly define the authorities, roles, responsibilities, and administrative duties of the key individuals or groups responsible for managing environmental contamination.



### **Enforcement**

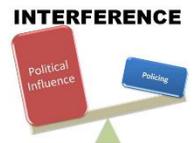
Laws in an EP regime provide a legal basis and framework for enforcement or measures to protect First Nation Land, water, and air from contamination, including:

- Providing a proper records management system, including but not limited to financial records, permits, authorization, ongoing investigations and adjudication matters
- Identifying roles and responsibilities for the administration, inspection, enforcement and adjudication of the EP law

- Outlining investigative authorities, such as search and seizure, document inspection and certification (can be part of the LC law or a separate designation under the laws)
- Identifying the court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction for prosecution of offences
- Methods of ensuring compliance with the EP law or Court orders to rectify problems and impose penalties
- Issuing oral and written warnings
- Issuing cease work orders
- Establishing the nature and amount of penalties for non-compliance with the EP law or obstruction of an investigation, inspection or court order
- Issuing and collecting fines and imposing other penalties and remedies

### **Interference**

EP laws are effective tools if concerns exist about potential political or outside interference, because laws leave little room for personal choice and should be applied uniformly and fairly to all parties. Interference with the application and enforcement of laws can be considered unlawful.



### **Conflict of Interest**

A FN EP law can be designed to deal with conflict of interest issues. For instance, conflicts may arise from such circumstances as:

- A FN being the regulator and the proponent (owner/operator) of a project
- The lands department and the economic development department have conflicting mandates (e.g. one department protects the land and the other department makes money off the land)
- The EP law is violated by a FN staff member responsible for implementing the EP law

The EP law should specify processes for dealing with such potential conflicts of interest, including designating parties that would be assigned to investigate violations.



### **Limitations and Challenges in Developing EP laws**

Among the limitations and challenges associated with developing EP laws are:

- Determining the contaminant concentrations, standards, guidelines, or other indicators of environmental quality to be included in the EP law,
- Establishing a law that protects the FN's environment and members and is capable of being administered by the FN,
- Reconciling EP regulatory requirements of the FN with the provincial or local government regulations applied in nearby jurisdictions,

- Recognizing that a FN’s laws need to be understood and supported by community members and businesses, necessitating an effective community engagement process,
- Identifying the implications of the law for economic development, practices considered “acceptable” in the community (such as depositing topsoil, dumping waste at informal dumpsites, or vehicle maintenance activities), and for enforcement and adjudication,
- Ensuring that a FN’s legal counsel retained to draft the EP law is familiar with such instruments
- Understanding that effort is required to keep laws up-to-date and relevant in future years,
- Developing and implementing laws is expensive, in terms of staff time, providing necessary and ongoing training, enforcement, and adjudication.

This courselet provides an overview of environmental inspection and its environmental reporting activities that are fundamental to meeting a FN’s obligations for assuring a high standard of EP and management under its LC.

## The Use of Regulations

### Introduction

Regulations are specific requirements that must be met by the individuals, companies and organizations affected by the law. Regulators use these requirements as tools when applying laws.



### Regulations

Regulations typically describe the specific steps and actions needed to comply with a law, and, in the case of EP regulations, may contain standards and guidelines related to contaminants. Regulations also describe permit application and approval procedures, and often deal with monitoring, enforcement, and adjudication. For example, the British Columbia government uses the Contaminated Sites Regulation (CSR) to implement the *Environmental Management Act (EMA)*. The CSR contains definitions of terms used by the regulation and information on liabilities related to the management of regulated substances. The CSR also contains the specific guidelines, standards, and criteria for regulated substances (*i.e.*, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) in soil, water, and air).



### Preparing Regulations

In preparing laws and regulations, a FN needs to agree on the following considerations:

- How detailed is the FN’s EP law, and what sections of the law require more detailed direction to be provided in regulations?
- What contaminant standards will be applied on the reserve? Federal? Provincial? Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME)? Others?

- What activities on the reserves will be subject to regulation?
- What are the specific permit requirements (if any) associated with the EP Law?
- How will applications for permits (e.g., to deposit or remove soil, to handle hazardous materials) be processed?
- What time limits will be imposed on processing applications, issuing permits, completing works, paying fees, returning bonds, etc.?
- What is the fee schedule (if any) associated with applications for permits or for handling of potential contaminated materials or placement or removal of soil?
- How will monitoring and inspection of EP-regulated activities be conducted?
- Who has the authority to conduct inspections or to enforce the EP Law?
- What is the monetary fines schedule to be applied by a tribunal?
- How much scope do regulatory staff have in administering and enforcing the EP Law?
- If the FN encounters the regulator-operator circumstance (described earlier in this courselet), how will compliance with the EP law and enforcement be handled?
- What other laws are in force on First Nation Lands that may involve complementary, overlapping, or even conflicting regulatory processes, and how will associated issues be resolved during administration of the EP Law?
- What is the relationship between the EP law and a FN's emergency plan in the event of an environmental problem? How will provincial, federal, or local governments be involved in responding to an environmental emergency?

A FN will likely identify other issues that need to be resolved as EP regulations are developed.

## **The LGD and Administration of the EP Regime**

### **Introduction**

In most FNs, the LGD is the key person that helps create, oversee and administer the EP regime. Administration of the EP regime will require the LGD to ensure cooperation and collaboration among FN departments. Direction from Chief and Council may be necessary and appropriate to ensure this high level of cooperation.

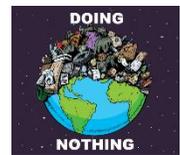


### **Conflict Issues**

The LGD should understand that internal conflicts may arise, specifically related to allocation of funding or staff resources or enforcing EP regulations on FN operations that previously did not need to comply with such rules. Such internal tension should be considered a normal part of institutional change as a FN adjusts to being operational. In preparing for potential conflicts, the LGD should consider:

- The structure of the FN's government
- The kinds of tensions or conflicts that could arise when preparing and implementing an EP regime

- Ways of avoiding or limiting inter-departmental conflicts over the EP regime, and suitable responses if conflicts or differences arise



### **Build Clear Communications**



New responsibilities and changes in workloads should be expected, especially when implementing EP regimes that affect the daily operations of a reserve. Some FN staff may not fully understand the need for, or content of, the EP law and regulations. There may be potential for confusion among staff on issues such as responsibilities and authority to direct work. Consequently, the LGD should establish well-defined policies setting out clear communications and strong professional working relationships among FN staff and leadership.

### **Options for Delivering EP Responsibilities**

#### **Introduction**

While keeping in mind the structure of the Framework Agreement in relation to EP and, more broadly, environmental management, a FN may wish to consider the following options for delivering EP responsibilities:

#### **Option 1. Keep the regulatory functions with the FN**

FN has responsibility for the EP regulatory function, including approvals, inspections, enforcement and penalties.



This option reflects FN values and promotes capacity building and self-government.

This option may also produce a conflict of interest if the FN is both the regulator and owner-operator of a project on First Nation land.

#### **Option 2. Delegate the regulatory function to a special purpose, aggregated FN body**

FNs delegate power to regulate to a special purpose FN body, i.e., Tribal Council. This option may engage others in EP administration that have had previous experience with other FNs on similar issues. The aggregated organization may have more staff resources to apply to EP administration than could be provided by a single FN. The “separation” provided by an outside organization may be beneficial if enforcement measures are required. Outside organizations may lack the knowledge of local circumstances that is available inside a FN.

### **Option 3: Contracting with the province or to local government**

A FN may seek an agreement with provincial contaminated site regulators for services associated with permitting, approvals, inspections, technical matters, and enforcement. Note that contracting other governments for services is not the same as adopting others' laws and regulations. Adopting other's laws and regulations is not recommended.

### **Option 4: Adopt a combination of the foregoing options.**

A FN could adopt a combination of the foregoing options.



### **Option 5. Continue to rely on Canada**

A FN could do nothing and continue to allow Canada to provide EP responsibilities on First Nation Land. Each FN will need to decide whether maintaining the pre-Land Code status quo is the best approach to environmental protection on First Nation Lands. The drafters of the Framework Agreement intended the environmental responsibility component to be undertaken only with the assurance of adequate funding and expertise. Nonetheless, the Framework Agreement clearly anticipates that FNs would develop EP regimes and associated EP laws and regulations.

## **Criteria to Evaluate Options**

### **Introduction**

Possible criteria to evaluate EP approaches include:

- Separation of regulator and operator
- Affordability and cost sharing
- Ability to reflect FN values
- Harmony with surrounding jurisdictions
- Legal and financial liability
- FN's governance capacity
- Speed at filling the EP "gap".



### **Regulator and Operator**

Good governance requires that the power of a regulator be separate and independent from the operator to avoid conflicts of interest. For example, landfill operators should not be regulating themselves.



### **Affordability and Cost Sharing**



FN communities that collaborate in developing and implementing an EP regime can pool resources to share costs and trained staff, thereby dispersing the overall costs of implementation among communities. In addition to reducing financial burdens on individual FNs, such sharing can help FNs access a larger pool of expertise to effectively deliver EP services.

### **Ability to Reflect FN Values**



Certain aspects of a regulatory system may be adaptable to FN context, i.e., identifying resources to be protected that include culturally important resources and activities, defining acceptable actions, enforcement and penalties.



### **Harmonizing Jurisdictions**

FN EP laws must meet or exceed provincial and federal laws. For example, using the same standards as the province, even if processes are different, allows for ease of hiring accredited and licenced outside contractors to work on reserves and allowing FN community members to access applicable training and education programs. Local government jurisdictions adjacent to a FN are subject to provincial regulations, so harmonizing provincial and FN EP regimes will provide certainty for businesses and others who are active in reserves and non-Indigenous communities.

The term “harmonization” is not intended to mean simply adopting or mimicking the laws, standards, policies and procedures of other governments in FN communities. Harmonization should recognize that FNs may have different ways of achieving the same or better outcomes than those of non-native governments.

### **Legal and Financial Liability**

The regulator, i.e., the FN, takes on the risks and liabilities associated with EP laws and regulations. Which regulatory option will best mitigate a FN’s legal and financial risks and liabilities?



### **Governance Capacity**



In determining an option, a FN should examine the extent to which an approach allows the FN to build capacity and support self-government goals.

## Speed at filling the EP “gap”



A FN may wish to consider which option most quickly fills identified gaps in federal and provincial EP regulations as they apply to First Nation Land.

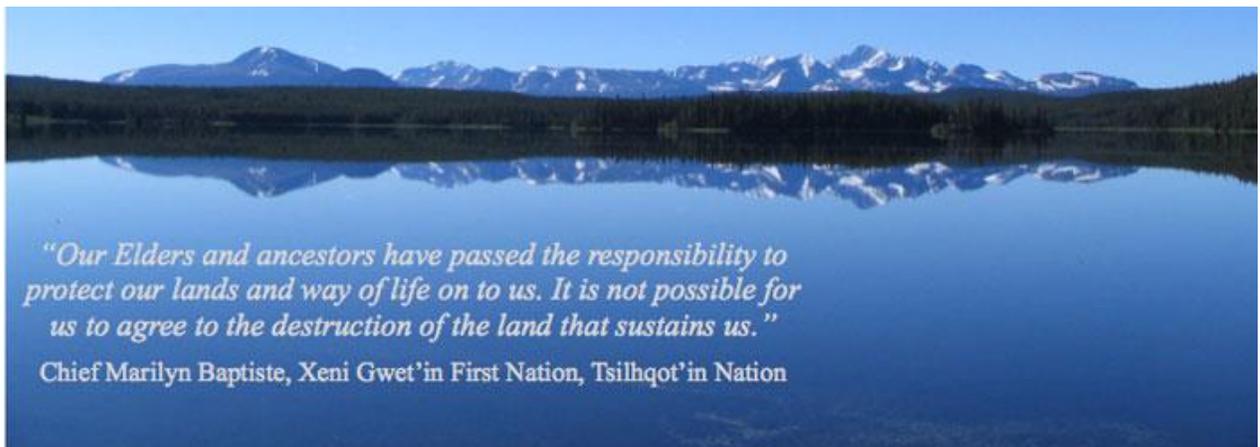
## Evaluate Options

These criteria have been used to evaluate the EP regime options. The results of the evaluation are presented in “Evaluation of EP Regime Options” <https://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/EVALUATION-OF-EP-Regime-Options-2018.pdf>

## Examples of FN EP Regime



## Introduction



The following two examples explain how two FN communities have worked to develop EP regimes unique to the environmental issues and conditions on their reserves:

1. Chippewas of Georgina Island
2. Lheidli T'enneh

Picture Credit: [www.turtleisland.org](http://www.turtleisland.org)

### **Example: Chippewas of Georgina Island**

The example from the Chippewas of Georgina Island <http://georginaisland.com/community-services/environment/> provides a useful step by step process for developing an EP regime. The steps include identifying issues, identifying applicable laws and finally developing EP policies and strategies.

As an operational FN, the Chippewas of Georgina Island are in the process of enacting EP laws for septic systems, solid waste, environmental emergencies and protection, and fuel storage tanks. The process that the Chippewas are following includes six key steps:

**Step 1:** Identify existing and potential EP issues on the reserve, i.e., contaminated site, unregulated landfill.

**Step 2:** Identify applicable laws, regulations, and guidelines

**Step 3:** Develop EP policy

**Step 4:** Develop FN strategy

- EP law development
- Education and community outreach
- Monitoring
- Compliance and enforcement

**Step 5:** Identify benefits to community

**Step 6:** Compliance and Enforcement

The draft EP regime includes an implementation strategy that outlines potential funding sources, a process for law development and review, procedures to ensure voluntary compliance with laws, a proposed enforcement program, potential punishments, a proposed implementation schedule and list of potential support agencies.

Source: Chippewas of Georgina Island document, *A Regime for Environmental Protection, Administration, Monitoring and Enforcement*

### **Example Lheidli T'enneh**

The example from the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation (LTFN) shows a different environmental management approach for reserve operations. The LTFN example includes how information collected from their ESAs supported the development of operating procedures for community wide use to prevent potential environmental risks from future activities on reserve land. A key lesson from the LTFN is that LGDs should understand environmental issues existing on reserves and then develop policies and procedures to address the concerns.

The operational LTFN developed an Environmental Management Framework (EMF) as a reference document to manage environmental issues, promote sustainable development, raise environmental awareness among Band members and protect the environment. The main goal of the EMF was to provide the band with a step-by-step reference document to manage environmental management issues on reserve (LTFN 2007).

The EMF includes information collected by Phase I ESA [https://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/s9-phase\\_1\\_environmental\\_site\\_assessment\\_summary.pdf%20](https://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/s9-phase_1_environmental_site_assessment_summary.pdf%20) and Phase II and III ESA [http://www.labrc.com/public/userfiles/files/Overview%20of%20Phase%20II%20and%20Phase%20III%20ESAs\(1\).docx%20](http://www.labrc.com/public/userfiles/files/Overview%20of%20Phase%20II%20and%20Phase%20III%20ESAs(1).docx%20), including identification of areas where soil had been contaminated from improper storage and handling of fuels, waste oil and domestic garbage (LTFN, 2007).

Click here for the EMF Milestones for the Lheidli T'enneh [http://www.lheidli.ca/Lands\\_And\\_Natural\\_Resources/index.php#emf](http://www.lheidli.ca/Lands_And_Natural_Resources/index.php#emf)

A task committee of LTFN band members developed the EMF, and held regular meetings to gather information on existing environmental concerns on reserve and provide band feedback. The committee developed a questionnaire asking band members for their opinions on environmental matters on reserve. The results of the questionnaire identified nine main environmental topics that band members were concerned with:

- Solid Waste Management
- Ground and Surface Water Protection
- Wastewater Management
- Air Quality
- Landfills and Soil Management
- Habitat
- Fuel Handling and storage
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Environmental Emergency Response

The EMF includes Environmental Operational Procedures for the areas of environmental concern listed above. These procedures were designed to provide guidance for the FN on environmental management issues and to mitigate and prevent future impacts to the reserve environment from activities on and off reserve lands. Each environmental Operational Procedure includes step by step flow charts to guide management of environmental issues by band members and to provide contact names in cases where outside expertise is required (LTFN, 2007).

Under the *Framework Agreement* and the Lheidli T'enneh FN LC the LTFN has control over environment and natural resources on their Reserve land. The LC provides authorization for the LTFN to:

- Develop laws that govern heritage sites and EA and EP
- Land use planning and zoning
- Interests and licenses for third parties using LTFN land.

Click on “Environmental Operating Procedures Flowchart” for LTFN’s Environmental Operational Procedures for ground and surface water. <http://labrc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/LTN-EOP-flowchart.pdf>

## Summary

### Introduction

This courselet provided an overview of considerations in developing and implementing an EP regime. It examined why the provincial and federal EP regimes have gaps that adversely affect the environment and health of community members on FN reserves.

### Community Members at Risk

Generally, the existing EP regime that operates on reserve land leaves community members at risk to unmitigated risks due to a lack of a coordinated response from the federal and provincial governments. Additionally, federal and provincial EP laws do not consider FN community values and traditional activities.



### Laws and regulations

This courselet presents information on the development of EP laws and regulations by Operational FNs. Advice for LGDs in preparing EP regimes is provided, including suggestions for avoiding internal staff concerns and conflicts as the EP regime is implemented.

### Potential EP Regimes

Several potential EP regimes were presented and were evaluated using criteria discussed in this courselet. Two examples were provided, explaining how FN communities have approached the development of EP regimes.



### Share Successes

The *Framework Agreement* intended that signatory FNs would share their experience among themselves and with developmental FNs. It is important for LGDs to share successes and challenges in developing and implementing EP regimes, because the information will provide valuable insight for other FNs working to achieve stronger and healthier communities. It is highly recommended that

LGDs share experience and seek information from other LGDs and Lands Advisory Board Resource Centre (LABRC) staff through the LABRC Website <http://labrc.com/home/>

### **Key Messages**

The key messages from this lesson include:

- EP regimes are important to operational FNs
- There area a variety of issues that a FN should consider when developing an effective EP regime
- The content of EP regimes will likely be unique to the requirements of each FN





## ACRONYM LIST

### Considerations in Developing an EP Regime Courselet

CCME	-	Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment
CSR	-	Contaminated Sites Regulation
EA	-	Environmental Assessment
<i>EMA</i>	-	<i>Environmental Management Act</i>
EMF	-	Environmental Management Framework
EMP	-	Environmental Management Plan
EP	-	Environmental Protection
ESA	-	Environmental Site Assessment
FN	-	First Nation
<i>FNLMA</i>	-	<i>First Nations Land Management Act</i>
<i>FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT</i>	-	<i>Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management</i>
INAC	-	Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development
LAB	-	Lands Advisory Board
LABRC	-	Lands Advisory Board Resource Centre
LC	-	Land Code
LGD	-	Lands Governance Director
LTFN	-	Lheidli T'enneh First Nation
OAG	-	Office of the Auditor General
PCB	-	Polychlorinated biphenyl



## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

### **Considerations in Developing an Environmental Protection Regime**

#### **CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminants are any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance in air, soil or water that has an adverse effect. Any chemical substance whose concentration exceeds background concentrations, or which is not naturally occurring in the environment.

#### **CONTAMINATED SITES**

A contaminated site is defined as a site at which substances occur at concentrations: (1) above background levels and pose or are likely to pose an immediate or long-term hazard to human health or the environment, or (2) exceeding levels specified in policies and regulations.

#### **CONTAMINATION**

Contamination: the introduction into soil, air or water of a chemical, organic or radioactive material or live organism that will adversely affect the quality of that medium.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

According to the International Association of Impact Assessments, an EA is

“the process of identifying, predicting, evaluating and mitigating the biophysical, social and other relevant effects of development proposals prior to major decisions being taken and commitments made.”

An EA examines effects of proposed projects on soil, air quality, water quality and supply, fisheries, wildlife, traffic, noise, community health, economic development, archaeology and a variety of other social, economic and environmental topics. A well-designed EA assesses the “cumulative effects” of a proposed project combined with other past and proposed future human activities. Ways of avoiding or reducing impacts are identified in an EA.

An EA is a planning tool, a means of reviewing the effects of proposed development, a process of community engagement and an instrument for complying with regulatory requirements. After considering federal and provincial environmental assessment processes, an operational First Nation can design an efficient EA regime that is beneficial to the environment and to the quality of development occurring on reserves.



## **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP)**

An Environmental Management Plan defines a First Nation's approach to important environmental issues and organizes actions to achieve specified environmental goals.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Environmental protection is defined as the efforts made to identify, remediate and prevent contamination of soil, water and air, and to reduce attendant risks to environmental and human health and safety. The adverse effects of exposure to contaminants may result from direct or indirect contamination of soils, water, and air from hazardous materials and uncontrolled exposure to those contaminants.

## **FIRST NATION LAND**

"First Nation land", in respect of a First Nation, means all or part of a reserve that the First Nation describes in its land code.

## ***FIRST NATIONS LAND MANAGEMENT ACT***

Is an Act providing for the ratification and bringing into effect of the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management (Framework Agreement)*. The Act was required under the *Framework Agreement* for two purposes: to ratify the *Framework Agreement*, and to implement those clauses of the *Framework Agreement* that affect third parties or other federal laws, or that are considered important enough to be repeated in the legislation. The *First Nations Land Management Act* is intended to be consistent with the *Framework Agreement* and to apply to the First Nations that are signatories to the *Framework Agreement*. The Act was enacted and given royal assent on June 7, 1999.

## ***FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON FIRST NATION LAND MANAGEMENT***

The *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* is a government-to-government agreement. The Framework Agreement is an initiative for First Nations to opt out of the land management sections of the *Indian Act* and take over responsibility for the management and control of their reserve lands and resources. The Framework Agreement sets out the principal components of this new land management process.

The *Framework Agreement* provides First Nations with the option to manage their reserve lands under their own Land Codes. Until a First Nation community develops and approves a Land Code to take control of its reserve lands and resources, federal



administration of their reserve lands continues under the Indian Act. The Framework Agreement is not a treaty and does not affect treaty rights or other constitutional rights of the First Nations.

## INSPECTION

Inspections take place at a given point in time. For the purpose of Land Code administration generally, Environmental Inspection is defined as:

- Inspections are formal examinations carried out by someone in an official capacity at a specific time and place to observe whether some activity or development meets required standards. Inspections are a critical component of enforcing environmental legislation and protecting environmental health in matters as diverse as food safety, water quality, air quality, pest management, sanitation, noise control and injury prevention.

## LAND CODE

A Land Code will be the basic land law of the First Nation and will replace the land management provisions of the Indian Act. The Land Code will be drafted by the First Nation and will make provision for the following matters: identifying the reserve lands to be managed by the First Nation (called “First Nation land”), the general rules and procedures for the use and occupation of these lands by First Nation members and others, financial accountability for revenues from the lands (except oil and gas revenues, which continue under federal law), the making and publishing of First Nation land laws, the conflict of interest rules, a community process to develop rules and procedures applicable to land on the breakdown of a marriage, a dispute resolution process, procedures by which the First Nation can grant interests in land or acquire lands for community purposes, the delegation of land management responsibilities, and the procedure for amending the Land Code.

## LANDS ADVISORY BOARD

Under Sections 38, 39, and 40 of the *Framework Agreement*, the First Nations have established a First Nation Land Advisory Board (LAB) to provide:

- Developmental First Nations political, technical, legal, advisory and financial support
- Operational First Nations assistance in implementing the *Framework Agreement* and their own land management regimes.

The LAB is composed of Chiefs regionally elected from the Operational First Nations.

Some of the LAB’s functions include:



- Establishing a resource centre
- Providing strategic direction to the Resource Centre
- Proposing to the Minister such amendments to the *Framework Agreement* and the federal legislation, as it considers necessary or advisable in consultation with First Nations
- Negotiating a funding method with the Minister, and performing such other functions or services for a First Nation as are agreed to between the LAB and the First Nation.

The LAB established a resource centre to carry out many of its technical functions and this body is the Lands Advisory Board Resource Centre (LABRC).

### **LANDS ADVISORY BOARD RESOURCE CENTRE**

Under the *Framework Agreement*, the First Nations have established a LABRC to assist the First Nations in implementing their own land management regimes. The LABRC is the technical body intended to support First Nations in the developmental and operational phases implementing the *Framework Agreement*

The LABRC's functions are:

- Developing model land codes, laws and land management systems
- Developing model agreements for use between First Nations and other authorities and institutions, including public utilities and private organizations
- On request of a First Nation, assisting the First Nation in developing and implementing its land code, laws, land management systems and environmental assessment and protection regimes -assisting a verifier when requested by the verifier
- Establishing a resource centre, curricula and training programs for managers and others who perform functions pursuant to a land code
- On request of a First Nation encountering difficulties relating to the management of its First Nation lands, helping the First Nation in obtaining the expertise necessary to resolve the difficulty
- Proposing regulations for First Nation land registration

### **LIABILITY**

Liability: obligations arising from past transactions or events, the settlement of which may result in the transfer or use of assets, or the provision of services or other economic benefits in the future.

### **MONITORING**

Monitoring is observing the change in geophysical, hydrogeological or geochemical measurements of specified criteria with time.



## OPERATIONAL

When referring to the *Framework Agreement* “operational” means a First Nation which has ratified its Land Code and the Land Code is in **force**.

## REMEDIATION

Remediation is defined by Environment Canada as the improvement of a contaminated site to prevent, minimize or mitigate damage to human health or the environment.

Remediation involves the development and application of a planned approach that removes, destroys, contains or otherwise reduces the availability of contaminants to receptors of concern. Remediation may involve clean-up of contaminants, or “risk management” that limits exposure to contaminants that are not or cannot be removed.

## RESERVE

The *Constitution Act of 1867 Section 91 (24)* - “Indians and lands reserved for Indians”:

- Creates a distinction between Indian reserve lands and other lands in Canada
- Provides that Indians and reserve lands are a federal responsibility
- Gives the federal government exclusive jurisdiction over reserve lands
- Provides that only Parliament can legislate with regard to the use of reserve lands

The basic legal framework underlying reserves is:

- The underlying legal title to reserves belongs to the federal Crown
- How the reserve was created (e.g. before or after Confederation in 1867)
- Pursuant to section 2 of the *Indian Act*, reserves are set aside by the Crown in Right of Canada for the use and benefit of a First Nation

The *Framework Agreement* (see Section 4) clarifies that reserve lands under a Land Code will continue to be reserves within the meaning of the *Indian Act* and that any reserve, title to which is vested in Canada, and managed by a First Nation under a Land Code, will continue to be vested in Canada for the use and benefit of the respective First Nation for which it was set apart.

## RISK OF HARM

Risk of harm represents the likelihood that an adverse effect would result from a specified condition or activity. For instance, a railroad incident causing a spill of hazardous chemicals could result in a substantial **risk of harm** to nearby residents, groundwater quality, or other environmental or social conditions. A primary reason for



preparing an environmental protection regime is to reduce the risk of harm from human activities or naturally-occurring environmental conditions or events.

## **SURFACE WATER**

Surface water flows on the surface of the ground. Surface water includes the water in lakes, rivers and wetlands.

## **TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE**

While there is not yet an accepted definition the [World Intellectual Property Organization](#) definition is: Traditional knowledge (TK) is knowledge, know-how, skills and practices that are developed, sustained and passed on from generation to generation within a community, often forming part of its cultural or spiritual identity.

## EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REGIME OPTIONS

EP Regime Options	Pro	Con	Other Considerations
<b>1. Keep the regulatory functions with the First Nation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability for laws to reflect First Nation values</li> <li>Builds First Nation capacity</li> <li>Supports self-government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to develop, enact, enforce laws and regulations</li> <li>Liability lies with First Nation</li> <li>Need to develop processes consistent with complex provincial and federal approaches, which are costly and time consuming</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Nation may not have the technical or financial capacity to undertake regulation</li> <li>Ability to separate regulator and operator depends on the First Nation</li> </ul>
<b>2. Delegate the regulatory function to a special purpose, aggregated First Nation body</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability for laws to reflect First Nation values</li> <li>Builds First Nation capacity and self-government</li> <li>Increased economy of scale (efficiency of existing regime)</li> <li>Creates a degree of separation between regulator and operator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to create a special purpose body for this function</li> <li>Not known whether the new body could effectively deliver Environmental Protection services.</li> <li>Not all First Nations are candidates to benefit from this approach, due to geography or opportunities for collaboration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liability would likely be shared between First Nation and special purpose group</li> <li>First Nation needs to determine if the special purpose group can access legal, technical, scientific expertise required to effectively regulate</li> </ul>
<b>3. Contracting with the province or local government</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Separation of regulator and operator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited ability to reflect First Nation values</li> <li>Does not build First Nation regulatory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some community members may not want the provincial government undertaking a regulatory role on First Nation land</li> </ul>

## EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REGIME OPTIONS

EP Regime Options	Pro	Con	Other Considerations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provinces have technically trained and experienced staff</li> <li>High degree of harmony with provincial or local government regulations</li> <li>Quickly fills environmental protection “gaps”</li> <li>Increased economy of scale (efficiency of existing regime)</li> <li>Liability for enforcement lies with province</li> <li>May be the “lowest cost” option, depending on negotiations with province.</li> </ul>	<p>capacity or support self-government</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provinces and Local Government may not be interested in this option due to costs and liabilities.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Adopt a combination of the foregoing option</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depends on the combination of options selected, and their method of implementation.</li> </ul>		
<b>5. Continue to rely on Canada</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Separation of regulator and operator</li> <li>Liability may continue to reside with Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slow rate of filling the environmental protection gap</li> <li>Poor federal performance in controlling contamination would continue</li> <li>Inconsistent with intent of <i>Framework Agreement</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unclear how this option affects economies of scale, First Nation values, harmony with other jurisdictions, and building First Nations capacity.</li> </ul>

## EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REGIME OPTIONS

EP Regime Options	Pro	Con	Other Considerations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Nation does not apply this form of control over its reserves</li><li>• First Nation may bear full or partial liability for future contamination</li></ul>	

Source: Adapted from Edgar and Graham (2008)

# FIRST NATION JURISDICTION UNDER FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON FIRST NATION LAND MANAGEMENT

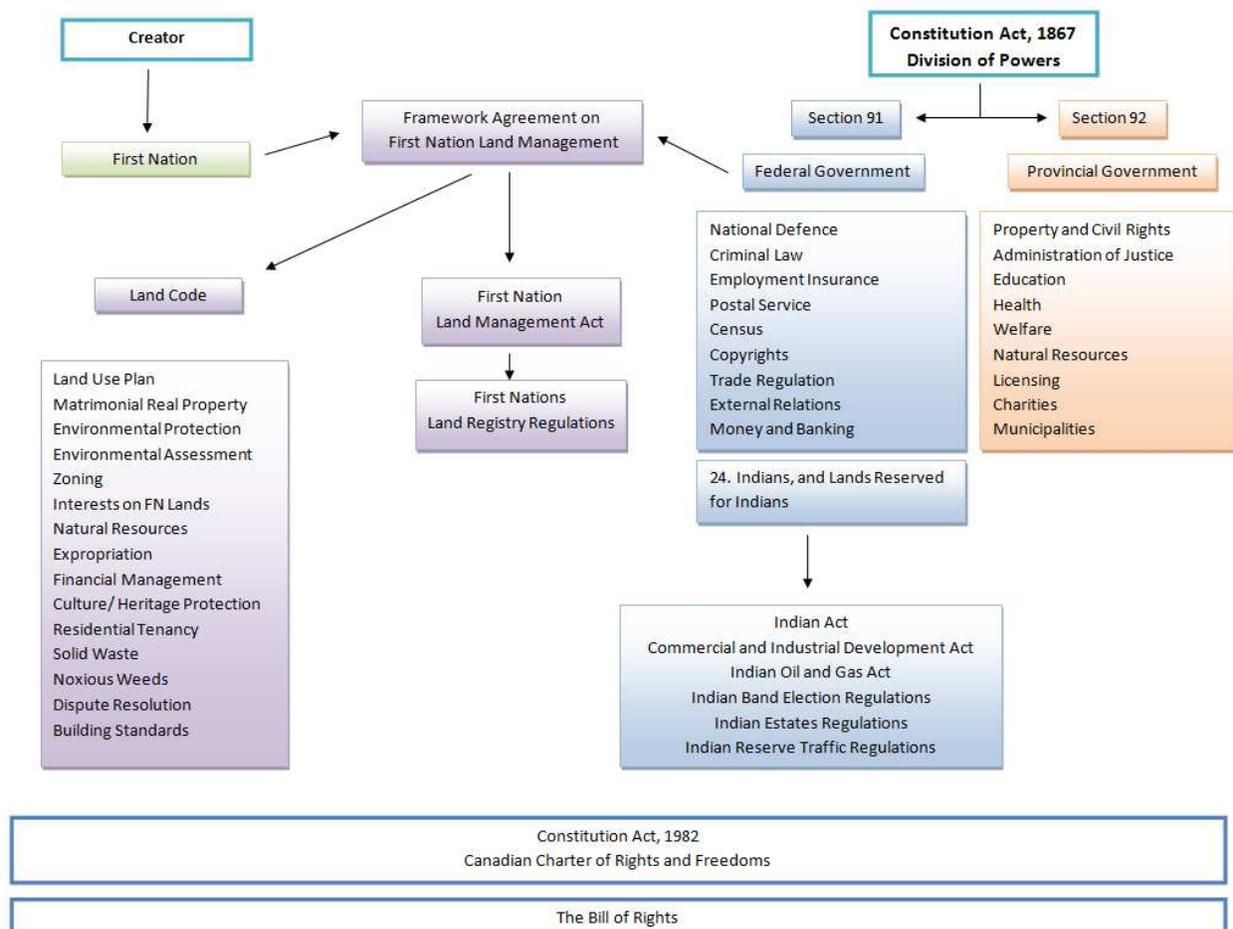


Figure 1 AUTHORITY TO ENACT LAWS

## Narrative for the Chart

First Nations say that everything, including their rights, responsibilities and privileges flow from the creator. The chart illustrates how First Nations are re-establishing their jurisdiction over their lands and resources by signing the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management (Framework Agreement)*. A First Nation ratifies the *Framework Agreement* by enacting a community Land Code. The Land Code is enabling and is general in nature. The community exercises its land governance powers by enacting specific land based laws.

The *Constitution Act, 1867* established a federation based on the sharing of powers between the federal and provincial governments. Each government has responsibility over a number of specific areas.

Under Section 91(24), the federal government has exclusive responsibility for Indians, and Lands Reserved for Indians. In exercising its responsibility, the federal government has signed treaties with First Nations, enacted legislation and regulations and established programs.

The federal government used this head of power to undertake negotiations which eventually lead to the development and signing of the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*. The federal government ratified this *Framework Agreement* by enacting the *First Nation Land Management Act*. The federal government also established the *First Nations Land Registry Regulations*.

All law-making bodies in Canada are constrained in their ability to make laws by the Bill of Rights, the Constitution Act, 1982, and the list of powers they were provided with (their jurisdiction). The courts are the forum for determining whether or not law-making bodies are acting within their powers.

# FIRST NATIONS LAND MANAGEMENT ACT

## (BILL C-49)

An Act providing for the ratification and bringing into effect of  
The Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### INTRODUCTION

The First Nations Land Management Act (the “Act”) was required under the *Framework Agreement* for two purposes:

- **to ratify**
- **and bring into effect the *Framework Agreement***

The *Act* is to be consistent with the *Framework Agreement* and to apply in the same manner to the First Nations who are signatories to the *Framework Agreement* (set out in the schedule to the *Act*). The *Act* was previously introduced in Parliament on December 10, 1996, but the federal election that year prevented it from being enacted. The Bill leading to the enactment of the *Act*, was re-introduced as Bill C-49 in June of 1998. It was finally enacted and given royal assent on June 17, 1999.

#### RATIFICATION

The *Framework Agreement* is the document that sets out the terms and conditions under which a First Nation can establish its own land governance regime and remove its reserve lands from the Minister’s control under the *Indian Act*. The *Framework Agreement* was ratified by Canada by enacting the *FNLMA* and as of June 2013, 40 First Nations have ratified the *Framework Agreement* and enacted their own Land Codes.

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

***Ratification Process:*** A large portion of the *Act* relates to the “opting-in process” for First Nations. It repeats many of the clauses of the *Framework Agreement* on what a land code must contain, how a land code is approved by the community, the role of the independent Verifier and so on.

***First Nation Lands:*** The *Act* states that title to First Nation Lands will not be affected by the *Act* and that these lands will continue to be reserves and to be constitutionally protected. First Nation lands are also protected against surrender for sale. If land is ever voluntarily exchanged by a First nation for other land, the new reserve land received by the First Nation would be protected in the same way.

**Land Code:** Land Codes enacted in accordance with the Framework Agreement have the force of law and are validly recognized by Canadian courts.

**First Nation Powers:** The powers of a First Nation to manage its reserve lands and resources, receive and use land revenues, and its legal capacity for land purposes are included in the *Act*. These powers are to be exercised for the use and benefit of the First Nation.

**Transfer of Revenue:** The *Act* provides that revenue moneys of the First Nation previously collected and held by Canada will be transferred to the First Nation when its land code comes into effect.

**First Nation Laws:** The law-making powers of a First Nation under its land code are set out in the *Act*. The laws may cover any matter related to First Nation land and resources, including the granting of interests in land, land use, environment, and possession of matrimonial home. Provisions relating to the enforcement of First Nation laws, prosecutions and evidence are also included.

**Register for First Nation Land:** The *Act* authorizes Canada to set up a separate register to record interests granted by First Nations under their Land Codes.

**First Nation Expropriation:** The *Act* recognizes the right of a First Nation to expropriate interests in its own First Nation land for community works or other First Nation community purposes. The basic principles of this are included in the *Act*, e.g. fair compensation. The First Nation in its Land Code and laws would set out the details of how any community expropriation would work.

**No Provincial Expropriation:** First Nation land is immune from any expropriation by a provincial municipal government or by provincial agencies.

**Limited Federal Expropriation:** The protections against the expropriation of First Nation land by the federal government, which were negotiated in the *Framework Agreement*, are repeated in the *Act*. These include provisions on limited expropriation in cases where it is justifiable and necessary for a federal public purpose that serves the national interest. The *Act* also requires Canada to provide alternate land to the First Nation, which would become First Nation land, in order to protect the land base of the First Nation. The Legislation contains provisions on compensation and the resolution of disputes over expropriation.

**Liability Protection:** Canada will remain liable for actions taken before the Land Code takes effect. The First Nation will assume responsibility for its land governance actions after that date.

**Application to other First Nations:** The *Act* only applies to the 84 First Nation signatories set out in the schedule. If other First Nations become signatories to the *Framework Agreement*, the Governor in Council may add them to this Schedule.

## **EFFECT ON OTHER FEDERAL LEGISLATION**

***Indian Act:*** The *Act* ensures that the land management provisions of the *Indian Act* do not apply to any of the 84 signatory First Nations that adopt a Land Code, their members or their First Nation lands. This will also apply to other eventual First Nation signatories.

***Expropriation Act:*** The *Act* makes it clear that the new rules for protection of First Nation land from expropriation over-ride other legislation like the *Expropriation Act*.

***Indian Oil and Gas Act:*** The *Indian Oil and Gas Act* will continue to apply to any First Nation oil and gas interests and revenues.

***Environment:*** The First Nation will now to enact its own laws on this topic.

**Text of the Framework  
Agreement on First Nation Land  
Management**

(signed in 1996)

Includes modifications resulting from

**Amendment #1 1998**  
**Amendment #2 1998**  
**Amendment #3 2002**  
**Amendment #4 2007**  
**Amendment #5 2011**

**Texte de l'Accord-Cadre relatif  
à la Gestion des Terres de  
Premières Nations**

(signé en 1996)

Comprend les changements apportés par  
les modifications suivantes

**Modification #1 1998**  
**Modification #2 1998**  
**Modification #3 2002**  
**Modification #4 2007**  
**Modification #5 2011**

Framework Agreement on First  
Nation Land Management

Accord-cadre relatif à la Gestion  
des Terres de Premières Nations

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON  
FIRST NATION LAND  
MANAGEMENT

ACCORD-CADRE RELATIF À LA  
GESTION DES TERRES DE  
PREMIÈRES NATIONS

BETWEEN:

ENTRE :

THE FOLLOWING FIRST NATIONS:

LES PREMIÈRES NATIONS  
SUIVANTES :

WESTBANK, MUSQUEAM, LHEIDLI  
T'ENNEH (formerly known as "LHEIT-  
LIT'EN"), N'QUATQUA, SQUAMISH,  
SIKSIKA, MUSKODAY, COWESSESS,  
OPASKWAYAK CREE, NIPISSING,  
MISSISSAUGAS OF SCUGOG ISLAND,  
CHIPPEWAS OF MNJIKANING,  
CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND,  
SAINT MARY'S, as represented by their  
Chiefs and all other First Nations that  
have adhered to the Agreement

WESTBANK, MUSQUEAM, LHEIDLI  
T'ENNEH (autrefois connue sous le  
nom de "LHEIT-LIT'EN"),  
N'QUATQUA, SQUAMISH, SIKSIKA,  
MUSKODAY, COWESSESS,  
OPASKWAYAK CREE, NIPISSING,  
MISSISSAUGAS OF SCUGOG  
ISLAND, CHIPPEWAS OF  
MNJIKANING, CHIPPEWAS OF  
GEORGINA ISLAND, SAINT  
MARY'S, représentées par leurs chefs  
et toutes les autres Premières Nations  
qui se sont jointes à l'Entente

AND

ET

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN  
RIGHT OF CANADA, as represented by  
the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern  
Development

SA MAJESTÉ LA REINE DU CHEF  
DU CANADA, représentée par le ministre  
des Affaires indiennes et du Nord  
canadien

WHEREAS:

ATTENDU QUE :

The First Nations have a profound  
relationship with the land that is rooted in  
respect for the Spiritual value of the Earth  
and the gifts of the Creator and have a deep  
desire to preserve their relationship with the  
land;

Les premières nations entretiennent une  
relation profonde avec la terre, basée sur la  
valeur spirituelle qu'elles attribuent à la  
Terre et aux dons du Créateur et qu'elles  
ont le désir de préserver cette relation;

The First Nations should have the option of

Les premières nations devraient avoir la  
possibilité de soustraire leurs terres aux

withdrawing their lands from the land management provisions of the Indian Act in order to exercise control over their lands and resources for the use and benefit of their members;

The Parties wish to enter into a government to government agreement, within the framework of the constitution of Canada, to deal with the issues of land management;

The Parties understand that this Agreement must be ratified;

NOW THEREFORE,

In consideration of the exchange of promises contained in this Agreement and subject to its terms and conditions, the Parties agree that the First Nations shall have the option of exercising control over their lands and resources.

## PART I PRELIMINARY MATTERS

### 1. INTERPRETATION

1.1 In this Agreement,

"Canada" or "Crown" means Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada; ("Canada")

"eligible voter" means a member of a First Nation who is eligible, pursuant to clause 7.2, to vote under this Agreement; ("électeurs")

"federal law" means a law enacted by

dispositions de la Loi sur les Indiens concernant la gestion des terres de façon à exercer un contrôle sur leurs terres et sur leurs ressources à l'usage et au profit de leurs membres;

Les parties souhaitent conclure un accord de gouvernement à gouvernement, dans le cadre de la constitution du Canada, concernant des questions touchant la gestion des terres;

Les parties reconnaissent que le présent accord doit être ratifié;

PAR CONSÉQUENT,

En contrepartie de l'échange des promesses figurant dans le présent accord et sous réserve de ses modalités, les Parties conviennent que les premières nations doivent avoir la possibilité d'exercer un contrôle sur leurs terres et sur leurs ressources.

## PARTIE I QUESTIONS PRÉLIMINAIRES

### 1. INTERPRÉTATION

1.1 Les définitions qui suivent s'appliquent au présent accord.

« Canada » ou « Couronne » Sa Majesté la Reine du chef du Canada; (« Canada »)

« code foncier » Code adopté par une première nation conformément au présent accord contenant les dispositions générales relatives à l'exercice des droits et pouvoirs de la première nation sur ses terres de

Canada and does not include a land code or a First Nation law; ("loi fédérale")

"federal legislation" means the legislation to be enacted by Canada under Part X; ("loi de ratification")

"First Nation" means a band that is a Party to this Agreement; ("première nation")

"First Nation land", in respect of a First Nation, means all or part of a reserve that the First Nation describes in its land code; ("terres de première nation")

"First Nation Lands Register" means the register established pursuant to clause 51 to register interests or land rights in First Nation land; ("registre des terres de premières nations")

"First Nation law" means a law enacted by a First Nation in accordance with its land code; ("texte législative de la Première nation")

"interest", in relation to First Nation land in any province or territory other than Québec, means any interest, right or estate of any nature in or to that land, including a lease, easement, right of way, servitude, or profit à prendre, but does not include title to that land; ("intérêt")

"land code" means a code, approved by a First Nation in accordance with this Agreement, that sets out the basic provisions regarding the exercise of the First Nation's rights and powers over its First Nation land (although each First Nation can select its own name for the land code); ("code

première nation (les premières nations peuvent néanmoins donner l'appellation de leur choix à ce code foncier). (« land code »)

« Conseil consultatif des terres » Le conseil visé à l'article 38. (« Land Advisory Board »)

« droit foncier » Relativement aux terres de première nation dans la province de Québec, tout droit de quelque nature qu'il soit portant sur ces terres, à l'exclusion du titre de propriété; y sont assimilés les droits du locataire. (« land right »)

« électeurs » Les membres d'une première nation qui ont le droit de voter en vertu de l'article 7.2 du présent accord. (« eligible voters »)

« intérêt » Relativement aux terres de première nation situées dans toute province ou territoire autre que le Québec, tout intérêt, droit ou domaine de quelque nature qu'il soit portant sur ces terres, notamment un bail, une servitude, un droit de passage, un service foncier ou un profit à prendre, à l'exclusion du titre sur ces terres. (« interest »)

« loi de ratification » La loi adoptée par le Canada aux termes de la Partie X. (« federal legislation »)

« loi fédérale » Loi adoptée par le Canada mais ne comprend pas un code foncier ou un texte législatif d'une première nation. (« federal law »)

« membre » À l'égard d'une première

foncier")

"land right", in relation to First Nation land in the Province of Québec, means any right of any nature in or to that land excluding title, and includes the rights of a lessee; ("droit foncier")

"Lands Advisory Board" means the board referred to in clause 38; ("Conseil consultatif des terres")

"licence", in relation to First Nation land, ("permis")

(a) in a province or territory other than Québec, means any right of use or occupation of First Nation land, other than an interest in that land;

(b) in the Province of Québec, any right to use or occupy First Nation land, other than a land right in that land;

"member", in respect of a First Nation, means ("membre")

(a) a person whose name appears on the Band List, or

(b) a person who is entitled to have his or her name appear on the Band List;

"Minister" means the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, or such other member of the Queen's Privy Council as is designated by the Governor in Council for the purposes of this Agreement; ("ministre")

nation : (« member »)

a) personne dont le nom figure sur la liste de bande;

b) personne qui a droit à ce que son nom y figure.

« ministre » Le ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien ou un membre du Conseil privé de la Reine désigné par le gouverneur en conseil aux fins du présent accord. (« Minister »)

« permis » Relativement aux terres d'une première nation : (« licence »)

a) dans une province ou un territoire autre que le Québec, tout droit d'usage ou d'occupation des terres de première nation, autre qu'un intérêt sur ces terres;

b) dans la province de Québec, tout droit d'utiliser ou d'occuper les terres de première nation autre qu'un droit foncier sur ces terres.

« première nation » Une bande qui est Partie au présent accord. (« First Nation »)

« registre des terres de premières nations » Le registre créé conformément à l'article 51 pour l'enregistrement des intérêts ou des droits fonciers sur les terres de premières nations. (« First Nation Lands Register »)

« terres de première nation » Dans le cas d'une première nation, tout ou partie d'une réserve décrite dans son code foncier. (« First Nation land »)

"verifier" means the person appointed pursuant to clauses 8 and 44 to monitor and verify the opting in process for a First Nation. ("vérificateur")

1.2 Terms that are defined or used in the Indian Act have the same meaning in this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires.

1.3 This Agreement is not a treaty and shall not be considered to be a treaty within the meaning of section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

1.4 The Parties acknowledge that the Crown's special relationship with the First Nations will continue.

1.5 This Agreement does not affect any lands, or any rights in lands, that are not subject to this Agreement.

1.6 This Agreement is not intended to define or prejudice inherent rights, or any other rights, of First Nations to control their lands or resources or to preclude other negotiations in respect of those rights.

1.7 The parties agree that when a provision of this agreement contains both civil law and common law terminology, or terminology that has different meanings in the civil law and the common law, the civil law

« texte législatif de la première nation »  
Une loi ou un autre texte législatif adopté par une première nation conformément à son code foncier. (« First Nation law »)

« vérificateur » La personne chargée, en application des articles 8 et 44, de surveiller et de vérifier le processus d'adhésion d'une première nation.  
(« verifier »)

1.2 Sauf indication contraire, les termes du présent accord qui sont définis ou utilisés dans la Loi sur les Indiens s'entendent au sens de cette loi.

1.3 Le présent accord ne constitue pas un traité et n'est pas considéré comme un traité au sens de l'article 35 de la Loi constitutionnelle de 1982.

1.4 Les Parties reconnaissent que la Couronne maintiendra la relation spéciale qu'elle entretient avec les premières nations.

1.5 Le présent accord ne s'applique pas aux terres ou aux droits sur ces terres qui ne sont pas visés par lui.

1.6 Le présent accord n'a pas pour but de définir les droits inhérents ou autres des premières nations d'exercer un contrôle sur leurs terres et leurs ressources ni d'y porter atteinte, ni d'empêcher que ces droits fassent l'objet d'autres négociations.

1.7 Les parties conviennent, que lorsque une disposition du présent accord emploie à la fois des termes propres au droit civil et à la common-law ou des termes qui ont

terminology or meaning is intended to apply to this provision with respect to First Nations in the Province of Quebec and the common law terminology or meaning is intended to apply with respect to First Nations in a province or territory other than Québec.

## 2. FIRST NATION LAND

2.1 Land that is a reserve of a First Nation is eligible to be managed by that First Nation under a land code as First Nation land.

2.2 First Nation land includes all the interests and rights or all the land rights and other rights, as well as the resources that belong to that land, to the extent that these are under the jurisdiction of Canada and are part of that land.

2.3 The Parties agree that First Nation lands are lands reserved for Indians within the meaning of section 91(24) of the Constitution Act, 1867.

## 3. INDIAN OIL AND GAS

3.1 The Indian Oil and Gas Act will continue to apply to any First Nation lands, or interests or land rights in First Nation land, that are "Indian lands" within the meaning of that Act.

un sens différent dans l'un et l'autre de ces systèmes, l'intention est, d'appliquer à cette disposition la terminologie de droit civil ou le sens qu'on lui donne dans ce système en ce qui a trait aux Premières nations au Québec et la terminologie de common-law ou le sens qu'on lui donne dans ce système en ce qui a trait aux Premières nations dans toute province ou territoire autre que le Québec.

## 2. TERRES D'UNE PREMIÈRE NATION

2.1 Les terres qui constituent une réserve d'une première nation sont admissibles à être gérées par celle-ci en vertu d'un code foncier à titre de terres de première nation.

2.2 Les terres de première nation comprennent tous les intérêts et droits ou tous les droits fonciers et autres droits ainsi que les ressources relatifs à ces terres dans la mesure où ils relèvent de la juridiction du Canada et font partie de ces terres.

2.3 Les parties reconnaissent que les terres de premières nations sont des terres réservées aux Indiens au sens du point 24 de l'article 91 de la Loi constitutionnelle de 1867.

## 3. PÉTROLE ET GAZ DES INDIENS

3.1 La Loi sur le pétrole et le gaz des terres indiennes continuera à s'appliquer aux terres de premières nations et aux intérêts ou droits fonciers sur les terres de premières nations qui sont des « terres indiennes » au sens de cette Loi.

3.2 Any interest or land right in First Nation land that is granted to Canada for the exploitation of oil and gas under a land code will be deemed to be "Indian lands" within the meaning of the Indian Oil and Gas Act.

3.3 Section 4 of the Indian Oil and Gas Act will continue to apply to revenues and royalties from oil or gas on First Nation land, despite anything to the contrary in clause 12.

#### 4. RESERVES

4.1 Any reserve managed by a First Nation under a land code will continue to be a reserve within the meaning of the Indian Act.

4.2 Any reserve, title to which is vested in Canada, and managed by a First Nation under a land code, will continue to be vested in Canada for the use and benefit of the respective First Nation for which it was set apart.

4.3 Where a First Nation wishes to manage a reserve, the whole of the reserve will be included as First Nation land to avoid disjointed administration of the reserve, subject to clauses 4.4, 4.5 and 4.5A.

4.4 Subject to clause 4.5A, a portion of a reserve may be excluded from a land code only if:

(a) the portion of the reserve is in an environmentally unsound condition and the condition cannot be remedied

3.2 Les intérêts ou droits fonciers sur les terres de première nation octroyés au Canada pour l'exploitation du pétrole et du gaz en vertu d'un code foncier seront réputés être des « terres indiennes » au sens de la Loi sur le pétrole et le gaz des terres indiennes.

3.3 L'article 4 de la Loi sur le pétrole et le gaz des terres indiennes continuera de s'appliquer aux revenus et aux redevances provenant du pétrole ou du gaz situés sur les terres de première nation, nonobstant toute disposition contraire de l'article 12.

#### 4. RÉSERVES

4.1 Les réserves gérées par une première nation en vertu d'un code foncier demeurent des réserves au sens de la Loi sur les Indiens.

4.2 Toute réserve, dont le titre est détenu par le Canada et qui est gérée par une première nation en vertu d'un code foncier, continuera d'appartenir au Canada à l'usage et au profit de la première nation pour laquelle la réserve fut mise de côté.

4.3 Lorsqu'une première nation souhaite gérer une réserve, l'ensemble de la réserve sera inclus comme terres de première nation de façon à éviter la double administration de la réserve sous réserve des articles 4.4, 4.5 et 4.5A.

4.4 Sous réserve de l'article 4.5A, il est permis de soustraire une partie d'une réserve à l'application du code foncier seulement dans l'un ou l'autre des cas suivants :

a) l'environnement y est si dégradé que

by measures that are technically and financially feasible before the land code is expected to be submitted for community approval;

(b) the portion of the reserve is the subject of ongoing litigation that is unlikely to be resolved before the land code is expected to be submitted for community approval;

(c) the portion of the reserve is uninhabitable or unusable as a result of a natural disaster; or

(d) there exist one or more other reasons which the First Nation and the Minister agree justify excluding a portion of a reserve.

4.5 A portion of a reserve may not be excluded if the exclusion would have the effect of placing the administration of a lease or other interest or right in land in more than one land management regime.

4.5A Land may be excluded from the application of the land code when it is uncertain whether the land forms part of the reserve. An exclusion for this reason shall be without prejudice to the right of the First Nation or Her Majesty to assert that the land forms part of the reserve. If excluding the land would have the effect of placing a lease, other interest or right in land in more than one land management regime, then all land that is subject to that lease, interest or right shall be excluded from the application of the land code.

des mesures réalisables sur les plans technique et économique ne permettront pas de l'assainir avant la présentation prévue du code foncier à l'approbation de la communauté;

b) cette partie de la réserve fait l'objet d'un litige qui ne sera probablement pas résolu avant la présentation prévue du code foncier à l'approbation de la communauté;

c) cette partie de la réserve est inhabitable ou inutilisable en raison d'un sinistre naturel;

d) l'exclusion est justifiée pour une ou plusieurs autres raisons convenues par la première nation et le ministre.

4.5 Une partie de la réserve ne peut être exclue si l'exclusion avait pour effet d'assujettir un bail ou tout autre intérêt ou droit foncier à plus d'un régime de gestion foncière.

4.5A Une terre peut être exclue de l'application du code foncier lorsqu'il y a incertitude quant à la question de savoir si la terre est située ou non dans la réserve. L'exclusion pour ce motif ne porte pas atteinte au droit de la première nation ou de Sa Majesté de faire valoir que la terre fait partie de la réserve. Si l'exclusion a pour effet d'assujettir un bail ou tout autre intérêt ou droit foncier à plus d'un régime de gestion foncière, toute la partie de la réserve qui est assujettie au bail ou autre intérêt ou droit foncier doit être exclue de l'application du code foncier.

4.6 The First Nation will make provision to

amend the description of its First Nation land in its land code to include the excluded portion of the reserve when the First Nation and the Minister agree that the condition justifying the exclusion no longer exists and the individual agreement will be amended accordingly.

## PART II OPTING IN PROCEDURE

4.6 Lorsque la première nation et le ministre conviennent que la condition justifiant l'exclusion d'une partie d'une réserve n'existe plus, la première nation fera en sorte que la description des terres de première nation contenue dans son code foncier soit modifiée pour y inclure la partie jusqu'à présent exclue et l'accord distinct sera modifié en conséquence.

## PARTIE II PROCÉDURE D'ADHÉSION

## 5. DEVELOPMENT OF A LAND CODE

5.1 A First Nation that wishes to manage one or more of its reserves will first develop a land code.

5.2 The land code of a First Nation will

(a) describe the lands that are subject to the land code;

(b) set out the general rules and procedures that apply to the use and occupancy of First Nation land, including use and occupancy under

(i) licenses and leases, and

(ii) interests or land rights in First Nation land held pursuant to allotments under subsection 20(1) of the Indian Act or pursuant to the custom of the First Nation;

(b.1) set out the procedures that apply to the transfer, by testamentary disposition or succession, of any interest or land rights in First Nation land;

(c) set out the general rules and procedures that apply to revenues from natural resources belonging to First Nation land;

(d) set out the requirements for accountability to First Nation members for the management of moneys and First Nation lands under

## 5. ÉLABORATION D'UN CODE FONCIER

5.1 La première nation qui souhaite gérer une ou plusieurs de ses réserves doit préalablement élaborer un code foncier.

5.2 Les éléments suivants figurent dans le code foncier d'une première nation :

a) la description des terres qui y sont assujetties;

b) les règles générales - de procédure et autres - applicables en matière d'utilisation et d'occupation des terres de première nation, notamment :

(i) en vertu d'un permis ou d'un bail,

(ii) en vertu d'un intérêt ou d'un droit foncier sur les terres de première nation découlant soit de l'attribution de cet intérêt ou droit foncier en vertu du paragraphe 20(1) de la Loi sur les Indiens, soit de la coutume de la première nation;

(b.1) les règles de procédure applicables en matière de transfert d'intérêts ou de droits fonciers sur les terres de première nation, par disposition testamentaire ou succession;

c) les règles générales – de procédure et autres - applicables aux revenus tirés des ressources naturelles relatives aux terres de première nation;

d) les exigences touchant l'obligation de rendre compte de la gestion des fonds et des terres de première nation aux termes

the land code;

(e) set out the procedures for making and publishing its First Nation laws;

(f) set out the conflict of interest rules for land management;

(g) identify or establish a forum for the resolution of disputes in relation to interests or land rights in First Nation lands, including the review of land management decisions where a person, whose interest or land right in First Nation land is affected by a decision, disputes that decision;

(h) set out the general rules and procedures that apply to the First Nation when granting or expropriating interests or land rights in First Nation land, including provisions for notice and the service of notice;

(i) set out the general authorities and procedures whereby the First Nation council delegates administrative authority to manage First Nation land to another person or entity; and

(j) set out the procedure by which the First Nation can amend its land code or approve an exchange of its First Nation land.

5.3 A land code could also contain the following provisions:

du code foncier devant les membres de la première nation;

e) les règles d'édiction et de publication des textes législatifs de la première nation;

f) les règles applicables en matière de conflit d'intérêts dans la gestion des terres;

g) la création ou l'identification d'une instance chargée de résoudre les différends concernant les intérêts ou les droits fonciers sur les terres de première nation, y compris la révision de toute décision en matière de gestion des terres contestée par une personne dont les intérêts ou les droits fonciers sur ces terres sont affectés par cette décision;

h) les règles générales – de procédure et autres - applicables à la première nation en matière d'attribution ou d'expropriation d'intérêts ou de droits fonciers sur des terres de première nation, y compris les dispositions en matière d'avis et de notification;

i) les pouvoirs et procédures généraux applicables en matière de délégation, par le conseil de la première nation à une autre personne ou entité, des pouvoirs de gestion des terres de première nation;

j) la procédure selon laquelle la première nation peut modifier son code foncier ou approuver un échange de ses terres de première nation.

5.3 Peuvent également figurer dans le code foncier :

(a) any general conditions or limits on the power of the First Nation council to make First Nation laws;

(b) in any province or territory other than Quebec, any general exceptions, reservations, conditions or limitations to be attached to the rights and interests that may be granted in First Nation land;

(b.1) in the province of Quebec, any general exceptions, reservations, conditions or limits to be attached to the land rights or other rights that may be granted in First Nation land;

(c) any provisions respecting encumbering, seizing, or executing a right or an interest or land right in First Nation land as provided in clause 15; and

(d) any other matter respecting the management of First Nation land.

5.4 In order to clarify the intentions of the First Nations and Canada in relation to the breakdown of a marriage as it affects First Nation land:

(a) a First Nation will establish a community process in its land code to develop rules and procedures, applicable on the breakdown of a marriage, to the use, occupancy and possession of First Nation land and the division of interests or land rights in that land;

a) les conditions ou limites générales applicables au pouvoir du conseil de la première nation d'édicter des textes législatifs de la première nation;

b) dans une province ou un territoire autre que le Québec, les exclusions, réserves, conditions ou délimitations générales applicables en matière d'attribution des droits et des intérêts sur les terres de première nation;

b.1) dans la province de Québec, les exceptions, réserves, conditions ou limites générales applicables en matière d'attribution des droits fonciers et autres droits sur les terres de première nation;

c) les dispositions, telles que prévues à l'article 15, concernant la saisie ou l'exécution d'un droit ou d'un intérêt ou droit foncier sur les terres de première nation, ou le fait de les gérer;

d) toute autre disposition concernant la gestion des terres de première nation.

5.4 Afin de préciser l'intention des premières nations et du Canada en ce qui a trait à l'échec du mariage et à ses effets sur les terres de premières nations :

a) une première nation établira, dans son code foncier, un processus communautaire pour l'élaboration de règles et de procédures applicables, au moment de l'échec d'un mariage, en matière d'usage, d'occupation et de possession des terres de première nation et en matière de partage des intérêts ou des droits fonciers sur ces terres;

(b) for greater certainty, the rules and procedures referred to in clause (a) shall not discriminate on the basis of sex;

(c) the rules and procedures referred to in clause (a) shall be enacted in the First Nation's land code or First Nation laws;

(d) in order to allow sufficient time for community consultation during the community process referred to in clause (a), the First Nation shall have a period of 12 months from the date the land code takes effect to enact the rules and procedures;

(e) any dispute between the Minister and a First Nation in respect of this clause shall, notwithstanding clause 43.3, be subject to arbitration in accordance with Part IX;

(f) for greater certainty, this clause also applies to any First Nation that has voted to approve a land code before this clause comes into force.

## 6. DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUAL FIRST NATION AGREEMENT

6.1 The Minister and each First Nation that intends to manage its First Nation land will also enter into an individual agreement to settle the actual level of operational funding for the First Nation and the specifics of the transfer of administration between Canada and the First Nation.

b) il est entendu que les règles et procédures mentionnées à l'alinéa a) ne peuvent faire aucune distinction fondée sur le sexe;

c) les règles et procédures mentionnées à l'alinéa a) sont prévues soit dans le code foncier de la première nation, soit dans ses textes législatifs;

d) afin qu'il puisse y avoir une période suffisante pour consulter la communauté, tel que mentionné à l'alinéa a), la première nation dispose d'un délai de 12 mois, à compter de la date d'entrée en vigueur de son code foncier, pour adopter ces règles et procédures;

e) tout différend entre le ministre et une première nation au sujet du présent article est, par dérogation à l'article 43.3, porté en arbitrage en conformité avec la Partie IX;

f) il est entendu que le présent article s'applique également à toute première nation qui a voté en faveur de l'adoption d'un code foncier avant que le présent article n'entre en vigueur.

## 6. ÉLABORATION D'UN ACCORD DISTINCT AVEC CHAQUE PREMIÈRE NATION

6.1 Le ministre et la première nation qui entend gérer ses propres terres concluront également un accord distinct fixant le niveau du financement opérationnel destiné à la première nation ainsi que les modalités du transfert des responsabilités en matière d'administration entre le

6.2 The First Nation and the Minister will each choose a representative to develop the individual agreement and to assist in transferring administration of the First Nation land.

6.3 Upon the request of a First Nation that is developing a land code, the Minister will provide it with the following information, as soon as practicable:

(a) a list of all the interests or land rights and licences, in relation to the proposed First Nation land, that are recorded in the Reserve Land Register and the Surrendered and Designated Lands Register under the Indian Act;

(b) all existing information, in Canada's possession, respecting any actual or potential environmental problems with the proposed First Nation land; and

(c) any other information in Canada's possession that materially affects the interests or land rights and licences mentioned in clause 6.3(a).

6.4 An amendment to an individual agreement with the Minister must be made in accordance with the procedure in that agreement.

## 7. COMMUNITY APPROVAL

7.1 Both the First Nation's land code and its

Canada et la première nation.

6.2 La première nation et le ministre désignent chacun un représentant chargé de préparer l'accord distinct et de faciliter le transfert de l'administration des terres de première nation.

6.3 À la demande de la première nation qui élabore un code foncier le ministre lui fournit les renseignements suivants, dans les meilleurs délais :

a) une liste de tous les intérêts ou droits fonciers et permis concernant les terres de la première nation proposées, qui sont consignés dans le registre des terres de réserve et le registre des terres désignées et cédées aux termes de la Loi sur les Indiens;

b) tous les renseignements en la possession du Canada concernant les problèmes environnementaux réels ou potentiels concernant les terres de la première nation proposées;

c) tout autre renseignement en la possession du Canada qui touche notablement les intérêts ou droits fonciers et les permis mentionnés à l'alinéa 6.3 a).

6.4 L'accord distinct conclu avec le ministre est modifié selon la procédure prévue dans celui-ci.

## 7. APPROBATION DE LA COMMUNAUTÉ

7.1 Le code foncier de la première nation

individual agreement with the Minister need community approval in accordance with this clause.

7.2 Every person who is a First Nation member, whether resident on or off-reserve, who is at least 18 years of age, is eligible to vote on whether to approve their First Nation's proposed land code and its individual agreement with the Minister.

7.3 The land code and individual agreement will be considered approved by the community if

(a) a majority of eligible voters participate in the vote and at least a majority of the participating voters vote to approve them;

(b) the First Nation registers all eligible voters who signified, in a manner determined by the First Nation, their intention to vote, and a majority of the registered voters vote to approve them; or

(c) the community approves them in such other manner as the First Nation and the Minister may agree upon.

7.4 The land code and individual agreement will not be considered approved if less than 25% plus one of all eligible voters voted to approve them.

7.5 The First Nation council may, by resolution, increase the minimum percentage for community approval otherwise required under this clause.

et l'accord distinct conclu avec le ministre doivent être approuvés par la communauté conformément au présent article.

7.2 A le droit de voter, dans le cadre de l'approbation du projet de code foncier de la première nation et de l'accord distinct conclu avec le ministre, tout membre de la première nation qui a au moins 18 ans, qu'il réside ou non dans la réserve.

7.3 Le code foncier et l'accord distinct sont réputés valablement approuvés par la communauté dans les cas suivants :

a) la majorité des électeurs participent au scrutin et au moins une majorité des électeurs participants ont exprimé un vote favorable;

b) la première nation inscrit tous les électeurs qui ont fait connaître, selon les modalités fixées par la première nation, leur intention de voter et une majorité des électeurs inscrits ont exprimé un vote favorable;

c) la communauté les approuve selon d'autres modalités fixées conjointement par la première nation et par le ministre.

7.4 Dans tous les cas cependant, le code foncier et l'accord distinct ne sont approuvés que si au moins vingt-cinq pour cent plus un des électeurs ont exprimé un vote favorable.

7.5 Le conseil de la première nation peut, par résolution, augmenter le pourcentage minimum requis en vertu du présent article pour recueillir l'approbation de la communauté.

7.6 A First Nation will take reasonable steps to locate its eligible voters and inform them of

- (a) their right to participate in the approval process and the manner in which that right can be exercised; and
- (b) the content of this Agreement, the individual agreement with the Minister, the proposed land code and the federal legislation.

7.7 Reasonable steps to locate and inform eligible voters may include the following :

- (a) mailing out information to eligible voters at their last known addresses;
- (b) making enquiries of family members and others to locate eligible voters whose addresses are not known or are uncertain;
- (c) making follow up contact with eligible voters by mail or telephone;
- (d) placing advertisements in newspapers circulating in the community and in newspapers circulating in other localities where the number of eligible voters warrants;
- (e) posting notices in the community;
- (f) holding information meetings in the community and in other places where appropriate; and

7.6 Le conseil de la première nation doit prendre des mesures raisonnables pour retrouver les électeurs et les informer :

- a) de leur droit de participer au processus d'approbation et de la manière d'exercer ce droit;
- b) du contenu du présent accord, de l'accord distinct conclu avec le ministre, du projet de code foncier et de la loi de ratification.

7.7 Parmi les mesures raisonnables envisagées pour retrouver les électeurs et les informer, le conseil peut prendre les mesures suivantes :

- a) envoyer par courrier de l'information aux électeurs à leur dernière adresse connue;
- b) s'enquérir auprès des membres de la famille et d'autres personnes afin de retrouver les électeurs dont l'adresse est inconnue ou incertaine;
- c) effectuer un suivi auprès des électeurs par courrier ou par téléphone;
- d) publier des avis dans les journaux distribués dans la communauté et dans toute autre localité où le nombre d'électeurs le justifie;
- e) afficher des avis dans la communauté;
- f) tenir des réunions d'information dans la communauté et à tout autre endroit approprié;

(g) making copies of the documents referred to in clause 7.6(b) available at the administration office of the First Nation and in other places where appropriate.

7.8 A First Nation will, within a reasonable time before the vote, also take appropriate measures to inform other persons having an interest or land right in its lands of the federal legislation, the proposed land code and the date of the vote.

7.9 Where the federal legislation has not yet been enacted when a First Nation proceeds under this clause, Canada will provide the First Nation with a draft copy of its proposed legislation which the First Nation will use to inform its eligible voters and other persons.

7.10 An amendment to a land code must be made in accordance with the procedure in the First Nation's land code.

## 8. VERIFICATION PROCESS

8.1 Where a First Nation develops a proposed land code and resolves to submit it to the community for approval, an independent person will be appointed as a verifier to monitor and verify the opting in process. The verifier will be chosen in accordance with clause 44.

8.2 The representatives of the First Nation

g) rendre disponible, au bureau d'administration de la première nation et à tout autre endroit approprié, une copie des documents mentionnés à l'alinéa 7.6b).

7.8 La première nation doit prendre dans un délai raisonnable avant le jour du scrutin, des mesures appropriées pour informer les autres personnes ayant un intérêt ou un droit foncier sur ses terres au sujet de la loi de ratification, du projet de code foncier et de la date du scrutin.

7.9 Si la loi de ratification n'a pas encore été adoptée au moment où la première nation met en oeuvre le présent article, le Canada fournira à la première nation une ébauche du projet de loi que la première nation portera à la connaissance des électeurs et des autres personnes concernées.

7.10 Le code foncier d'une première nation est modifié selon la procédure prévue dans celui-ci.

## 8. PROCESSUS DE VÉRIFICATION

8.1 Lorsqu'une première nation élabore un projet de code foncier et décide de le présenter à la communauté pour approbation, une personne indépendante doit être nommée à titre de vérificateur chargée de surveiller le processus d'adhésion et d'en vérifier la régularité. Le vérificateur est choisi conformément à l'article 44.

8.2 Les représentants de la première nation

and the Minister, who have been assisting in the process of transferring administration of the land, will meet with the verifier and provide information and advice to the verifier, after consulting with their respective Parties.

8.3 The First Nation will submit the following information to the verifier:

- (a) a copy of the proposed land code;
- (b) an initial list of the names of every First Nation member who, according to the First Nation's records at that time, would be eligible to vote on whether to approve the proposed land code; and
- (c) a detailed description of the community approval process that the First Nation proposes to use under clause 7.

8.4 The verifier will

- (a) decide whether the proposed land code conforms with the requirements of clause 5;
- (b) decide whether the proposed community approval process conforms with the requirements of clause 7;
- (c) determine whether the community approval process is conducted in accordance with the process that was confirmed; and
- (d) certify as being valid a First

et du ministre, qui ont participé au processus de transfert de la gestion des terres, rencontrent le vérificateur et lui fournissent renseignements et avis, après avoir consulté leurs Parties respectives.

8.3 La première nation communique au vérificateur les documents suivants :

- a) un exemplaire du projet de code foncier;
- b) la liste initiale des membres de la première nation qui, selon les registres de la première nation disponibles à ce moment, auraient le droit de voter aux fins de l'approbation de ce code;
- c) un exposé détaillé du processus d'approbation de la communauté proposé par la première nation aux termes de l'article 7.

8.4 Le vérificateur a pour mandat:

- a) de décider de la conformité du projet de code foncier avec les exigences de l'article 5;
- b) de décider de la conformité du processus d'approbation de la communauté proposé avec les exigences de l'article 7;
- c) de décider de la conformité du déroulement du scrutin avec le processus retenu pour l'approbation de la communauté;
- d) d'attester la validité du code foncier de

Nation's land code that is properly approved by the First Nation.

la première nation dûment approuvé par elle.

8.5 The verifier also has the power to make a final decision to resolve

8.5 Le vérificateur a également le pouvoir de trancher de façon définitive :

(a) any dispute regarding whether a portion of a reserve may be excluded from a land code pursuant to clause 4.4; and

a) tout différend ayant trait à la question de savoir si une partie d'une réserve peut être soustraite à l'application du code foncier selon l'article 4.4;

(b) any dispute regarding the specifics of the transfer of administration between Canada and the First Nation.

b) tout différend concernant les modalités du transfert des pouvoirs d'administration entre le Canada et la première nation.

8.6 A verifier will make decisions that are consistent with clauses 4.4 and 4.5.

8.6 Les décisions du vérificateur doivent être conformes aux paragraphes 4.4 et 4.5.

8.7 A verifier will not deal with disputes over funding.

8.7 Le vérificateur ne peut être saisi des différends concernant le financement.

8.8 Within 30 days of receiving the First Nation's information pursuant to clause 8.3, the verifier will issue a written notice to the First Nation and the Minister stating whether the proposed land code and community approval process are consistent with this Agreement.

8.8 Le vérificateur émet à la première nation et au ministre, dans les 30 jours de la réception des documents visés à l'article 8.3, un avis écrit indiquant si le projet de code foncier et le processus d'approbation de la communauté proposé sont conformes au présent accord.

8.9 The verifier will provide written reasons to the First Nation and the Minister in any case where he or she decides that the proposed land code and community approval process are not consistent with this Agreement.

8.9 Dans tous les cas où, à son avis, le projet de code foncier ou le processus proposé pour obtenir l'approbation de la communauté ne sont pas conformes au présent accord, le vérificateur consigne par écrit les motifs de cette décision qu'il transmet à la première nation et au ministre.

## 9. CONDUCT OF COMMUNITY VOTE

## 9. TENUE DU SCRUTIN

9.1 Once the verifier confirms that the

9.1 Après que le vérificateur ait décidé que

proposed land code and community approval process are consistent with this Agreement, the First Nation may proceed to submit its proposed land code, and the individual agreement with the Minister, for community approval.

9.2 The verifier will publish one or more notices advising the community of the date, time and place of the First Nation's approval vote.

9.3 The verifier may designate one or more assistants to help observe the conduct of the vote.

9.4 The verifier and any assistant observers will have complete authority to observe the approval process.

9.5 Within 15 days of the conclusion of the vote, the verifier will issue a written report to the First Nation and to the Minister on whether the community approval process was conducted in accordance with the process as previously confirmed.

## 10. CERTIFICATION OF LAND CODE

10.1 Where a First Nation approves a land code and its individual agreement with the Minister, the First nation council must, without delay, send a true copy of the land code to the verifier together with a true copy of the fully signed individual agreement and a statement from the First Nation council that the land code and the individual agreement were properly approved.

le projet de code et le processus proposé pour obtenir l'approbation de la communauté sont conformes au présent accord, la première nation peut soumettre à l'approbation de la communauté le projet de code foncier et l'accord distinct conclu avec le ministre.

9.2 Le vérificateur fait publier un ou plusieurs avis informant la communauté de la date, de l'heure et du lieu du scrutin.

9.3 Le vérificateur peut s'adjoindre un ou plusieurs assistants pour l'aider à surveiller le déroulement du scrutin.

9.4 Le vérificateur et ses adjoints ont pleins pouvoirs pour surveiller le processus d'approbation de la communauté.

9.5 Le vérificateur remet à la première nation et au ministre, dans les 15 jours suivant la fermeture du scrutin, son rapport écrit au sujet de la conformité du déroulement du scrutin avec le processus d'approbation retenu.

## 10. CERTIFICATION DU CODE FONCIER

10.1 Lorsque la première nation approuve le code foncier et l'accord distinct avec le ministre, le conseil de la première nation adresse au vérificateur, dans les meilleurs délais, une copie certifiée conforme de l'accord distinct entièrement signé et du code foncier approuvé ainsi qu'une déclaration du conseil de la première nation indiquant que le code foncier et l'accord distinct ont été dûment approuvés.

10.2 Upon receiving a copy of a First Nation's land code, signed individual agreement and statement, the verifier will, subject to clause 11, certify the land code as being valid.

10.3 The verifier will immediately provide the First Nation, the Lands Advisory Board and the Minister with a copy of any certified land code.

10.4 The Lands Advisory Board will, in such manner as it considers advisable, publish a notice announcing the certification of a land code and the date the land code takes effect and advising the public of the means of obtaining copies of it.

10.4.1 Certified copies of the land code will be made available to the public at such places deemed necessary by the First Nation.

10.5 Once a land code is certified by a verifier and takes effect, the land code has the force of law and will be given judicial notice.

10.6 A land code that has been certified pursuant to this Agreement is deemed to have been validly approved by the First Nation.

10.7 A land code takes effect on the day that it is certified by the verifier or on such later date as may be specified in the land code.

## 11. DISPUTED VOTE

11.1 The Minister or any eligible voter may, within five days after the conclusion of the vote, report any irregularity in the voting

10.2 Sur réception de la copie du code foncier, de l'accord distinct signée et de la déclaration, le vérificateur atteste la validité du code foncier, sous réserve de l'article 11.

10.3 Le vérificateur adresse immédiatement à la première nation, au Conseil consultatif des terres et au ministre une copie du code foncier dont il a attesté la validité.

10.4 Le Conseil consultatif des terres publie, selon les modalités qu'il estime appropriées, un avis attestant la validité du code foncier, sa date d'entrée en vigueur et faisant connaître au public la façon de s'en procurer des copies.

10.4.1 Des copies certifiées du code foncier seront mises à la disposition du public aux endroits que la première nation estime appropriés.

10.5 Dès que le code foncier reçoit l'attestation du vérificateur et qu'il entre en vigueur, il a dès lors force de loi et est admis d'office dans toute instance.

10.6 Une fois sa validité attestée conformément au présent accord, le code est réputé avoir été dûment approuvé par la première nation.

10.7 Le code foncier entre en vigueur à la date de l'attestation de sa validité par le vérificateur ou à la date postérieure fixée dans le code.

## 11. CONTESTATION DU VOTE

11.1 Le ministre ou tout électeur peut, dans les cinq jours suivant la clôture du scrutin, informer le vérificateur de toute

process to the verifier.

11.2 A verifier will not certify a land code if he or she is of the opinion that the following two conditions exist:

(1) the process by which the land code was approved varied from the process previously confirmed by the verifier or was otherwise irregular; and

(2) the land code might not have been approved but for the irregularity in the process.

11.3 Before making a decision under this clause, the verifier will provide the First Nation and the Minister with a reasonable opportunity to make submissions on the issue.

11.4 Any decision by a verifier under this clause must be made within 10 days of the conclusion of the vote.

### PART III

#### FIRST NATION LAND MANAGEMENT RIGHTS AND POWER

##### 12. LAND MANAGEMENT POWERS

12.1 A First Nation with a land code in effect will, subject to clause 13, have the power to manage its First Nation land and exercise its powers under this Agreement.

irrégularité dont a été entaché le déroulement du scrutin.

11.2 Le vérificateur ne peut attester la validité du code foncier s'il en vient aux conclusions suivantes :

(1) d'une part, le déroulement du scrutin n'est pas conforme au processus d'approbation qu'il a lui-même confirmé au préalable ou est autrement entaché d'irrégularité;

(2) d'autre part, le code n'aurait peut-être pas été approuvé sans cette irrégularité.

11.3 Avant de prononcer une décision aux termes du présent article, le vérificateur donne à la première nation et au ministre l'occasion de présenter des observations.

11.4 Toute décision du vérificateur en vertu du présent article doit être prise dans un délai de 10 jours suivant la conclusion du vote.

### PARTIE III

#### DROITS ET POUVOIRS DE GESTION DES TERRES DE PREMIÈRE NATION

##### 12. POUVOIRS DE GESTION DES TERRES

12.1 Dès que le code foncier entre en vigueur, la première nation a le pouvoir de gérer ses terres de première nation et d'exercer ses pouvoirs en vertu du présent accord, sous réserve de l'article 13.

12.2 This power includes

(a) all the rights, powers and privileges of an owner, in relation to its First Nation land; and

(b) the authority to grant interests or land rights and licences in relation to its First Nation land and to manage its natural resources, subject to clauses 3, 18.5 and 23.6.

12.3 In any province or territory other than Quebec, an interest or licence granted in relation to First Nation land is subject to any exception, reservation, condition or limitation established by the First Nation in its land code.

12.3A In the province of Quebec, a land right or licence granted in relation to First Nation land is subject to any exceptions, reservations, conditions or limits established by the First Nation in its land code.

12.4 For any purpose related to First Nation land, a First Nation will have legal capacity to acquire and hold property, to borrow, to contract, to expend and invest money, to be a party to legal proceedings, to exercise its powers and to perform its duties.

12.5 First Nation land, revenues, royalties, profits and fees in respect of that land will be managed by the First Nation council or its delegate for the use and benefit of the First Nation.

12.2 Elle peut notamment :

a) exercer tous les droits, pouvoirs et privilèges d'un propriétaire, pour ce qui est de ses terres de première nation;

b) sous réserve des articles 3, 18.5 et 23.6, attribuer des permis et des intérêts ou droits fonciers relatifs à ses terres de première nation et gérer ses ressources naturelles.

12.3 Dans une province ou un territoire autre que le Québec, un intérêt ou un permis relatif aux terres de première nation est assujéti aux exclusions, réserves, conditions ou délimitations énoncées par la première nation dans son code foncier.

12.3A Dans la province de Québec, un droit foncier ou un permis relatif aux terres de première nation est assujéti aux exceptions, réserves, conditions ou limites énoncées par la première nation dans son code foncier.

12.4 À l'égard de ses terres de première nation, la première nation a la capacité juridique d'acquérir et de détenir des biens, de conclure des contrats et d'emprunter, de dépenser des fonds et de faire des investissements, d'ester en justice et d'exercer ses pouvoirs et attributions.

12.5 Le conseil de la première nation ou son délégué administre les terres de première nation ainsi que les revenus, les redevances, les recettes et les droits y afférents à l'usage et au profit de la première nation.

12.6 If a First Nation establishes an entity for the purpose of administering its First Nation land, the entity shall be deemed to be a legal entity with the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person.

12.7 A First Nation has the right, in accordance with its land code, to receive and use all moneys acquired by or on behalf of the First Nation under its land code.

12.8 Once a First Nation's land code takes effect, all revenue moneys collected, received or held by Canada for the use and benefit of the First Nation or its members before that date, and from time to time thereafter, shall cease to be Indian moneys under the Indian Act, except for the purposes of paragraph 90 (1) (a), and shall be transferred by Canada to the First Nation

### 13. PROTECTION OF FIRST NATION LAND

13.1 Title to First Nation land is not changed when a First Nation's land code takes effect.

13.2 The Parties declare that it is of fundamental importance to maintain the amount and integrity of First Nation land.

13.3 First Nation land will not be sold, exchanged, conveyed or transferred, except for any exchange or expropriation of First Nation land made in accordance with this Agreement.

12.6 Si la première nation met sur pied une entité pour gérer ses terres, l'entité est réputée être une entité juridique ayant la capacité, les pouvoirs, les droits et les privilèges d'une personne physique.

12.7 La première nation a, conformément à son code foncier, le droit de recevoir et d'utiliser les sommes acquises par ou pour le compte de la première nation en vertu de son code foncier.

12.8 À compter de la date d'entrée en vigueur du code foncier d'une première nation, les fonds perçus, reçus et détenus par la Canada à l'usage et au profit de la première nation ou de ses membres avant cette date, ainsi que ceux qui le sont après cette date, cessent d'être de l'argent des Indiens aux fins de la Loi sur les Indiens, sauf aux fins de l'alinéa 90(1)a), et sont transférés par le Canada à la première nation.

### 13. PROTECTION DES TERRES DE PREMIÈRE NATION

13.1 L'entrée en vigueur du code foncier d'une première nation n'a pas pour effet de modifier le titre des terres de première nation.

13.2 Les Parties déclarent reconnaître l'importance fondamentale que revêt la préservation de la superficie et de l'intégrité des terres de première nation.

13.3 Les terres de première nation ne sont pas susceptibles d'être vendues, échangées ou transférées, si ce n'est dans le cadre d'un échange ou d'une expropriation effectué en conformité avec le présent

## 14. VOLUNTARY EXCHANGE OF FIRST NATION LAND

14.1 A First Nation has the right to exchange a parcel of First Nation land for another parcel of land, if that other parcel of land becomes First Nation land. An exchange of First Nation land may provide for additional compensation, including land that may not become First Nation land, and may be subject to any other terms and conditions.

14.2 Any exchange of First Nation land will require community approval in accordance with the process established in the land code.

14.3 First Nation land will only be exchanged for land that Canada consents to set apart as a reserve. In addition, the agreement of Canada is required on the technical aspects of the exchange.

14.4 The title to the land to be received in exchange for that First Nation land will be transferred to Canada and will be set apart by Canada as a reserve, as of the date of the land exchange or such later date as the First Nation may specify. This does not apply to land that is received by the First Nation as additional compensation and that is not intended to become First Nation land.

14.5 Where an exchange of First Nation land is approved by a First Nation in accordance with its land code, the First Nation can

accord.

## 14. ÉCHANGE VOLONTAIRE DE TERRES DE PREMIÈRE NATION

14.1 Une première nation a le droit d'échanger une parcelle des terres de première nation contre une autre parcelle, si cette autre parcelle fait dès lors partie des terres de première nation. L'échange peut également comporter une contrepartie supplémentaire, notamment des terres supplémentaires qui ne sont pas destinées à devenir des terres de première nation, et être assorti d'autres conditions.

14.2 Tout échange de terres de première nation doit être approuvé par les membres de la première nation selon les modalités prévues par le code foncier.

14.3 Des terres de première nation ne peuvent être échangées que contre des terres que le Canada accepte de mettre de côté à titre de réserve. L'accord du Canada est également requis quant aux aspects techniques de l'opération.

14.4 Le titre des terres reçues en échange des terres de première nation sera transféré au Canada, qui mettra ces terres de côté à titre de réserve, à la date de l'échange ou à la date ultérieure fixée par la première nation. Cette disposition ne s'applique pas aux terres remises à une première nation à titre de contrepartie supplémentaire et qui ne sont pas destinées à devenir des terres de première nation.

14.5 Lorsque l'échange des terres de première nation est approuvé par la première nation conformément à son code

execute an authorization to Canada to transfer title to the land.

14.6 Upon the issuance to Canada of an authorization to transfer title to First Nation land under clause 14.5, Canada will transfer title to the land in accordance with the authorization and the applicable terms and conditions of the exchange.

14.7 A copy of the instruments or acts transferring title to First Nation land will be registered in the First Nation Lands Register.

14.8 As of the date of the land exchange, or such later date as the First Nation may specify, the description of First Nation land in the land code will be deemed to be amended to delete the description of the First Nation land that was exchanged and to add the description of the First Nation land received in exchange.

14.9 For greater certainty, the First Nation land that was exchanged will cease to be a reserve.

#### 15. IMMUNITY FROM SEIZURE, ETC.

15.1 The Parties confirm that section 29 and subsections 89(1) and (2) of the Indian Act will continue to apply to any reserve that is First Nation land.

15.2 Subsection 89(1.1) of the Indian Act will continue to apply to all leasehold interests or leases that existed when the land code took effect if the First Nation land was

foncier, la première nation peut délivrer au Canada une autorisation de procéder au transfert du titre sur les terres en question.

14.6 Le Canada procède, sur réception de l'autorisation prévue à l'article 14.5, au transfert du titre sur les terres en question, en conformité avec cette autorisation et avec les conditions de l'échange.

14.7 Une copie des instruments ou actes de transfert du titre sur les terres de première nation sera enregistrée dans le registre des terres de premières nations.

14.8 À partir de la date de l'échange de terres, ou à la date ultérieure fixée par la première nation, la description des terres de première nation dans le code foncier est réputée être modifiée de façon à supprimer la description des terres de première nation qui ont été échangées et à ajouter celle des terres de première nation reçues en échange.

14.9 Il est entendu que les terres de première nation qui ont été échangées cessent de constituer une réserve.

#### 15. INSAISSABILITÉ, ETC.

15.1 Les parties confirment que l'article 29 et les paragraphes 89(1) et (2) de la Loi sur les Indiens continuent de s'appliquer aux réserves faisant partie des terres de première nation.

15.2 Le paragraphe 89(1.1) de la Loi sur les Indiens continue de s'appliquer à tous les baux ou intérêts à bail qui existaient lorsque le code foncier est entré en

designated land at that time.

15.3 A land code may provide that some or all of the provisions of subsection 89(1.1) of the Indian Act are also applicable to other leasehold interests or leases in any First Nation lands.

15.4 The Parties confirm that section 87 of the Indian Act continues to apply to First Nation land, so that

(a) the interest of an Indian or a First Nation in a reserve that is First Nation land remains exempt from taxation, subject to section 83 of the Indian Act; and

(b) the personal property or the movables of an Indian or a First Nation, situated on a reserve that is First Nation land, remains exempt from taxation.

## 16. THIRD PARTY INTERESTS

16.1 Interests or land rights or licences held by third parties or Canada in First Nation land, that exist at the time the land code takes effect, continue in force according to their terms and conditions.

16.2 Any rights of locatees in possession of First Nation land, either by custom or by allotment under the Indian Act, to transfer, lease and share in natural resource revenues will be defined in the land code.

vigueur, dans le cas où les terres de première nation étaient des terres désignées à ce moment.

15.3 Le code foncier peut énoncer que les dispositions du paragraphe 89(1.1) de la Loi sur les Indiens sont également applicables, en tout ou en partie, aux autres baux ou intérêts à bail sur les terres de première nation.

15.4 Les parties confirment que l'article 87 de la Loi sur les Indiens continue de s'appliquer aux terres de première nation de façon à ce que:

a) le droit d'un Indien ou d'une première nation sur une réserve faisant partie des terres de première nation demeure exempté de taxation, sous réserve de l'article 83 de la Loi sur les Indiens;

b) les biens personnels ou les meubles d'un Indien ou d'une première nation situés sur une réserve faisant partie des terres de la première nation demeurent exemptés de taxation.

## 16. INTÉRÊTS DES TIERS

16.1 Les intérêts ou droits fonciers ou les permis que détiennent les tiers ou le Canada sur des terres de première nation lorsque le code foncier entre en vigueur continuent d'avoir effet selon leurs conditions.

16.2 Les droits des occupants en possession de terres de première nation, que ce soit conformément à la coutume ou par attribution aux termes de la Loi sur les Indiens, en matière de transfert, de bail et

16.3 Once a land code takes effect, no interest, land right or licence in relation to First Nation land may be acquired or granted except in accordance with the land code.

16.4 For greater certainty, disputes in relation to third party interests shall be dealt with in the forum identified or established in a land code pursuant to clause 5.2(g).

## 17. EXPROPRIATION BY FIRST NATIONS

17.1 A First Nation with a land code in effect has the right to expropriate interests or land rights in First Nation lands without consent if deemed by the First Nation council to be necessary for community works or other First Nation purposes.

17.2 A First Nation's power of expropriation will be exercised in accordance with the rules and procedures specified in its land code, its laws and this Agreement.

17.3 In any province or territory other than Québec, an interest in First Nation land that a First Nation expropriates becomes the property of the First Nation free of any previous claim or encumbrance in respect of the interest.

17.3A In the province of Québec, the First Nation that expropriates a land right in its First Nation lands becomes the holder of that

de partage des revenus provenant de ressources naturelles seront définis par le code foncier.

16.3 Après l'entrée en vigueur du code foncier, les permis, les intérêts ou droits fonciers concernant les terres de première nation ne peuvent être acquis ou accordés qu'en conformité avec ce code.

16.4 Il est entendu que les différends relatifs aux intérêts des tiers sont réglés selon ce que prévoit le code foncier conformément à l'alinéa 5.2g).

## 17. EXPROPRIATION PAR LES PREMIÈRES NATIONS

17.1 La première nation ayant un code foncier en vigueur a le droit d'exproprier sans consentement des intérêts ou droits fonciers sur ses terres de première nation, si le conseil de la première nation estime en avoir besoin pour réaliser des ouvrages communautaires ou à d'autres fins de la première nation.

17.2 La première nation procède à l'expropriation conformément aux règles et procédures établies dans son code foncier, à ses textes législatifs et au présent accord.

17.3 Un intérêt sur les terres de première nation dans une province ou un territoire autre que le Québec exproprié par la première nation devient la propriété de celle-ci, libre de toute réclamation ou tout grèvement antérieurs quant à cet intérêt.

17.3A La première nation qui exproprie un droit foncier sur ses terres de première nation dans la province de Québec devient

right free of any previous right, charge or claim in respect of that land right.

17.4 A First Nation that expropriates an interest or land right in First Nation land will give fair compensation based on the heads of compensation set out in the Expropriation Act (Canada).

17.5 A First Nation will establish a mechanism to resolve disputes over compensation it pays for expropriation.

17.6 Any interest in First Nation land that was obtained pursuant to section 35 of the Indian Act or any interest or land right that has been acquired by Canada, or that is acquired after this Agreement comes into force by Canada in accordance with this Agreement, is not subject to First Nation expropriation.

17.7 A First Nation is not precluded from entering into an agreement with a utility or public body for the purpose of granting it an interest or land right in First Nation land that is exempt from expropriation by the First Nation.

17.8 No expropriation of an interest or land right in First Nation land by a First Nation takes effect earlier than either of the following days:

(a) the date the notice of expropriation is registered in the First Nation Lands Register; or

titulaire de ce droit foncier, libre de tout droit, charge ou réclamation antérieurs.

17.4 La première nation qui exproprie un intérêt ou droit foncier sur ses terres de première nation est tenue de verser une indemnité équitable, calculée selon les règles énoncées dans la Loi sur l'expropriation (Canada).

17.5 La première nation est tenue de mettre sur pied un mécanisme de règlement des différends relatifs à l'indemnisation qu'elle paye pour les expropriations.

17.6 Ne sont toutefois pas susceptibles d'expropriation par la première nation les intérêts ou les droits fonciers sur les terres de première nation obtenus sous le régime de l'article 35 de la Loi sur les Indiens ou qui ont été acquis par le Canada ou encore qui seront acquis par le Canada après l'entrée en vigueur du présent accord conformément à celui-ci.

17.7 Il n'est pas interdit à la première nation de conclure avec un organisme public ou une société de service public un accord lui attribuant un intérêt ou un droit foncier sur les terres de première nation non susceptible d'être exproprié par la première nation.

17.8 L'expropriation par une première nation d'un intérêt ou d'un droit foncier sur les terres de première nation ne prend effet qu'à la première des dates suivantes :

a) la date d'inscription de l'avis d'expropriation dans le registre des terres de la première nation;

(b) the 30th day after the day the last copy of the notice is served.

#### PART IV FIRST NATION LAW MAKING

##### 18. LAW MAKING POWERS

18.1 The council of a First Nation with a land code in effect will have the power to make laws, in accordance with its land code, respecting the development, conservation, protection, management, use and possession of First Nation land and interests or land rights and licences in relation to that land. This includes laws on any matter necessary or ancillary to the making of laws in relation to First Nation land.

18.2 The following examples illustrate some of the First Nation laws contemplated by the Parties:

- (a) laws on the regulation, control and prohibition of zoning, land use, subdivision control and land development;
- (b) laws on the creation, regulation and prohibition of interests or land rights and licences in relation to First Nation land;
- (c) laws on environmental assessment and protection;
- (d) laws on the provision of local

b) le 30<sup>e</sup> jour suivant la signification de la dernière copie de cet avis.

#### PARTIE IV POUVOIRS DE LÉGIFÉRER DE LA PREMIÈRE NATION

##### 18. POUVOIRS DE LÉGIFÉRER

18.1 Le conseil de la première nation ayant un code foncier en vigueur peut édicter des textes législatifs, conformément à celui-ci, concernant le développement, la conservation, la protection, la gestion, l'utilisation et la possession des terres de première nation et des intérêts ou droits fonciers et permis les concernant. Cela comprend les textes législatifs portant sur des questions nécessaires ou afférentes à l'élaboration des textes législatifs relatifs aux terres de première nation.

18.2 Les exemples qui suivent illustrent certaines des fins pour lesquelles les premières nations peuvent adopter des textes législatifs, comme l'envisagent les Parties :

- a) pour réglementer, régir ou interdire le zonage, l'aménagement, l'utilisation, le lotissement ou la mise en valeur des terres;
- b) pour créer et réglementer les permis et les intérêts ou les droits fonciers relatifs aux terres de première nation ou prévoir des interdictions à cet égard;
- c) pour régir la protection de l'environnement et l'évaluation environnementale;

services in relation to First Nation land and the imposition of equitable user charges; and

(e) laws on the provision of services for the resolution, outside the courts, of disputes in relation to First Nation land.

18.3 A land code will not address the taxation of real or personal property or of immovables or movables. Section 83 of the Indian Act will continue to apply.

18.4 In any proceeding, a copy of a First Nation law, appearing to be certified as a true copy by an officer of the First Nation is, without proof of the officer's signature or official character, evidence of its enactment on the date specified in the law.

18.5 This Agreement does not affect or extend existing rights and powers, or create additional rights and powers, related to fisheries.

## 19. ENFORCEMENT OF FIRST NATION LAWS

19.1 To enforce its land code and its First Nation laws, a First Nation will have the power to

(a) establish offences that are punishable on summary conviction;

(b) provide for fines, imprisonment,

d) pour régir la prestation de services locaux relatifs aux terres de première nation et l'imposition de frais équitables à leurs usagers;

e) pour régir la prestation de services de règlement extrajudiciaire des différends relatifs aux terres de première nation.

18.3 Le code foncier ne traite pas de l'imposition des biens réels ou personnels ou des immeubles ou meubles. L'article 83 de la Loi sur les Indiens continue de s'appliquer.

18.4 La copie d'un texte législatif de la première nation paraissant certifiée conforme par un fonctionnaire de la première nation fait foi, dans le cadre de toute procédure, de son adoption à la date qui y est inscrite sans qu'il soit nécessaire de prouver l'authenticité de la signature ou la qualité officielle du signataire.

18.5 Le présent accord ne modifie en rien les droits et pouvoirs actuels relatifs aux pêcheries, ni ne crée des droits ou pouvoirs additionnels à cet égard.

## 19. CONTRÔLE D'APPLICATION DES TEXTES LÉGISLATIFS DE LA PREMIÈRE NATION

19.1 Aux fins de contrôle d'application de son code foncier et de ses textes législatifs, la première nation peut :

a) créer des infractions punissables par procédure sommaire;

b) prévoir des peines, notamment les

restitution, community service, and alternate means for achieving compliance; and

(c) establish comprehensive enforcement procedures consistent with federal law, including inspections, searches, seizures and compulsory sampling, testing and the production of information.

19.2 First Nation laws may adopt or incorporate by reference the summary conviction procedures of the Criminal Code for the purpose of enforcement.

19.3 Persons may be appointed by the First Nation or the Governor in Council to act as justices of the peace for the purposes of enforcement. If no justice of the peace is appointed, then First Nation laws will be enforced through the provincial courts.

19.4 A person appointed as a justice of the peace under this clause will have jurisdiction to try offences established by or under a land code or a First Nation law.

19.5 Decisions made by a justice of the peace appointed under this clause may be appealed to a court of competent jurisdiction.

19.6 The First Nation will protect the independence of each justice of the peace it appoints in a way similar to that in a province, for example tenure, removal and

amendes, l'emprisonnement, la restitution, les travaux d'intérêt collectif ou toute autre mesure de nature à assurer l'observation de ces textes;

c) établir, conformément aux lois fédérales, des mesures de contrôle d'application de ces textes notamment en matière d'inspection, de perquisition, de saisie, de prise d'échantillons, d'examen et de communication de renseignements.

19.2 Les textes législatifs de la première nation peuvent, à ces fins, reproduire ou incorporer par renvoi la procédure sommaire du Code criminel.

19.3 La première nation ou le gouverneur en conseil peut nommer des juges de paix chargés d'assurer le contrôle d'application des textes législatifs de la première nation. En l'absence de juges de paix, les poursuites relatives aux textes législatifs de la première nation sont instruites devant les tribunaux provinciaux.

19.4 Il relève de la compétence du juge de paix nommé aux termes du présent article d'instruire les poursuites relatives aux infractions créées par un code foncier ou par un texte législatif de la première nation.

19.5 Les décisions du juge de paix nommé aux termes du présent article sont susceptibles d'appel devant un tribunal compétent.

19.6 La première nation est tenue de protéger l'indépendance des juges de paix qu'elle nomme, de façon analogue à ce que font les provinces, par exemple la durée de

remuneration.

19.7 The First Nation and Canada may enter into agreements for the training, supervision and administrative support for justices of the peace appointed by the First Nation. Provinces may also be parties to such agreements with First Nations.

19.8 The First Nation and Canada will enter into an agreement for the appointment, training, supervision and administrative support for any justice of the peace appointed under this clause by the Governor in Council. The affected province will be invited to participate in the development of and be a party to such agreement.

19.9 For the purpose of prosecuting offences, the First Nation will follow one or more of these options:

- (a) retain its own prosecutor;
- (b) enter into an agreement with Canada and the government of the province to arrange for a provincial prosecutor; or
- (c) enter into an agreement with Canada to arrange for a federal agent to prosecute these offenses.

## 20. APPLICATION OF FEDERAL LAWS

20.1 Federal laws applicable on First Nation land will continue to apply, except to the extent that they are inconsistent with the

leur mandat, leur destitution et leur rémunération.

19.7 La première nation et le Canada peuvent conclure des ententes concernant la formation, la surveillance et le soutien administratif des juges de paix nommés par la première nation. Les provinces peuvent également être parties à ces ententes avec les premières nations.

19.8 La première nation et le Canada sont tenus de conclure une entente relativement à la nomination, la formation, la surveillance et le soutien administratif des juges de paix nommés aux termes du présent article par le gouverneur en conseil. La province concernée sera invitée à participer à l'élaboration de cette entente et à être partie à celle-ci.

19.9 Aux fins des poursuites, la première nation peut se prévaloir d'une ou de plusieurs des mesures suivantes :

- a) embaucher ses propres procureurs;
- b) conclure avec le Canada et le gouvernement provincial concerné une entente prévoyant le recours à un procureur provincial;
- c) conclure avec le Canada une entente prévoyant le recours à un mandataire fédéral.

## 20. APPLICATION DES LOIS FÉDÉRALES

20.1 Les lois fédérales applicables sur les terres de première nation continuent de s'appliquer à celles-ci sauf dans la mesure

federal legislation.

20.2 Notwithstanding any inconsistency with the federal legislation, the Emergencies Act will apply on First Nation land, but any appropriation of an interest or land right in First Nation land under the Emergencies Act shall be authorized expressly by an order in council.

20.3 For greater certainty, and subject to Part VII, the Atomic Energy Control Act or any successor legislation continue to apply to First Nation lands.

## 21. INAPPLICABLE SECTIONS OF INDIAN ACT AND REGULATIONS

21.1 Once a land code takes effect, the First Nation, its members and its First Nation land will not be subject to the following:

- (a) sections 18 to 20 and 22 to 28 of the Indian Act;
- (b) sections 30 to 35 of the Indian Act;
- (c) sections 37 to 41 of the Indian Act;
- (d) sections 49, 50(4) and 53 to 60 of the Indian Act;
- (e) sections 66, 69 and 71 of the Indian Act;

où elles sont incompatibles avec la loi de ratification.

20.2 La Loi sur les mesures d'urgence est applicable sur les terres de première nation, même si elle est incompatible avec la loi de ratification. Cependant, la réquisition d'intérêts ou de droits fonciers sur les terres de première nation aux termes de la Loi sur les mesures d'urgence doit être expressément autorisée par un décret.

20.3 Sous réserve de la partie VII, il est entendu que la Loi sur le contrôle de l'énergie atomique, ou toute loi qui la remplace, continue de s'appliquer sur les terres de première nation.

## 21. INAPPLICABILITÉ DE CERTAINS ARTICLES DE LA LOI SUR LES INDIENS ET DES RÈGLEMENTS Y AFFÉRENTS

21.1 Dès l'entrée en vigueur de son code foncier, la première nation, ses membres et les terres de première nation, cessent d'être assujettis aux dispositions suivantes :

- a) les articles 18 à 20 et 22 à 28 de la Loi sur les Indiens;
- b) les articles 30 à 35 de la Loi sur les Indiens;
- c) les articles 37 à 41 de la Loi sur les Indiens;
- d) l'article 49, le paragraphe 50(4) et les articles 53 à 60 de la Loi sur les Indiens;
- e) les articles 66, 69 et 71 de la Loi sur les

- (f) section 93 of the Indian Act;
- (g) regulations made under section 57 of the Indian Act; and
- (h) regulations made under sections 42 and 73 of the Indian Act to the extent that they are inconsistent with this Agreement or the land code or the laws of the First Nation.

## 22. EXISTING FIRST NATION BY-LAWS

22.1 A First Nation will continue to have the authority under the Indian Act to make by-laws.

## PART V ENVIRONMENT

### 23. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

23.1 The council of a First Nation with a land code in effect will have the power to make environmental laws relating to First Nation land.

23.2 The Parties intend that there should be both an environmental assessment and an environmental protection regime for each First Nation.

23.3 The principles of these regimes are set out below.

Indiens;

f) l'article 93 de la Loi sur les Indiens;

g) les règlements pris en application de l'article 57 de la Loi sur les Indiens;

h) les règlements pris en application des articles 42 et 73 de la Loi sur les Indiens dans la mesure où ils sont incompatibles avec le présent accord, avec le code foncier ou avec les textes législatifs de la première nation.

## 22. RÈGLEMENTS ADMINISTRATIFS ACTUELS DE LA PREMIÈRE NATION

22.1 La première nation conserve le pouvoir d'adopter des règlements administratifs aux termes de la Loi sur les Indiens.

## PARTIE V ENVIRONNEMENT

### 23. PRINCIPES GÉNÉRAUX

23.1 Le conseil de la première nation ayant un code foncier en vigueur a le pouvoir d'édicter des textes législatifs de nature environnementale concernant les terres de première nation.

23.2 Les Parties s'entendent pour qu'il y ait un régime de protection de l'environnement et un régime d'évaluation environnementale pour chaque première nation.

23.3 Les principes de ces régimes sont énoncés ci-dessous.

23.4 The environmental assessment and protection regimes will be implemented through First Nation laws.

23.5 The Parties agree to harmonize their respective environmental regimes and processes, with the involvement of the provinces where they agree to participate, to promote effective and consistent environmental regimes and processes and to avoid uncertainty and duplication.

23.6 This Agreement is not intended to affect rights and powers relating to migratory birds or endangered species. These matters may be dealt with in the context of other negotiations. This Agreement is not intended to determine or prejudice the resolution of these issues.

#### 24. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

24.1 Subject to clause 27, a First Nation with a land code in effect will develop an environmental protection regime, with the assistance of the appropriate federal agencies to the extent that they agree to participate.

24.2 Each First Nation agrees to

harmonize environmental protection with the province in which the First Nation is situated, where the province agrees to participate

23.4 Les régimes de protection et d'évaluation environnementales seront mis en oeuvre par des textes législatifs de la première nation.

23.5 Les Parties conviennent d'harmoniser leurs régimes et processus environnementaux respectifs, en invitant les provinces à participer à cette opération si celles-ci le souhaitent, dans le but de promouvoir l'uniformité et l'efficacité des régimes et processus environnementaux et d'éviter les incertitudes et le double emploi.

23.6 Le présent accord n'a pas pour effet de modifier les droits et pouvoirs concernant les oiseaux migrateurs et les espèces en voie de disparition. Ces questions pourront faire l'objet d'autres négociations. Le présent accord n'a pas pour objet de déterminer la résolution de ces questions ou d'y porter préjudice.

#### 24. GESTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

24.1 Sous réserve de l'article 27, une première nation qui a un code foncier en vigueur élaborera un régime de protection environnementale, avec l'appui des organismes fédéraux concernés, dans la mesure où la province accepte de participer.

24.2 Chaque première nation accepte d'harmoniser son régime de protection environnementale avec celui de la province où elle est située, dans la mesure où la province accepte de participer.

24.3 The First Nation environmental protection standards and punishments will have at least the same effect as those in the laws of the province in which the First Nation is situated.

24.4 For greater certainty, if there is an inconsistency between the provision of a federal law respecting the protection of the environment and a provision in a land code or First Nation law respecting the protection of the environment, the federal provision will prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.

## 25. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

25.1 Subject to clause 27, a First Nation will, with the assistance of the Lands

24.3 Les normes de protection environnementale et pénalités de la première nation devront avoir au moins l'effet équivalent à celui des lois de la province où se situe la première nation.

24.4 Il est entendu qu'en cas d'incompatibilité entre une disposition d'une loi fédérale en matière de protection de l'environnement et une disposition d'un code foncier ou d'un texte législatif des premières nations en matière de protection de l'environnement, la disposition fédérale l'emporte dans la mesure de l'incompatibilité.

## 25. ÉVALUATION ENVIRONNEMENTALE

25.1 Sous réserve de l'article 27, la première nation s'efforce, avec l'aide du

Advisory Board and the appropriate federal agencies, make best efforts to develop an environmental assessment process within one year after the First Nation's land code takes effect, or within such longer period as the Minister and the First Nation may agree to.

25.2 The First Nation and the Minister will, in the individual agreement referred to in clause 6, address how to conduct the environmental assessment of projects on First Nation land during the interim period until the First Nation's environmental assessment process is developed.

25.3 The First Nation's environmental assessment process will be consistent with requirements of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.

25.4 The First Nation's environmental assessment process will be triggered in appropriate cases where the First Nation is approving, regulating, funding or undertaking a project on First Nation land. The assessment will occur as early as possible in the planning stages of the project before an irrevocable decision is made.

25.5 The Parties agree that section 10 of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will not apply to projects located on First Nation land.

Conseil consultatif des terres et des organismes fédéraux intéressés, d'élaborer un processus d'évaluation environnementale dans l'année suivant l'entrée en vigueur du code foncier de la première nation ou dans un délai plus long convenu entre le ministre et la première nation.

25.2 L'accord distinct conclu entre la première nation et le ministre conformément à l'article 6 doit prévoir les modalités de l'évaluation environnementale des projets devant être réalisés sur les terres de première nation au cours de la période transitoire, jusqu'à ce que la première nation ait élaboré un processus d'évaluation environnementale.

25.3 Le processus d'évaluation environnementale mis sur pied par la première nation doit être compatible avec les exigences de la Loi canadienne sur l'évaluation environnementale.

25.4 Sera un élément déclencheur du processus d'évaluation environnementale dans les cas indiqués, tout projet sur les terres de première nation devant être réalisé, financé, approuvé ou réglementé par celle-ci. Cette évaluation doit s'effectuer le plus tôt possible au cours des premières étapes de la planification du projet avant que des décisions irrévocables ne soient prises.

25.5 Les Parties conviennent que l'article 10 de la Loi canadienne sur l'évaluation environnementale ne s'applique pas aux projets situés sur les terres de première nation.

25.6 The Parties agree to use their best efforts to implement the principle that the First Nation's environmental assessment process be used where an environmental assessment of a project on First Nation land is required by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.

25.7 The Parties agree to develop a plan to harmonize their respective environmental assessment processes, with the involvement of the provinces where they agree to participate.

## 26. OTHER AGREEMENTS

26.1 The First Nation and Canada recognize that it may be advisable to enter into other agreements with each other and other jurisdictions to deal with environmental issues like harmonization, implementation, timing, funding and enforcement.

26.2 Where matters being negotiated pursuant to clause 26.1 normally fall within provincial jurisdiction, or may have significant impacts beyond the boundaries of First Nation land, the parties will invite the affected province to be a party to such negotiations and resulting agreements.

## 27. RESOURCES

27.1 The Parties understand that the obligation of a First Nation to establish

25.6 Les Parties s'efforceront de mettre en œuvre le principe selon lequel le processus d'évaluation environnementale de la première nation sera appliqué lorsque la Loi canadienne sur l'évaluation environnementale exige qu'un projet devant être réalisé sur des terres de première nation fasse l'objet d'une telle évaluation.

25.7 Les Parties conviennent d'élaborer un plan visant à harmoniser leurs processus d'évaluation environnementale respectifs, avec la participation des provinces si celles-ci le souhaitent.

## 26. AUTRES ENTENTES

26.1 La première nation et le Canada reconnaissent qu'il pourrait être souhaitable de conclure d'autres ententes, entre elles et avec d'autres gouvernements, dans le domaine de l'environnement, notamment au sujet des questions d'harmonisation, de mise en œuvre, de calendrier, de financement et de contrôle d'application.

26.2 Si une question faisant l'objet de négociation en vertu de l'article 26.1 relève normalement de la compétence de la province, ou si de telles questions sont susceptibles d'avoir des effets importants à l'extérieur des terres de première nation, les Parties inviteront la province concernée à être partie à ces négociations et à l'entente qui en résulte.

## 27. RESSOURCES

27.1 Les Parties reconnaissent qu'une première nation ne peut remplir son

environmental assessment and environmental protection regimes depends on adequate financial resources and expertise being available to the First Nation.

## PART VI FUNDING

### 28. APPROPRIATION

28.1 Any amounts provided by Canada to the First Nations pursuant to funding arrangements in relation to First Nation land shall be paid out of such moneys as may be appropriated by Parliament for this purpose.

### 29. DEVELOPMENTAL FUNDING

29.1 Canada and the Lands Advisory Board will enter into a funding arrangement to allow the First Nations to develop land codes and community approval processes for their land codes, to negotiate the individual agreements mentioned in clause 6 and to seek community approval under clause 7.

### 30. OPERATIONAL FUNDING

30.1 An individual agreement between the Minister and a First Nation will determine the resources to be provided by Canada to the First Nation to manage First Nation lands and make, administer and enforce its laws under a land code. The agreement will determine specific funding issues, for example period of time, and terms and

obligation relative à l'établissement de régimes de protection et d'évaluation environnementales que si elle dispose des ressources financières et de l'expertise nécessaires.

## PARTIE VI FINANCEMENT

### 28. CRÉDITS

28.1 Les sommes versées par le Canada aux premières nations conformément aux ententes en matière de financement à l'égard des terres de première nation sont prélevées sur les crédits affectés à cette fin par le Parlement.

### 29. FINANCEMENT DE DÉMARRAGE

29.1 Le Canada et le Conseil consultatif des terres sont tenus de conclure une entente de financement pour permettre aux premières nations d'élaborer leur code foncier et leur processus d'approbation de la communauté relatif à ce code, de négocier l'accord distinct mentionné à l'article 6 et d'obtenir l'approbation de la communauté prévue à l'article 7.

### 30. FINANCEMENT DE FONCTIONNEMENT

30.1 L'accord distinct conclu entre le ministre et la première nation fixera les ressources que le Canada s'engage à fournir à la première nation pour que celle-ci gère les terres de première nation et édicte, administre et applique les textes législatifs de la première nation pris en vertu du code foncier. L'accord précisera

conditions.

30.2 A method for allocating such operating funds as may have been appropriated by Parliament will be developed by the Parties and the Lands Advisory Board.

30.3 Unless a First Nation and Canada agree otherwise, an individual agreement respecting the provision of funding under this clause will have a maximum term of five years and will include provisions for its amendment and renegotiation.

#### 31. LANDS ADVISORY BOARD FUNDING

31.1 Canada will enter into a funding arrangement with the Lands Advisory Board for the five year period following the coming into force of this Agreement.

### PART VII EXPROPRIATION OF FIRST NATION LAND BY CANADA

#### 32. RESTRICTIONS

32.1 In accordance with the principle stated in clause 13.2, the Parties agree, as a general principle, that First Nation lands will not be subject to expropriation.

32.2 Despite the general principle against expropriation, First Nation land may be expropriated by Canada

(a) only with the consent of the

les différents aspects du financement, par exemple sa périodicité et ses modalités.

30.2 Les Parties et le Conseil consultatif des terres sont tenus d'élaborer une méthode d'attribution des fonds de fonctionnement autorisés par le Parlement.

30.3 À défaut d'entente contraire de la première nation et du Canada, l'accord distinct concernant le financement prévu par le présent article sera en vigueur pour une durée maximale de cinq ans et prévoira des dispositions concernant sa modification et sa renégociation.

#### 31. FINANCEMENT DU CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DES TERRES

31.1 Le Canada est tenu de conclure avec le Conseil consultatif des terres une entente de financement qui portera sur une période de cinq ans à partir de l'entrée en vigueur du présent accord.

### PARTIE VII EXPROPRIATION DE TERRES DE PREMIÈRES NATIONS PAR LE CANADA

#### 32. RESTRICTIONS

32.1 Conformément au principe énoncé à l'article 13.2, les parties conviennent qu'en règle générale, les terres de première nation ne peuvent faire l'objet d'une expropriation.

32.2 Malgré le principe général voulant que les terres ne puissent faire l'objet d'une expropriation, le Canada peut toutefois exproprier les terres de première nation, si les conditions suivantes sont

Governor in Council; and

(b) only by and for the use of a federal department or agency.

32.3 The Governor in Council will only consent to an expropriation of First Nation land if the expropriation is justifiable and necessary for a federal public purpose that serves the national interest.

32.4 When making a decision to expropriate First Nation land, the Governor in Council, in addition to other steps that may be required before making such a decision, will at a minimum follow these steps:

(a) it will consider using means other than expropriation and will use those other means where reasonably feasible;

(b) it will use non-First Nation land, where such land is reasonably available;

(c) if it must use First Nation land, it will make reasonable efforts to acquire the land through agreement with the First Nation, rather than by expropriation;

(d) if it must expropriate First Nation land, it will expropriate only the smallest interest or land right necessary and for the shortest time required; and

réunies :

a) le gouverneur en conseil y consent;

b) l'expropriation est faite par un ministère ou un organisme fédéral pour ses seuls besoins.

32.3 Le gouverneur en conseil ne consentira à l'expropriation de terres de première nation que si cela est justifiable et nécessaire à des fins d'intérêt public national relevant de la compétence fédérale.

32.4 Avant de donner son consentement à une expropriation de terres de première nation, le gouverneur en conseil, en plus des autres mesures qui peuvent être requises, prendra au moins les mesures suivantes :

a) il envisagera d'autres moyens que l'expropriation et utilisera ces moyens lorsque cela est raisonnablement faisable;

b) il utilisera des terres autres que celles d'une première nation, lorsque de telles terres sont raisonnablement disponibles;

c) s'il faut utiliser des terres de première nation, il s'efforcera de procéder à l'acquisition des terres par convention avec la première nation et non par expropriation;

d) s'il doit exproprier des terres de première nation, il veillera à ce que l'expropriation se limite au strict nécessaire, tant en ce qui touche l'étendue de l'intérêt ou du droit foncier que la

(e) in every case, it will first provide the First Nation with information relevant to the expropriation.

32.5 Prior to the Governor in Council issuing an order consenting to the expropriation of First Nation land, the federal department or agency will make public a report on the reasons justifying the expropriation and the steps taken in satisfaction of this clause and will provide a copy of the report to the First Nation.

32.6 Where a First Nation objects to a proposed expropriation it may refer the issue to an independent third party for a neutral evaluation under Part IX, within 60 days of the release of the report referred to in clause 32.5.

32.7 An order of the Governor in Council consenting to the expropriation will not be issued earlier than

(a) the end of the 60 day period referred to in clause 32.6; or

(b) the day the opinion or recommendation of the neutral evaluator is released, where the First Nation referred the proposed expropriation to an independent evaluator under clause 32.6.

### 33. COMPENSATION BY CANADA

période pour laquelle il est exproprié;

e) dans tous les cas, il communiquera d'abord à la première nation tous les renseignements se rapportant à l'expropriation.

32.5 Avant que le gouverneur en conseil ne prenne un décret consentant à l'expropriation de terres de première nation, le ministère ou l'organisme fédéral est tenu de publier un rapport qui énonce les motifs la justifiant et les mesures prises en application du présent article et de fournir en même temps une copie de ce rapport à la première nation.

32.6 Si une première nation s'oppose à un projet d'expropriation, elle peut, dans les 60 jours de la publication du rapport mentionné à l'article 32.5, renvoyer l'affaire à une tierce partie indépendante pour conciliation aux termes de la Partie IX.

32.7 Un décret du gouverneur en conseil consentant à l'expropriation ne sera pas émis avant :

a) soit l'expiration du délai de 60 jours prévu à l'article 32.6;

b) soit le jour où l'opinion ou la recommandation du conciliateur est publiée, si la première nation renvoie le projet d'expropriation à un conciliateur, en application de l'article 32.6.

### 33. INDEMNISATION PAR LE CANADA

33.1 In the event of the expropriation of First Nation land by Canada under this Part, Canada will provide compensation to the First Nation in accordance with this clause.

33.2 The compensation will include alternate land of equal or greater size or of comparable value. If the alternate land is of less than comparable value, then additional compensation will be provided. The alternate land may be smaller than the land being expropriated only if that does not result in the First Nation having less land area than when its land code took effect.

33.3 The total value of the compensation provided by Canada under this clause will be based on the following:

- (a) the market value of the land or interest or land right that is acquired;
- (b) the replacement value of any improvement to the land that is acquired;
- (c) the damages attributable to disturbance;
- (d) the value of any special economic advantage arising out of or incidental to the occupation or use of the affected First Nation land to the extent that this value is not otherwise

33.1 Si le Canada exproprie des terres de première nation sous le régime de la présente partie, il est tenu d'indemniser la première nation conformément aux termes du présent article.

33.2 L'indemnité comprendra des terres substitutives ayant une superficie égale ou supérieure ou ayant une valeur comparable à celles qui ont été expropriées. Si les terres substitutives ont une valeur inférieure aux terres expropriées, le Canada est alors tenu d'offrir une indemnité supplémentaire. Les terres substitutives peuvent avoir une superficie moindre que les terres expropriées seulement si, à la suite de l'opération, la première nation dispose d'une superficie de terres qui n'est pas inférieure à celle qu'elle avait lorsque son code foncier est entré en vigueur.

33.3 La valeur totale de l'indemnité versée par le Canada aux termes du présent article doit tenir compte des éléments suivants :

- a) la valeur marchande des terres ou de l'intérêt ou du droit foncier acquis;
- b) la valeur de remplacement des améliorations apportées aux terres acquises;
- c) les dommages attribuables au trouble de jouissance;
- d) la valeur de tout avantage économique particulier découlant ou résultant de l'occupation ou de l'utilisation des terres de première nation concernée, dans la mesure où cette valeur n'a pas déjà donné lieu à

compensated;

(e) damages for any reduction in the value of a remaining interest or land right; and

(f) damages for any adverse effect on any cultural or other special value of the land.

33.4 If the value and nature of the compensation cannot be agreed upon by the federal department or agency and the affected First Nation, either party may refer a dispute on compensation to arbitration under Part IX.

33.5 In any province or territory other than Québec, any claim or encumbrance in respect of the interest, or in Québec any right, charge or claim in respect of the land right, expropriated by Canada may only be claimed against the amount of compensation that is otherwise payable to the person or entity whose interest or land right is being expropriated.

33.6 Interest on the compensation is payable from the date the expropriation takes effect, at the same rate as for prejudgment interest in the superior court of the province in which the First Nation land is located.

#### 34. STATUS OF LANDS

34.1 Where less than the full interest or only part of the land right of the First Nation in

une indemnité;

e) les dommages attribuables à la diminution de la valeur de l'intérêt ou du droit foncier non exproprié;

f) les dommages attribuables aux répercussions négatives sur la valeur culturelle ou toute autre valeur particulière de ces terres.

33.4 En cas de différend relatif à la valeur ou à la nature de l'indemnité, le ministère ou l'organisme fédéral ou la première nation peut saisir un arbitre de tout différend relatif à l'indemnité aux termes de la Partie IX.

33.5 Dans les provinces ou territoires autres que le Québec, le recouvrement de toute réclamation ou tout grèvement concernant l'intérêt exproprié par le Canada, ou dans la province de Québec, le recouvrement de tout droit, charge ou réclamation concernant le droit foncier ainsi exproprié, ne peut être demandé que jusqu'à concurrence de l'indemnité par ailleurs payable à la personne ou à l'entité dont l'intérêt ou le droit foncier est visé par l'expropriation.

33.6 L'indemnité porte intérêt à partir de la prise d'effet de l'expropriation, au taux applicable à l'intérêt avant jugement applicable devant la Cour supérieure de la province où sont situées les terres de première nation.

#### 34. STATUT DES TERRES

34.1 Dans les cas où l'expropriation par le Canada porte sur moins que la totalité de

First Nation land is expropriated by Canada,

(a) the land retains its status as First Nation land;

(b) the land remains subject to the land code and to any law of the First Nation that is otherwise applicable, except to the extent the land code or law is inconsistent with the expropriation; and

(c) the First Nation may continue to use and occupy the land, except to the extent the use or occupation is inconsistent with the expropriation.

34.2 Alternate land accepted by the First Nation as part of the compensation will become both a reserve and First Nation land.

### 35. REVERSION OR RETURN OF INTERESTOR LAND RIGHT IN FIRST NATION LAND

35.1 In any province or territory other than Québec, where an expropriated interest in First Nation land which is less than the full interest of the First Nation in the land is no longer required by Canada for the purpose for which it was expropriated, the interest in land will revert to the First Nation.

35.1A In the province of Québec, where the expropriated land right in First Nation land constitutes only part of the land right of the First Nation in the land, and it is no longer required by Canada for the purpose for

l'intérêt ou seulement sur une partie du droit foncier de la première nation sur les terres en question :

a) les terres conservent leur statut de terres de première nation;

b) les terres demeurent assujetties au code foncier et aux textes législatifs adoptés par la première nation, sauf dans la mesure où le texte ou le code foncier est incompatible avec l'expropriation;

c) la première nation peut continuer à utiliser et à occuper ces terres, sauf dans la mesure où cette utilisation ou cette occupation est incompatible avec l'expropriation.

34.2 Les terres substitutives acceptées par la première nation comme partie de l'indemnité deviennent à la fois une réserve et des terres de première nation.

### 35. RÉVERSION OU RETOUR D'UN INTÉRÊT OU DROIT FONCIER SUR LES TERRES DE PREMIÈRE NATION

35.1 Dans une province ou territoire autre que le Québec, lorsque l'intérêt exproprié est moindre que la totalité de l'intérêt de la première nation sur les terres en question, cet intérêt est, lorsqu'il n'est plus nécessaire au Canada aux fins de l'expropriation, retourné à la première nation.

35.1A Dans la province de Québec, lorsque l'expropriation porte seulement sur une partie du droit foncier de la première nation sur les terres en question,

which it was expropriated, the land right will return to the First Nation.

35.2 The Minister responsible for the expropriating department or agency, without the consent of the Governor in Council, may decide that the interest or the land right is no longer required and determine the disposition of any improvements.

#### 36. RETURN OF FULL INTEREST OR ENTIRE LAND RIGHT IN FIRST NATION LAND

36.1 Where the full interest or the entire land right of a First Nation in First Nation land was expropriated but is no longer required by Canada for the purpose for which it was expropriated, the land will be returned to the First Nation on terms negotiated by the First Nation and the federal department or agency, at the time of the expropriation or at a later date as agreed to by them.

36.2 Where the terms and conditions of the return cannot be agreed upon by the First Nation and the federal department or agency, either party may refer the dispute to arbitration under Part IX.

36.3 The Minister responsible for the expropriating department or agency, without the consent of the Governor in Council, may decide that the land is no longer required and determine the disposition of any

le droit foncier est, lorsqu'il n'est plus nécessaire au Canada aux fins de l'expropriation, retourné à la première nation.

35.2 Le ministre responsable du ministère ou de l'organisme à l'origine de l'expropriation peut, sans le consentement du gouverneur en conseil, décider que l'intérêt ou le droit foncier exproprié n'est plus nécessaire et il peut déterminer comment disposer des améliorations.

#### 36. RETOUR DE LA TOTALITÉ DE L'INTÉRÊT OU DU DROIT FONCIER SUR LES TERRES DE PREMIÈRE NATION

36.1 Lorsque la totalité de l'intérêt ou le droit foncier entier de la première nation sur les terres en question a été exproprié et qu'il n'est plus nécessaire au Canada aux fins de l'expropriation, les terres seront retournées à la première nation selon les conditions négociées par la première nation et le ministère ou l'organisme fédéral, soit au moment de l'expropriation, soit à une date ultérieure convenue par eux.

36.2 En cas de différend relatif aux conditions du retour, la première nation ou le ministère ou l'organisme fédéral peut renvoyer l'affaire à un arbitre nommé aux termes de la Partie IX.

36.3 Le ministre responsable du ministère ou de l'organisme à l'origine de l'expropriation peut, sans le consentement du gouverneur en conseil, décider que les terres expropriées ne sont plus nécessaires

improvements.

### 37. APPLICATION OF EXPROPRIATION ACT

37.1 Any provisions of the Expropriation Act, (Canada) that are applicable to an expropriation of First Nation land by Canada continue to apply, unless inconsistent with this Agreement.

### PART VIII LANDS ADVISORY BOARD

#### 38. LANDS ADVISORY BOARD

38.1 The Lands Advisory Board shall consist of at least three members appointed:

(a) Prior to September 1, 2003, by the Councils of the original First Nation parties to this Agreement; and

(b) After September 1, 2003, by the Councils of the First Nations that have ratified this Agreement, whether they ratify the Agreement on, before or after that date.

38.2 The Lands Advisory Board will have all necessary powers and capacity to properly perform its functions under this Agreement.

38.3 The Lands Advisory Board will select a chairperson to preside over the Board and, subject to the direction of the Board, to act

et il peut déterminer comment disposer des améliorations apportées aux terres concernées.

### 37. APPLICATION DE LA LOI SUR L'EXPROPRIATION

37.1 Les dispositions de la Loi sur l'expropriation (Canada) applicables à l'expropriation de terres de première nation par le Canada continuent de s'appliquer dans la mesure où elles ne sont pas incompatibles avec le présent accord.

### PARTIE VIII CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DES TERRES

#### 38. CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DES TERRES

38.1 Le Conseil consultatif des terres sera formé d'au moins trois membres nommés :

a) avant le 1er septembre 2003 par les conseils des premières nations qui étaient parties initiales au présent accord;

b) après le 1er septembre 2003 par les conseils des premières nations qui ont ratifié le présent accord, qu'ils l'aient ratifié à cette date, ou avant ou après cette date.

38.2 Le Conseil consultatif des terres possédera tous les pouvoirs et la capacité nécessaires à l'exercice efficace de ses attributions en vertu du présent accord.

38.3 Le Conseil consultatif des terres est tenu de choisir un président qui peut, sous réserve des instructions du conseil, agir

on its behalf.

### 39. FUNCTIONS OF THE LANDS ADVISORY BOARD

39.1 In addition to any other functions specifically assigned to it by the Parties, the Lands Advisory Board will be responsible for the following functions:

(a) developing model land codes, laws and land management systems;

(b) developing model agreements for use between First Nations and other authorities and institutions, including public utilities and private organizations;

(c) on request of a First Nation, assisting the First Nation in developing and implementing its land code, laws, land management systems and environmental assessment and protection regimes;

(d) assisting a verifier when requested by the verifier;

(e) establishing a resource centre, curricula and training programs for managers and others who perform functions pursuant to a land code;

(f) on request of a First Nation encountering difficulties relating to the management of its First Nation lands, helping the First Nation in obtaining the expertise necessary to resolve the difficulty;

pour le compte du conseil.

### 39. ATTRIBUTIONS DU CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DES TERRES

39.1 Outre les autres attributions que pourraient lui confier les Parties, le Conseil consultatif des terres possédera les attributions suivantes :

a) il élabore des modèles de code foncier, de textes législatifs et de systèmes de gestion des terres;

b) il élabore des modèles d'ententes destinés à être utilisés entre les premières nations et les autres autorités et institutions, notamment les sociétés de service public et les organismes privés;

c) à la demande d'une première nation, il assiste celle-ci dans l'élaboration et la mise en oeuvre de son code foncier, de ses textes législatifs, de ses systèmes de gestion des terres, et de ses régimes de protection et d'évaluation environnementales;

d) il apporte son aide au vérificateur, à la demande de ce dernier;

e) il met sur pied un centre de ressources, des cours et des programmes de formation à l'intention des gestionnaires et des autres personnes qui exercent des attributions aux termes d'un code foncier;

f) à la demande d'une première nation qui éprouve des difficultés dans la gestion des terres de la première nation, il l'aide à obtenir l'expertise dont elle a besoin pour

(g) proposing regulations for First Nation land registration;

(h) proposing to the Minister such amendments to this Agreement and the federal legislation as it considers necessary or advisable;

(i) in consultation with First Nations, negotiating a funding method with the Minister; and

(j) performing such other functions or services for a First Nation as are agreed to between the Board and the First Nation.

39.2 The Lands Advisory Board will have authority to adopt rules for the procedure at its meetings and generally for the conduct of its affairs.

#### 40. RECORD KEEPING

40.1 The Lands Advisory Board will maintain a record containing

(a) the name of each First Nation that approves a land code;

(b) a copy of that land code;

(c) a copy of each amendment to a land code; and

(d) the dates on which each was approved and certified.

résoudre les difficultés;

g) il propose des règlements concernant l'enregistrement des terres de première nation;

h) il propose au ministre les modifications au présent accord et à la loi de ratification qu'il estime souhaitables ou nécessaires;

i) en consultation avec les premières nations, il négocie avec le ministre un mécanisme de financement;

j) il exerce les autres attributions ou fournit à une première nation les services dont le conseil et celle-ci peuvent convenir.

39.2 Le Conseil consultatif des terres a le pouvoir d'adopter des règles de procédure pour la tenue de ses réunions et, d'une façon générale, pour l'exercice de ses activités.

#### 40. TENUE DES DOSSIERS

40.1 Le Conseil consultatif des terres est tenu de maintenir un registre dans lequel figurent :

a) le nom des premières nations ayant adopté un code foncier;

b) une copie de ces codes fonciers;

c) une copie des modifications apportées aux codes fonciers;

d) les dates auxquelles les codes ont été approuvés et celles auxquelles leur validité a été attestée.

40.2.1 The Lands Advisory Board shall, in consultation with the Minister, prescribe procedures for a First Nation to authorize the signing of this Agreement and for the formal signature of the First Nations to this Agreement, and shall advise the Minister when a First Nation has completed the procedures.

40.2.2 Subject to sub-clause 40.2.1, a First Nation may only become a signatory under this section with the consent of Canada, and Canada shall advise the Lands Advisory Board if and when such consent is given.

40.2.3 The Lands Advisory Board shall receive and record the adhesion of a First Nation party to this Agreement, made after January 1, 2001, and advise the Minister that the said First Nation has signed the Framework Agreement.

#### 41. ANNUAL REPORT

41.1 Within 90 days following the end of each year of operation, the Lands Advisory Board will deliver to the Parties an annual report, in both official languages, on the work of the Board for that year.

41.2 The Minister will cause a copy of the Lands Advisory Board's annual report to be laid before each House of Parliament within the first 30 sitting days of that House after the Minister receives it.

#### 42. LANDS ADVISORY BOARD NO LONGER IN EXISTENCE

40.2.1 Le Conseil consultatif des terres doit, en consultation avec le ministre, prescrire les procédures qu'une première nation doit suivre pour autoriser la signature du présent accord et les procédures régissant la signature formelle de cet accord par les premières nations et il doit aviser le ministre lorsqu'une première nation a complété les procédures.

40.2.2 Sous réserve de l'article 40.2.1, une première nation peut devenir signataire en vertu de cet article seulement avec le consentement du Canada, et ce dernier doit aviser le Conseil consultatif des terres lorsque le consentement a été accordé.

40.2.3 Le Conseil consultatif des terres doit recevoir et inscrire l'adhésion d'une première nation qui est Partie au présent accord, intervenue après le 1<sup>er</sup> janvier 2001, et aviser le ministre de la signature de l'accord par celle-ci.

#### 41. RAPPORT ANNUEL

41.1 Le Conseil consultatif des terres remet aux Parties, dans les 90 jours suivant la fin de son année de fonctionnement, un rapport annuel, dans les deux langues officielles, concernant les travaux accomplis pendant cette année.

41.2 Le ministre est tenu de présenter le rapport annuel du Conseil consultatif des terres aux deux Chambres du Parlement dans les 30 premiers jours de séance de chaque Chambre suivant sa réception par le ministre.

#### 42. DISPARITION DU CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DES TERRES

42.1 In the event that the Lands Advisory Board is no longer in existence, the functions of the Lands Advisory Board under this Agreement will be performed by the Parties, except as follows:

(a) the functions set out in clauses 29 and 39, except clause 39.1(g), will be performed by the First Nations; and

(b) the functions set out in clauses 10 and 40 will be assumed by the First Nations Lands Register.

## PART IX DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### 43. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

43.1 The Parties are committed to resolving any dispute that may arise out of this Agreement among themselves, amicably and in good faith. Where they cannot resolve a dispute through negotiation, the Parties agree to establish and participate in the out-of-court processes referred to in this Part to resolve the dispute.

43.2 Nothing in this Agreement is to be construed as preventing the Parties from using mediation to assist them in reaching an amicable agreement in respect of any issue in dispute. Where a Party has referred a dispute to mediation, the other Party is obliged to attend an initial meeting with the mediator. However, either Party can end a mediation process any time after the initial meeting.

43.3 Subject to clause 43.4, any dispute

42.1 En cas de disparition du Conseil consultatif des terres, les attributions de celui-ci en vertu du présent accord seront exercées par les Parties, sous réserve des dispositions suivantes :

a) les attributions énumérées aux articles 29 et 39, sauf pour ce qui est de l'alinéa 39.1g), seront exercées par les premières nations;

b) les attributions prévues aux articles 10 et 40 seront assumées par le bureau du Registre des terres des premières nations.

## PARTIE IX RÈGLEMENT DES DIFFÉRENDS

### 43. PRINCIPES GÉNÉRAUX

43.1 Les Parties s'engagent à résoudre entre elles, à l'amiable et de bonne foi, les différends qui peuvent découler du présent accord. Lorsque les Parties n'arrivent pas à s'entendre pour résoudre un différend par la négociation, elles conviennent de mettre sur pied les processus extrajudiciaires de règlement des différends décrits dans la présente partie et d'y avoir recours.

43.2 Les dispositions du présent accord n'empêchent pas les Parties de recourir à la médiation en vue de régler à l'amiable un différend. Lorsqu'une partie a soumis un différend à un médiateur, l'autre partie est tenue d'assister à une première rencontre avec le médiateur. L'une ou l'autre des Parties peut toutefois mettre fin à la médiation en tout temps après cette première rencontre.

43.3 Sous réserve de l'article 43.4, les

arising from the implementation, application or administration of this Agreement, the federal legislation, an individual agreement or an environmental management agreement may be resolved in either of two ways:

(a) Neutral evaluation - it may be referred to neutral evaluation by one party to the dispute; or

(b) Arbitration - it may be referred to arbitration by both parties to the dispute.

43.4 Any dispute respecting compensation for First Nation land expropriated by Canada or the terms and conditions for the return of the full interest or the entire land right in First Nation land will be referred to arbitration.

43.5 Any objection by a First Nation to a proposed expropriation under Part VII that has been referred to neutral evaluation will be evaluated and a report submitted by the neutral evaluator to the First Nation and Canada within 60 days of the referral to the neutral evaluator.

#### 44. PANELS OF ARBITRATORS, ETC.

44.1 The Parties and the Lands Advisory Board will jointly establish lists of mutually acceptable persons willing to act as mediators, arbitrators, verifiers and neutral evaluators.

différents découlant de la mise en oeuvre, de l'application ou de l'administration du présent accord, de la loi de ratification, d'un accord distinct ou d'un accord en matière de gestion de l'environnement peuvent être résolus selon l'un des deux moyens suivants :

a) la conciliation — le différend peut être renvoyé à un conciliateur par l'une des parties impliquées dans le différend;

b) l'arbitrage — le différend peut être soumis à l'arbitrage par les deux parties impliquées dans le différend.

43.4 Sont soumis à l'arbitrage, les différends portant sur l'indemnité à verser par le Canada en raison de l'expropriation par celui-ci de terres de première nation, ou sur les conditions du retour de la totalité de l'intérêt ou du droit foncier entier sur les terres de première nation.

43.5 Toute opposition, par la première nation, à un projet d'expropriation en vertu de la Partie VII qui aura été porté devant un conciliateur sera évalué par ce dernier. Par la suite, un rapport sera soumis, par ce dernier, à la première nation et au Canada dans un délai de 60 jours suivant le dépôt de l'opposition devant le conciliateur.

#### 44. LISTES D'ARBITRES, ETC.

44.1 Les Parties et le Conseil consultatif des terres sont tenus d'établir conjointement des listes de personnes mutuellement acceptables prêtes à agir en qualité de médiateur, d'arbitre, de vérificateur et de conciliateur.

44.2 Parties who become involved in a dispute may select mediators, arbitrators and neutral evaluators from the appropriate list, or may agree to the appointment of an individual who is not on the list.

44.3 The selection and assignment of verifiers and the procedure to be followed by verifiers will be arranged by the Lands Advisory Board, Canada and the First Nation.

44.4 Individuals appointed to act as mediators, arbitrators, verifiers or neutral evaluators must be unbiased and free from any conflict of interest relative to the matter in issue and have knowledge or experience to act in the appointed capacity.

#### 45. NEUTRAL EVALUATION

45.1 Where a dispute is referred to neutral evaluation, the evaluator will where appropriate,

- (a) identify the issues in the dispute;
- (b) assess the strengths of each party's case;
- (c) structure a plan for the progress of the case;
- (d) encourage settlement of the dispute; and
- (e) provide the parties with a non-binding opinion or recommendation to resolve the dispute.

44.2 Les parties à un différend peuvent choisir, parmi ces listes, un médiateur, un arbitre et un conciliateur ou s'entendre sur la nomination d'une personne qui ne figure pas sur ces listes.

44.3 Le Conseil consultatif des terres, le Canada et la première nation choisiront les vérificateurs, définiront leurs attributions et fixeront la procédure que ces derniers doivent utiliser.

44.4 Les personnes nommées en qualité de médiateur, d'arbitre, de vérificateur ou de conciliateur doivent être impartiales et ne pas se trouver en situation de conflit d'intérêts par rapport aux questions en litige; elles doivent par ailleurs posséder la compétence ou l'expérience nécessaires pour agir en cette qualité.

#### 45. CONCILIATION

45.1 Lorsque la situation l'exige, le conciliateur saisi d'un différend exerce les fonctions suivantes :

- a) il précise les questions sur lesquelles porte le différend;
- b) il évalue le bien-fondé des arguments des parties;
- c) il établit un plan afin de faire progresser la situation;
- d) il encourage le règlement du différend;
- e) il remet aux parties une opinion ou une recommandation non exécutoire visant à mettre fin au différend.

## 46. ARBITRATION

46.1 Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, each arbitration will be conducted in accordance with this clause.

46.2 The procedure will follow the Commercial Arbitration Code, which is a schedule to the Commercial Arbitration Act.

46.3 If no appropriate procedural provision is in that Code, the parties in dispute may adopt the Commercial Arbitration Rules in force from time to time of the British Columbia International Commercial Arbitration Centre.

46.4 The arbitrator will establish the procedures of the arbitration, subject to this clause.

## 47. RELATED ISSUES

47.1 The parties to a dispute will divide the costs of the dispute resolution process equally between themselves.

47.2 Any person whose interests will be adversely affected by a dispute that is referred to a dispute resolution process may participate in the process, if

(a) all parties to the process consent; and

(b) the person pays the costs of his or her participation, unless otherwise agreed by the other parties to the dispute.

47.3 The decision of a verifier and a

## 46. ARBITRAGE

46.1 Sauf entente contraire des Parties, l'arbitrage s'effectuera conformément au présent article.

46.2 La procédure qui sera suivie est celle du Code d'arbitrage commercial, figurant à l'annexe de la Loi sur l'arbitrage commercial.

46.3 Si ce Code ne contient pas de disposition procédurale appropriée, les parties au différend peuvent suivre les Règles d'arbitrage commercial établies à l'occasion par le British Columbia International Commercial Arbitration Centre.

46.4 L'arbitre est tenu de déterminer la procédure d'arbitrage à suivre, sous réserve du présent article.

## 47. QUESTIONS CONNEXES

47.1 Les parties à un différend assument les frais relatifs à sa résolution à parts égales.

47.2 Toute personne dont les intérêts seraient lésés par un différend porté devant l'un des mécanismes de règlement des différends peut participer au mécanisme de règlement si :

a) d'une part, toutes les parties au mécanisme y consentent;

b) d'autre part, cette personne assume les frais de sa participation, sauf entente contraire des autres parties au différend.

47.3 La décision du vérificateur et la

decision or award of an arbitrator will be final and binding on the participating parties.

47.4 No order shall be made, processed, entered or proceeding taken in any court, whether by way of injunction, mandamus, certiorari, prohibition or quo warranto to contest, review, impeach or limit the action of a person acting as a verifier, an arbitrator or a neutral evaluator under this Agreement.

47.5 Despite clause 47.4, judicial review may be taken under the Federal Court Act within 30 days of a decision of a person acting as a verifier, an arbitrator or a neutral evaluator under this Agreement in respect of such person exceeding his or her jurisdiction, refusing to exercise his or her jurisdiction or failing to observe a principal of natural justice.

## PART X RATIFICATION AND ENACTMENTS BY THE PARTIES

### 48. RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT

48.1 The Parties agree that they will seek to ratify this Agreement and implement it in the following manner:

- (a) each First Nation agrees to develop a land code and to seek community approval; and
- (b) following community approval by two First Nations, Canada agrees to recommend to Parliament the

décision ou sentence d'un arbitre sont définitives et lient les parties qui ont participé aux mécanismes de règlement.

47.4 Aucune ordonnance ne peut être rendue, exécutée ou inscrite, et aucune poursuite ne peut être initiée devant une cour par voie d'injonction, de mandamus, de certiorari, de prohibition ou de quo warranto pour contester, réviser, empêcher ou limiter une mesure prise par le vérificateur, l'arbitre ou le conciliateur nommé sous le régime du présent accord.

47.5 Malgré l'article 47.4, une demande de révision judiciaire peut, dans les 30 jours qui suivent la décision prise par toute personne agissant comme vérificateur, arbitre ou conciliateur sous le régime du présent accord, être présentée en vertu de la Loi sur les Cours fédérales au motif que cette personne a outrepassé sa compétence, refusé de l'exercer ou n'a pas respecté un principe de justice naturelle.

## PARTIE X RATIFICATION PAR LES PARTIES ET MESURES LÉGISLATIVES

### 48. RATIFICATION DE L'ACCORD

48.1 Les Parties conviennent de ratifier le présent accord et de le mettre en oeuvre de la façon suivante :

- a) chaque première nation s'engage à élaborer un code foncier et à le soumettre à l'approbation de la communauté;
- b) une fois un code approuvé par deux premières nations, le Canada s'engage à recommander au Parlement l'adoption

enactment of legislation.

48.2 This Agreement will be considered to have been ratified by a First Nation when the First Nation approves a land code, and to have been ratified by Canada when the federal legislation comes into force.

#### 49. ENACTMENTS BY THE PARTIES

49.1 Canada agrees that the federal legislation that it recommends to Parliament will be consistent with and will ratify this Agreement.

49.2 In the event of an inconsistency or conflict between the federal legislation and any other federal enactment, the federal legislation will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

49.3 In the event of any inconsistency or conflict between the land code of a First Nation and the provisions of a First Nation law or of a by-law made by its council under section 81 of the Indian Act, the land code will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

### PART XI OTHER MATTERS

#### 50. LIABILITY

50.1 The First Nation will not be liable for acts or omissions of Canada or any person or entity authorized by Canada to act in relation to First Nation land that occurred before the First Nation's land code takes effect.

d'une loi de ratification.

48.2 Le présent accord sera réputé avoir été ratifié par une première nation lorsque celle-ci aura approuvé un code foncier, et il sera réputé avoir été ratifié par le Canada au moment de l'entrée en vigueur de la loi de ratification.

#### 49. MESURES LÉGISLATIVES ADOPTÉES PAR LES PARTIES

49.1 Le Canada s'engage à ce que la loi de ratification qu'il présentera au Parlement soit conforme au présent accord et ait pour effet de le ratifier.

49.2 En cas d'incompatibilité ou de conflit entre la loi de ratification et une autre loi fédérale, la loi de ratification l'emporte dans la mesure de l'incompatibilité ou du conflit.

49.3 En cas d'incompatibilité ou de conflit entre le code foncier d'une première nation et des dispositions de ses textes législatifs ou de règlements administratifs pris par son conseil en vertu de l'article 81 de la Loi sur les Indiens, le code foncier l'emporte dans la mesure de l'incompatibilité ou du conflit.

### PARTIE XI AUTRES QUESTIONS

#### 50. RESPONSABILITÉ

50.1 La première nation n'est pas responsable des actes ou omissions du Canada ou d'une personne ou entité autorisée par le Canada à agir à l'égard des terres de première nation et qui surviendraient avant l'entrée en vigueur du

50.2 Canada will not be liable for acts or omissions of the First Nation or any person or entity authorized by the First Nation to act in relation to First Nation land that occur after the First Nation's land code takes effect.

50.3 Canada will indemnify a First Nation for any loss arising from an act or omission by Canada, or any person or entity acting on behalf of Canada, in respect of First Nation land that occurred before the First Nation's land code takes effect.

50.4 The First Nation will indemnify Canada for any loss arising from an act or omission by the First Nation, or any person or entity acting on behalf of the First Nation, in respect of First Nation land that occurs after the land code takes effect.

50.5 No action or other proceeding lies or shall be commenced against a person acting as a member of the Lands Advisory Board, a mediator, verifier, neutral evaluator or arbitrator for or in respect of anything done, or omitted to be done, in good faith, during the course of and for the purposes of carrying out his or her functions under this Agreement.

## 51. FIRST NATION LANDS REGISTER

51.1 Canada will establish a First Nation

code foncier de la première nation.

50.2 Le Canada n'est pas responsable des actes ou omissions de la première nation ou d'une personne ou entité autorisée par celle-ci à agir à l'égard des terres de première nation et qui surviendraient après l'entrée en vigueur du code foncier de la première nation.

50.3 Le Canada s'engage à indemniser la première nation de toute perte découlant d'un acte ou d'une omission du Canada, ou d'une personne ou entité agissant pour son compte, à l'égard des terres de première nation et qui surviendrait avant l'entrée en vigueur du code foncier de la première nation.

50.4 La première nation s'engage à indemniser le Canada de toute perte découlant d'un acte ou d'une omission de la première nation, ou d'une personne ou entité agissant pour son compte, à l'égard des terres de première nation et qui surviendrait après l'entrée en vigueur du code foncier.

50.5 Aucune action ni autre procédure ne peut être intentée contre une personne agissant en qualité de membre du Conseil consultatif des terres, de médiateur, de vérificateur, de conciliateur ou d'arbitre pour avoir, de bonne foi, agi ou omis d'agir dans l'exercice de ses fonctions ou dans le but de les exercer aux termes du présent accord.

## 51. REGISTRE DES TERRES DE PREMIÈRES NATIONS

51.1 Le Canada est tenu d'établir un

Lands Register to record documents respecting First Nation land or interests or land rights in First Nation land. It will be administered by Canada as a subsystem of the existing Reserve Land Register.

51.2 A separate register will be maintained for each First Nation with a land code in effect.

51.3 The Governor in Council will be authorized in the federal legislation to make regulations respecting the First Nation Lands Register. These regulations will be developed by the Lands Advisory Board and the Minister.

## 52. STATUS OF DOCUMENTS

52.1 The Statutory Instruments Act, or any successor legislation, will not apply to a land code or to First Nation laws.

## 53. PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

53.1 Where Canada and a First Nation intend to enter into an agreement that is not referred to in this Agreement but is required to implement this Agreement and where it deals with matters that normally fall within provincial jurisdiction, or may have significant impacts beyond the boundaries of First Nation land, Canada and the First Nation will invite the affected province to be a party to the negotiations and resulting agreement.

registre des terres de premières nations où seront consignés les documents relatifs aux terres de premières nations ou aux intérêts ou aux droits fonciers sur celles-ci. Ce registre sera administré par le Canada à titre de sous-système du registre actuel des terres de réserve.

51.2 Un registre distinct sera créé pour chaque première nation ayant un code foncier en vigueur.

51.3 La loi de ratification autorisera le gouverneur en conseil à prendre un règlement concernant le registre des terres de premières nations. Ce règlement sera élaboré conjointement par le Conseil consultatif des terres et le ministre.

## 52. STATUT DES DOCUMENTS

52.1 La Loi sur les textes réglementaires ou les lois qui pourraient la remplacer, ne s'appliqueront pas au code foncier, ni aux textes législatifs des premières nations.

## 53. RAPPORT AVEC LES PROVINCES

53.1 Si le Canada et une première nation entendent conclure une entente qui n'est pas mentionnée dans le présent accord mais qui est nécessaire à la mise en oeuvre du présent accord, et si cette entente traite des questions qui relèvent normalement de la compétence des provinces ou risque d'avoir des effets importants à l'extérieur des terres de première nation, le Canada et la première nation inviteront la province concernée à participer aux négociations de l'entente ainsi qu'à l'entente qui en résulte.

## 54. TIME LIMITS

54.1 The time limits in this Agreement for the doing of anything may be waived on consent.

## 55. OTHER REGIMES

55.1 Nothing in this Agreement prevents a First Nation, at any time, from opting into any other regime providing for community decision-making and community control, if the First Nation is eligible for the other regime and opts into it in accordance with procedures developed for that other regime.

55.2 Sub-clause 38.1 and clause 57 do not apply to a First Nation to which sub-clause 55.1 applies.

## 56. REVIEW PROCESS

56.1 The Lands Advisory Board will, on a continuing basis, consult with representatives of the Parties for the purpose of assessing the effectiveness of this Agreement and the federal legislation.

56.2 Within four years of the federal legislation coming into force, the Minister and the Lands Advisory Board or their representatives will jointly conduct a review of this Agreement. It will focus on the following issues, among others:

- (a) the functioning of land management under this Agreement;
- (b) the adequacy and appropriateness of the funding arrangements;

## 54. DÉLAIS

54.1 Les Parties peuvent, par consentement mutuel, renoncer aux délais prévus par le présent accord.

## 55. AUTRES RÉGIMES

55.1 Aucune disposition du présent accord n'empêche une première nation, en tout temps, d'adhérer à tout autre régime en matière de prise de décision et de contrôle par la communauté, à la condition que cette première nation soit admissible à adhérer à cet autre régime et y adhère, conformément à la procédure prévue par cet autre régime.

55.2 Le paragraphe 38.1 et l'article 57 ne s'appliquent pas à une première nation à laquelle le paragraphe 55.1 s'applique.

## 56. MÉCANISME D'EXAMEN

56.1 Le Conseil consultatif des terres est tenu de consulter régulièrement les représentants des Parties dans le but d'évaluer l'efficacité du présent accord et de la loi de ratification.

56.2 Dans les quatre ans de l'entrée en vigueur de la loi de ratification, le ministre et le Conseil consultatif des terres ou leurs représentants procéderont conjointement à un examen du présent accord. Cet examen portera notamment sur les points suivants :

- a) le fonctionnement de la gestion des terres aux termes du présent accord;
- b) le caractère adéquat et approprié des modalités de financement;

(c) the role of the Lands Advisory Board;

(d) whether there is a demand by other First Nations to use this Agreement;

(e) changes that may improve the functioning of First Nation land management;

(f) the dispute resolution processes; and

(g) such other issues as may be agreed to by the Parties.

56.3 Canada and the First Nations will make best efforts to complete this review within one year. Following completion of the review, the Minister will meet with representatives of the First Nations to discuss the results of the review.

## 57. AMENDMENTS

57.1 Until September 1, 2003, this Agreement may be amended by agreement of the parties, provided that the amendments to Part VIII may be made with the consent of Canada and 2/3 of the original First Nation parties to this Agreement.

57.2 No amendment affecting the powers, authorities, obligations, operations or operational funding of a First Nation that has ratified this agreement is effective with respect to that First Nation without the consent of that First Nation.

c) le rôle du Conseil consultatif des terres;

d) l'identification d'autres premières nations désirant se prévaloir du présent accord;

e) les changements qui pourraient améliorer le fonctionnement de la gestion des terres de première nation;

f) les mécanismes de règlement des différends;

g) toute autre question convenue par les Parties.

56.3 Le Canada et les premières nations sont tenus de s'efforcer d'achever cet examen dans un délai d'un an. À la fin de l'examen, le ministre rencontrera les représentants des premières nations pour en analyser les résultats.

## 57. MODIFICATIONS

57.1 Le présent accord peut être modifié jusqu'au 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2003 avec le consentement des parties, pourvu que les modifications à la Partie VIII soient apportées avec le consentement du Canada et des deux tiers des premières nations qui étaient Parties initiales au présent accord.

57.2 Aucune modification ayant une incidence sur les pouvoirs, les autorités, les obligations, les opérations ou les fonds de fonctionnement d'une première nation qui a ratifié le présent accord ne peut entrer en vigueur à l'égard de cette dernière sans son consentement.

57.3 After September 1, 2003, this Agreement, may, subject to 57.2, be amended with the consent of Canada and 2/3 of the First Nations which have ratified the Agreement, before, on or after that day.

## 58. RECITALS

58.1 The recitals form part of this Agreement.

## 59. COMING INTO FORCE

59.1 This Agreement will come into force in respect of Canada and a First Nation when Canada and that First Nation both ratify this Agreement under Part X.

59.2 Despite clause 59.1, such provisions of this Agreement as are necessary to allow a First Nation to ratify this Agreement before Canada ratifies this Agreement will have effect as of the day Canada and that First Nation both sign this Agreement.

57.3 Sous réserve du paragraphe 57.2, après le 1er septembre 2003, le présent accord peut être modifié avec le consentement du Canada et des deux tiers des premières nations qui l'ont ratifié que ce soit à cette date, ou avant ou après cette date.

## 58. PRÉAMBULE

58.1 Les dispositions figurant au préambule font partie du présent accord.

## 59. ENTRÉE EN VIGUEUR

59.1 Le présent accord entrera en vigueur pour ce qui est du Canada et d'une première nation au moment où le Canada et cette première nation auront tous deux ratifié le présent accord conformément à la Partie X.

59.2 Malgré le paragraphe 59.1, les dispositions du présent accord nécessaires à sa ratification par une première nation avant que le Canada ne l'ait ratifié entrent en vigueur le jour où le Canada et cette première nation auront tous deux signé le présent accord.

# FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON FIRST NATION LAND MANAGEMENT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### INTRODUCTION

The *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* was signed by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and 13 First Nations on February 12, 1996. One other First Nation was added as of December 1997. The Agreement was ratified by Canada through the *First Nations Land Management Act*, assented to June 17, 1999

The Agreement is an initiative by these 14 First Nations to take over the governance and management control of their lands and resources. This First Nation designed and driven *Framework Agreement* with Canada has expanded from the original 14 First Nation signatories to 84 First Nation Signatories in 2013. The *Framework Agreement* applies only to those First Nations who choose to ratify it.

The *Framework Agreement* is not a treaty and does not affect existing treaty or other constitutional rights of the First nations. .

The *Framework Agreement* provides the option to govern and manage reserve lands outside the *Indian Act*. The option to regain control of reserve land through a land code can only be undertaken with the consent of the community. A land code replaces approximately 30 sections of the *Indian Act*.

### TAKING CONTROL OF LAND GOVERNANCE

A First Nation signatory to the *Framework Agreement* develops its land governance system by creating its own Land Code, drafting a community ratification process and entering into an individual Agreement with Canada. The specific steps are set out in the *Framework Agreement*:

***The Land Code:*** Drafted and approved by the community, will be the basic land law of the First Nation and will replace the land management provisions of the Indian Act. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will no longer be involved in the management and decision making of a First Nation's reserve lands. The Land Code does not have to be approved by the Minister or AANDC.

The Land Code is drafted by each First Nation and provides for the following matters:

- Identifies the reserve lands to be governed by the First Nation under its Land Code,
- Sets out the general rules and procedures for the use and occupation of these lands by First Nation members and others,
- Provides financial accountability for revenues from the lands (except oil and gas revenues, which continue under the Indian Oil and Gas Act),
- Provides the procedures for making and publishing First Nation land laws,
- Provides conflict of interest rules,
- Provides a community process to develop rules and procedures applicable to land on the breakdown of a marriage,
- Identifies a dispute resolution process,
- Sets out procedures by which the First Nation can grant interests in land or acquire lands for community purposes,
- Allows the delegation of certain land management responsibilities,
- Sets out the procedure for amending the Land Code,
- Deals with any other matter respecting the governance of First Nation reserve land and resources.

***Individual Transfer Agreement:*** An Individual Agreement between each community and the Minister will be negotiated to deal with such matters as:

- The reserve lands to be managed by the First Nation,
- The specifics of the transfer of the administration of land from Canada to the First Nation,
- The transitional and operational funding to be provided by Canada to the First Nation for land governance.

***Community Ratification Process:*** In order for the First Nation to assume control over its lands, the Land Code and the Individual Agreement must be ratified by the voting age members of the First Nation. All members of the First Nation who are at least 18 years of age, whether living off-reserve or on-reserve, have the right to vote on the Land Code and the Individual Agreement. The procedure for the community ratification process is developed by the community in accordance with the *Framework Agreement*.

***Federal Legislation:*** Canada agreed to ratify the *Framework Agreement* by enacting federal legislation that is consistent with the *Framework Agreement*. The *First Nations Land Management Act* was enacted and given royal assent on June 17, 1999.

***Verification:*** An independent person selected jointly by the First Nation and Canada, called a Verifier, confirms that the community ratification process and Land Code are consistent with the *Framework Agreement*. The Verifier monitors the community ratification process to ensure that the rules are followed.

***Recognition of Land Governance Authority:*** If the community ratifies their own Land Code and the Individual Agreement, control over First Nation lands and resources are no longer be subject to the *Indian Act*, but recognized to be under the governance authority of the First Nation.

## **TITLE TO FIRST NATIONS**

Reserve lands under the *Indian Act* are held by Her Majesty and are set apart for the use and benefit of a First Nation. This will not change under the *Framework Agreement*. These lands remain a federal responsibility under section 91(24) of the *Constitution Act, 1867*. In addition, the First Nation's land will be protected against future surrender for sale.

## **LEGAL STATUS AND POWERS OF FIRST NATIONS**

The *Framework Agreement* provides First Nations with all the legal status and powers needed to govern and manage their lands and resources. While First Nations will not be able to sell their land, they will be able to lease or develop their lands and resources, subject to any limits imposed by their own community Land Code.

***Law-Making Powers:*** A First Nation governing its lands under a Land Code will have the power to make laws in respect of the development, conservation, protection, management, use and possession of First Nation land. The Land Code does not authorize laws relating to the taxation of real or personal property. Such laws must be made separately pursuant to section 83 of the *Indian Act*. The First Nation's Council can also continue to make by-laws under section 81 of the *Indian Act*.

***Land Management:*** The *Framework Agreement* provides the First Nation with all the powers of an owner in relation to its First Nation Land, except for control over title or the power to sell it. The First Nation's Council can manage land and resources, as well as revenues from the land and resources, in accordance with its Land Code.

***Third Party Interests:*** Interests in First Nation land held by third parties, or by Canada, will continue in effect according to their terms and conditions under a Land Code. No new interests or licences may be acquired or granted except in accordance with the Land Code.

***First Nation Expropriation:*** The First Nation will have the option to acquire lands for community purposes upon payment of fair compensation to those whose interests are affected.

***Accountability:*** A Land Code will make provision for a First Nation to report to its members and to be accountable for the governance of their lands, resources and revenues.

***Marriage Breakdown:*** A First Nation will be able make rules on the rights of spouses to interests in First Nation land if their marriage breaks down. The community must, within 12 months of passage of its Land Code, develop and enact rules and procedures on this topic. The new rules and procedures will ensure the equality of women and men.

***Registration of Interests:*** All documents pertaining to land interests of a reserve will be recorded in the First Nation Land Registry System (FNLRS).

The FNLRS is:

- Electronic
- Provides for Instant Registration
- Priority based
- Paperless
- Backed by Regulation (Unlike the *Indian Act* registry system)

The FNLRS system and regulations are landmark achievements. These regulations made it possible for reserve to have greater land certainty, mortgageability, title insurance and drastically reduced or eliminated land transaction costs

## **PROTECTION OF FIRST NATION LAND**

The preserving of the quantity and quality of existing First Nations lands is a fundamental principle of the *Framework Agreement*. Some aspects of this principle are summarized below:

***Taxation and Seizure under Legal Process:*** The current exemption of reserve lands, and personal property situated on-reserve, will continue under the relevant provisions of the *Indian Act*.

***Environmental Protection:*** A First Nation with a land code in effect will be required to develop an environmental protection regime. A First Nation will have the power to make environmental assessment and protection laws and will harmonize these laws with federal and respective provincial environmental laws.

***Voluntary Exchange of Lands:*** A First Nation may decide that it is advantageous to exchange some of its First Nation lands for other lands. Provision can be made in its Land Code for a procedure to negotiate and approve such exchanges. An exchange of land cannot occur without the consent of the First Nation community.

***No Provincial Expropriation:*** Under the *Framework Agreement* there can be no expropriation of First Nation land by a provincial or municipal government or agency.

***Restricted Federal Expropriation:*** Canada's power to expropriate First Nation land is greatly restricted. That power can only be exercised with Cabinet approval and only when the expropriation is justified and necessary for a federal public purpose that serves

the national interest. Compensation must include provision for equivalent lands so that the land base of the First Nation is not diminished.

**Enforcement:** The First Nation will have full power to enforce its land and environmental laws and may enter into further agreements with other jurisdictions to assist in such enforcement. A First Nation can appoint its own Justice of the Peace or special prosecutor to try offences created under a Land Code or a First Nation law. First Nation laws may make provision for search and seizure, fines, imprisonment, restitution, community service or alternate means for achieving compliance with its laws.

## **CONTINUING FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Canada will remain liable for and will indemnify a First Nation for losses suffered as a result of any act or omission by Canada, or its agents, that occurred before the Land Code comes into effect. After that date, the First Nation is responsible for its own acts or omissions in managing its lands.

## **DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

The First Nation will establish its own processes for dealing with disputes in relations to its lands and resources. These can include mediation, neutral evaluation and arbitration. In the case of a disagreement between the First Nations and Canada on the meaning or implementation of the *Framework Agreement*, there are provisions in the *Framework Agreement* to resolve the dispute outside the courts.

## **LANDS ADVISORY BOARD AND RESOURCE CENTRE**

The First Nations party to the *Framework Agreement* established a Lands Advisory Board and Resource Centre to assist them in implementing their own land governance regimes, including developing model land codes, laws, documents, agreements and management systems.

## FIRST NATIONS INVOLVED

The following is a list of the 40 First Nations who signed the *Framework Agreement* and who have enacted Land Codes pursuant to the *Framework Agreement*.

### BC

1. Beecher Bay
2. Kitselas
3. Leq' a: mel
4. Lheidli T'enneh
5. Matsqui
6. Musqueam
7. Seabird Island
8. Shx'wha:y Village
9. Skawahlook
10. Sliammon
11. Snaw Naw As (Nanoose)
12. Songhees
13. Squiala
14. Sumas
15. Tsawout
16. Tsawwassen<sup>(a)</sup>

### MB

1. Chemawawin
2. Opaskwayak
3. Swan Lake

17. Tsekani (McLeod Lake)
18. Ts'kw'aylaxw (Pavilion)
19. T'sou-ke
20. Tsleil-Waututh
21. Tzeachten
22. Westbank<sup>(b)</sup>
23. We Wai Kai (Cape Mudge)
24. We Wai Kum (Campbell River)

### SK

1. Kahkewistahaw
2. Kinistin
3. Muskeg Lake
4. Muskoday
5. Whitecap Dakota
6. Flying Dust

### ON

1. Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing
2. Georgina Island
3. Henvey Inlet
4. Mississauga
5. Nipissing
6. Scugog Island
7. Whitefish Lake

(a) Now implementing treaty

(b) Now implementing full self-government



## LAND CODE SUMMARY

**There are 9 Sections in this Land Code:**

### *Part 1: Preliminary Matters*

This introduces the Land Code to the reader and defines how the document should be read. There is a description of the terms that will be used in the document, an explanation of where the authority to govern comes from, what the purpose of the Land Code is and what lands the Land Code applies to (the reserve land description).

### *Part 2: First Nations Legislation*

This section outlines what law making power the First Nation will have out of the Land Code and the procedure for how new land laws will be created and implemented (including where they will be published and when they take effect) under the Land Code.

### *Part 3: Community Consultation and Approvals*

This section defines how and what the process is for implementing various elements of the Land Code. For example, approving a land use plan or enacting land laws requires community approval under the conditions defined in this section. Furthermore, this section touches on the procedures for a “meeting of members”, and the ratification process and approval thresholds are for passing laws or other matters such as: i.e. development of a heritage site, amendment to the Land Code, or any other matter.

### *Part 4: Protection of Land*

This section outlines some of the key protections the Land Code offers- and the special conditions by which the First Nation could expropriate land (only by community approval through ratification vote) and the conditions for calculating compensation, but also the rights that may not be expropriated. This section also defines the necessity for a law on heritage sites, and ensures no development or amendment can be made to the land use plan to get rid of a heritage site created under this law. Finally this section states that an agreement is necessary for the First Nation to exchange land with another party (i.e. First Nation, Province, and Federal Government) and there are conditions to be met for lands to be received (such as the need for an appointed negotiator, freedom of receiving additional compensation or land in trust, and federal commitment to add any lands to the existing reserve base).

### *Part 5: Accountability*

This section really has to do with how the Land Code is administered by First Nation including the rules for a “conflict of interest” and the duty to report and abstain from participation in land matters where there is a conflict. Also in the context of conflict of interest this section defines the non-application of these rules for common interests, dealing with disputes and penalties.

This section also applies to how financial management, audit and financial reporting will be conducted – establishing separate lands bank accounts, signing officers, bonding, signing



authorities, and the adoption of the fiscal year for operations and reporting. This section also goes into detail about the specific rules for a year to year lands budget and financial policy. The final part of this section is about financial records and the member's right to access information on year to year financial statements, audit report, the annual report on lands, and the penalties for interference or obstructing the inspection of these records by another member- and the coordination and roles responsible for creating and making these documents public (i.e. auditor and council).

#### *Part 6: Land Administration*

This section starts off by establishing the Lands Committee - it defines the composition, eligibility requirements, selection method, term of office and dealing with vacancies. This section also defines how revenue monies from lands will be handled (from fees, leases etc.), how the registration of land interests (leases, permits, licences) will be conducted and how it is captured through First Nations Land Registry System (FNLRs) and a duplicate register if directed.

#### *Part 7: Interests in Land*

This section relates more to the operation of the First Nation's lands administration and how it will address existing interests (e.g. CPs) and new land related interests (e.g. CPs or allocations). This section defines that there will need to be written documents, standards created, and that consent will be necessary to process any granting or disposing of assignments of land. This section defines the rights of CP holders and the procedure for cancelling a CP, the transfer and use of a CP, and the situation when a CP holder ceases to be a member. This section also defines the limits on mortgages and seizures, transfers upon death, and the principles for spousal property law (to be made into a Matrimonial Real Property law)

#### *Part 8: Dispute Resolution*

This section is created to address how possible disputes that could arise by any benefactor (e.g. First Nation member) of the Land Code and how the process for addressing disputes will be conducted. For example, an adjudicator would be established to resolve disputes in relation to lands unless members could come to some resolve by way of an informal resolution of disputes. The section sets out the powers for the adjudicator, adjudication procedures and decisions and the member's ability to appeal these decisions and expectations around costs.

#### *Part 9: Other Matters*

This section defines four (or more) items to address common issues such as:

1. Liability- the need for director and officers insurance for Lands Committee members,
2. Offences and enforcement- what are offences and what is the penalty,
3. Amendments to Land Code- specifically the process for amending this Land Code,
4. Commencement- defines when the actual start date will be.

# **Law Making Guide:** ***Framework Agreement First*** **Nations**





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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this workshop is to provide some guidance to First Nations in developing and drafting laws. The power to make laws is limited to governmental authorities and, in general, the overall approach to the development of laws is similar in all forms of democratic government whether First Nation, provincial, federal or municipal.

The workshop is divided in four parts: Part 1 begins with an outline of the legal system in Canada, followed by a discussion in Part 2 of the authority of governments to make laws with particular emphasis on First Nation government law-making authorities. Part 3 discusses the need for laws, alternatives to laws, the factors to be considered in developing laws and the limits to making a law. Finally, Part 4 of the workshop is concerned with some of the technical aspects of organizing and writing laws. Participants will also develop and draft an outline of a short law during the course of the workshop based on these materials.

### **What is a Law?**

Legislation or statutes are laws made by governments. A law is a rule or rules of conduct which are approved and enforced by governments over a certain territory. Laws are administered by the government and the courts interpret and apply these laws. In addition, courts have developed the “common law”, which consist of rules of conduct based on precedents developed over many centuries by the courts. For example, the law of contracts and negligence are rooted in the common law. Similarly the legal nature of aboriginal and treaty rights is of common law origin.

## PART 1: OUTLINE OF THE CANADIAN LEGAL SYSTEM

*“If we desire respect for the law, we must first make the law respectable.”*

*- Louis D. Brandeis*

Canada is governed by a constitution which is composed of many documents and laws – the Royal Proclamation of 1763 for example. Generally, the structure and authority of government in Canada is found in the *Constitution Act, 1867*. The *Act* distributes the legislative powers of Canada between the Parliament of Canada and the legislatures of the provinces (Part VI, sections 91 to 95). The legislatures of the territories exercise legislative authority through delegation from the Parliament of Canada.

Canada's system of responsible parliamentary government is based on the rule of law. This means that laws must be made in conformity with the Constitution. The Crown retains very few regulatory powers that are not subject to the legislative or law-making process. For example, regulations governing the issuance of passports or medals and honours are still made under the royal prerogative.

Law-making authority in Canada is subject to a number of constraints. Firstly, Parliament and the provincial legislatures are limited by the constitutional distribution of powers under the *Constitution Act, 1867*. Section 91 of the *Act* identifies specific areas over which the federal government has exclusive legislative power (i.e. criminal law and procedure, trade and commerce, copyrights, and national defence etc.). It also provides for federal responsibility over any other areas not exclusively given to the provinces. Section 92 of the *Act* identifies specific areas over which the provincial governments in Canada have legislative power (i.e. property and civil rights, administration of justice, education, health, and welfare, etc.).

These governments are also constrained in their law-making powers by the existing Aboriginal and treaty rights recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and by certain other constitutional provisions. Particularly important to Aboriginal peoples is subsection 91(24) of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, which gave the federal government jurisdiction over "Indians, and Lands reserved for the Indians". The federal government used this authority in the early years of Confederation to conclude a series of numbered treaties in western Canada. This continued the British policy, set out in the Royal Proclamation of 1763, of making treaties with the Indians occupying the land which settlers wished to develop.

Lastly, governmental law making powers can be limited by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (the Charter). The constitution has been amended several times, most recently by the *Constitution Act, 1982*. Section 25 of the Charter guarantees that its rights and freedoms shall "not be construed so as to abrogate or derogate from any

Aboriginal, treaty or other rights or freedoms that pertain to the Aboriginal peoples of Canada".

The 1982 amendment also included section 35 which recognizes and affirms "existing Aboriginal and treaty rights". The Supreme Court of Canada has interpreted "existing" as meaning "existing in 1982".

**A. A law must conform to the Charter & the Bill of Rights and must not be inconsistent with the Principles of Natural Justice**

All legislation in Canada, whether federal, provincial or local, and whether statute, regulation or by-law, must conform to the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (The Charter)*. In addition, all federal legislation enacted after 1971 must conform to the *Canadian Bill Of Rights (the Bill of Rights)*. Thus, First Nation Council laws must also conform to both the *Charter* and the *Bill of Rights*.

When considering laws, it is useful to be aware of the following rights created by the *Charter* and the *Bill of Rights*.

**B. It is unlawful for a law to authorize discriminatory treatment of any individual, particularly on grounds of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability**

The *Charter* and the *Bill of Rights* limit the authority of all legislatures, including First Nation Councils, to prescribe special treatment for particular groups unless there is a strong justification for doing so.

Section 15 of the *Charter* provides that every individual is equal before and under the law, and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination. In particular, it states that there must not be discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.

A law cannot, on the grounds set out in the *Charter*, or on "analogous" grounds that relate to the "personal characteristics" of an individual, impose a burden, obligation or disadvantage on one individual or group that is not imposed on others. Nor can it withhold from a particular group or individual access to opportunities, benefits or advantages that are available to others.

With respect to infringements of section 15 of the *Charter*, a First Nations Council may enact a law that imposes a limitation of rights so long as it meets certain requirements. A Council may draw distinctions among various situations or groups of people (virtually all laws do), but not where that would amount to "discrimination". Even where discrimination occurs, a Council may sometimes be able to justify it under section 1 of the *Charter* as a reasonable limitation prescribed by law in a free and democratic society. Any such limitation should be set out in the law as clearly as possible and the

*Charter* right should be limited only as much as is necessary to accomplish the objectives of the law.

For example, a Council may extend broader rights to band members than to visitors or other residents who are not band members to reside, hunt or fish on a reserve. If this were contested in a court, a prosecutor would submit that the different treatment is based on aboriginal or treaty rights; or, based on constitutional and legislative policy rooted firmly in Canadian history to set aside reserves for the benefit of Indian Bands and their members. As such, the prosecutor would argue, it does not "discriminate" or, alternatively, it is reasonably justified under section 1 of the *Charter*.

On the other hand, it is inappropriate in many other instances to draft laws which distinguish between band members and those who are not members. For example, laws made for the observance of law and order or for the prevention of disorderly conduct and nuisances should treat band members and all others on reserve in a similar manner.

### *The Bill of Rights*

The *Bill of Rights* also recognizes the right of an individual to equality before the law and to the protection of the law without discrimination. This legislation provides a more limited equality protection than does the *Charter*; it identifies only the following grounds of prohibited discrimination: race, national origin, colour, religion and sex. Moreover, it applies only to federal legislation made after 1971 - the date the *Bill of Rights* was passed.

## **C. A law must respect a person's freedom of conscience, religion, thought, belief, opinion, expression, peaceful assembly, and association**

These fundamental freedoms are guaranteed by section 2 of the *Charter* and section 1 of the *Bill of Rights*. Courts have clarified the nature of some of these freedoms, while others still require clarification.

As with the equality rights discussed above, these fundamental freedoms are subject to the reasonable limitations of section 1 of the *Charter*.

### **i. Religion, Thought and Belief**

The essence of the concept of freedom of religion is the right for a person:

- to entertain chosen religious beliefs;
- to declare them openly; and

- to demonstrate religious belief by worship and practice or by teaching and dissemination.

If either the purpose or effect of a law is to limit this freedom unreasonably, a court could declare the law null and void.

Laws regulating the sale of wares and merchandise or other commercial activities or prohibiting games or amusements on Sundays could give rise to infringements of the freedom of religion of those who recognize another day as their day of worship.

## **ii. Expression**

Freedom of expression extends to all forms of expression. It includes "political expression", in other words, the right to express one's opinion on public issues. It also includes "commercial expression", such as the right of vendors to advertise their wares.

Restricting access to public institutions, such as band government meetings or administrative hearings, or restricting access to certain gatherings on a reserve, are examples of regulatory action by a First Nation Council in which freedom of expression could become an issue if it were to inhibit comment on the band political process. Laws excluding from the reserve as trespassers, persons who represent a particular point of view on a political issue, or prohibiting as disorderly conduct the making of speeches on political issues, could potentially give rise to infringements of freedom of expression.

Laws controlling how hawkers and peddlers communicate information, or prohibiting certain forms of artistic expression in public games and amusements, may also give rise to infringements of freedom of expression.

Depending on the wording and impact of the provision, courts might consider such laws to unreasonably limit the freedom to communicate thoughts and opinions.

## **iii. Peaceful Assembly and Association**

Freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association are related concepts. They permit individuals to join together in a collective purpose, whether it be attendance at a political meeting, or an agreement to belong to and to participate in a political organization or a business or social relationship. Subject to reasonable limits, groups of individuals are free to join together in the pursuit of objectives and activities that any individual may lawfully pursue alone.

First Nation Councils must take these freedoms into consideration when making laws for:

- the observance of law and order;
- preventing disorderly conduct;

- controlling and prohibiting games and public amusements; and
- regulating commercial activities.

Courts could require councils to justify as reasonable any restrictions in their laws that are placed on individuals joining together. Justifications may include public health or safety, public order or some other important public interest.

**D. A law must respect people’s rights to life, liberty and security of the person, and their rights to the enjoyment of property, and may only deprive people of these in accordance with the Principles of Fundamental Justice**

Both section 7 of the *Charter* and section 1 of the *Bill of Rights* protect the right to life, liberty and security of the person. Only the *Bill of Rights* protects the right to enjoyment of property.

**i. Life, Liberty and Security of the Person**

The protection in section 7 of the *Charter* goes beyond the protection of liberty and security from physical restraint. It can extend to health or even economic interests, as long as the restriction involves a threat to physical or mental integrity.

For example, an affected individual could challenge a zoning or building restriction that has the effect of preventing individuals from adequately securing their own safety or that of their children. In this regard, one court has struck down the manner in which a municipal by-law regulated the height of fences. Similarly, a court might view a by-law that authorizes the use of a dangerous chemical to control noxious weeds as infringing upon a section 7 right.

**ii. Property**

Although the *Charter* does not protect property interests, section 1(a) of the *Bill of Rights* does. Therefore, it is suggested that a law giving authority to use, confiscate, detain or destroy private property in order to protect the band from a contagious or infectious disease should contain a provision requiring payment of adequate compensation to an affected person for depriving that person of the enjoyment of the property that he or she was lawfully using at the time.

**iii. Natural Justice**

Finally, laws cannot abolish the **procedural** protections that the law extends to ensure that any decisions depriving people of life, liberty or security of the person, or of property rights, are made in accordance with fundamental justice. The main rules of natural justice to be followed are:

- to act fairly;

- to act in good faith;
- to act without bias;
- to objectively review all facts and circumstances (to use sound judgment);
- to give all parties opportunities to adequately state their cases;
- right to receive notice;
- right to know case against the party; and
- right to be represented by counsel.

Normally, a law should only give a band official the power to refuse or revoke a commercial licence or destroy or damage someone's property (for example, in order to eradicate disease or noxious weeds) if the person affected is given a reasonable opportunity to object, either orally or in writing, before the decision is carried out.

This principle, sometimes referred to as the right to "fundamental justice", "natural justice", or "due process", also requires that the circumstances of a decision must not give rise to a "reasonable apprehension of bias", such as the appearance of conflict of interest. For example, a law should not authorize a person with a financial stake in the matter, or with a family tie to one of the parties, to decide a zoning application or appeal.

Courts will apply these principles even where a law is silent as to procedure. Nevertheless, First Nation Councils should strive as much as possible to make procedural safeguards explicit in their laws for the guidance of those subject to them as well as those who apply or enforce them.

#### **E. A First Nation Council must respect people's rights to be secure against unreasonable search or seizure**

When making laws, First Nation Councils must be cautious about matters such as authorizing searches of premises or vehicles, requiring the mandatory inspection or production of documents and authorizing the seizure or removal of any form of property or documentation. This is because section 8 of the Charter gives everyone "the right to be secure against unreasonable search or seizure."

Generally speaking, an entry onto the private property of an individual in order to conduct a search or seizure requires greater procedural protection than when merely demanding that a person produce business records. A warrant issued by a justice of the peace or judge is almost always required. Only in exceptional circumstances, such as for the urgent protection of health or public safety, would an intrusion into a private home be lawful without a warrant.

A First Nation Council law can, to some extent, regulate search or seizure as an aspect of the process of gathering evidence to be used in a prosecution under the law. Evidence gathering is a procedural matter to which the summary conviction provisions of the *Criminal Code* apply exclusively. Under those provisions, an enforcement officer requires a search warrant. There are a few exceptions to this rule, but before any by-law enforcement officer seizes goods or evidence they should check with the First Nation

legal advisor to determine the legality of their actions and to minimize their personal liability for wrongful seizure or detention.

#### **F. A law must respect people's rights not to be arbitrarily detained or imprisoned**

Section 9 of the *Charter* protects individuals from arbitrary detention and imprisonment. Detentions for specific reasons, for example, to check drivers' licences, driver sobriety or the mechanical fitness of a vehicle, are not arbitrary detentions as long as persons are not detained for questioning on unrelated matters.

While courts have decided that random checks of motor vehicles infringe upon section 9 rights, courts have also said that they are justified under section 1 of the *Charter* as reasonable measures to achieve safety on highways.

#### **Importance of these legal principles**

Respect for the preceding principles becomes particularly important if a law is challenged in court. A law that does not conform to these rules may be vulnerable to such a challenge and may be struck down. This being the case, First Nation Councils will want to keep in mind all of the principles discussed in this session when drafting laws, the subject of the next session.

## PART 2: FIRST NATION LAW-MAKING AUTHORITY

*“Common sense often makes good law.”*  
– William O. Douglas

As previously mentioned, Section 91 of the Constitution Act identifies specific areas over which the federal government has exclusive legislative power. Under its constitutional authority in section 91(24) of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, the federal government enacted the first *Indian Act* in 1876. It has been revised a number of times since then.

### A. Indian Act

Today, the *Indian Act* is the main legislation dealing with the federal government's responsibility to, and jurisdiction over, Indians and lands reserved for Indians. It contains many provisions which are specific to Indians, including:

- a scheme for the holding of land on reserves;
- a Band membership system;
- a succession law system (wills and estates);
- an electoral system for Band Councils;
- an outline of the authority of these councils, including the right to make by-laws in certain areas;
- provisions regarding schools for Indians; and
- many other matters.

### Regulations

In addition, the Governor in Council (the federal Cabinet) may make regulations concerning a number of subjects. The primary source of authority for these regulations is found in section 73 of the *Indian Act*.

Examples of regulations you may be familiar with are the *Indian Reserve Traffic Regulations*, the *Indian Band Election Regulations*, the *Indian Reserve Waste Disposal Regulations*, the *Indian Band Council Procedure Regulations* and the *Indian Estates Regulations*.

### B. Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management

The *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* was signed by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and 13 First Nations on February 12, 1996. The *Framework Agreement* sets out the principal components of this new land management process, but it is not a treaty and does not affect treaty or other constitutional rights of the First Nations. The Agreement has been ratified and

implemented by Canada in the *First Nations Land Management Act*, assented to June 17, 1999.

The *Framework Agreement* provides that First Nations who are listed in the Schedule to the federal Act have the option to manage their reserve lands outside the *Indian Act*. The option to regain control of their land can only be taken with the consent of the community. Federal administration of its reserve lands cease under the *Indian Act* when each of these First Nations takes control of its lands and resources under the Agreement by community approval of a land code.

A First Nation signatory to the *Framework Agreement* exercises its land management option by creating its own Land Code, drafting a community ratification process and entering into a further Individual Transfer Agreement with Canada. The specific steps are set out in the *Framework Agreement* and include the following:

### **The Land Code**

A Land Code, drafted by the community, is the basic land law of the First Nation and replaces the land management provisions of the *Indian Act*. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will no longer be involved in the management of the First Nation's reserve lands. The Land Code does not have to be approved by the Minister.

The Land Code is drafted by each First Nation and provides for following matters:

- identifies the reserve lands to be managed by the First Nation (called "First Nation land");
- sets out the general rules and procedures for the use and occupation of these lands by First Nation members and others;
- provides financial accountability for revenues from the lands (except oil and gas revenues, which continue under federal law);
- provides the procedures for making and publishing First Nation land laws,
- provides conflict of interest rules;
- provides a community process to develop rules and procedures applicable to land on the breakdown of a marriage;
- identifies a dispute resolution process;
- sets out procedures by which the First Nation can grant interests in land or acquire lands for community purposes;
- allows the delegation of land management responsibilities; and
- sets out the procedure for amending the Land Code.

The Land Code is the main document that must be referred to before developing and drafting a First Nation land law, as it provides for the authority and procedure to make the law.

## Individual Transfer Agreement

An Individual Transfer Agreement between each community and the Minister will be negotiated to deal with such matters as:

- the reserve lands to be managed by the First Nation;
- the specifics of the transfer of the administration of land from Canada to the First Nation; and
- the operational funding to be provided by Canada to the First Nation for land management.

## Community Ratification Process

In order for the First Nation to assume control over its lands, the Land Code and the Individual Transfer Agreement must be ratified by the adult members of the First Nation. All members of the First Nation who are at least 18 years of age, whether living off-reserve or on-reserve, have the right to vote on the Land Code and the Individual Transfer Agreement. The procedure for the community ratification process is developed by the community in accordance with the *Framework Agreement*.

## A Brief Note on How Provincial Laws May Apply to Reserve Lands

Recall, as well that Section 92 of the *Constitution Act, 1867* identifies specific areas over which the provincial governments in Canada have legislative power. The extent to which provincial laws apply on reserves is also the subject of much legal and judicial debate. The following attempts to summarize the present state of the law, but is not intended to be a complete or conclusive statement.

### General Rule

Generally speaking, a provincial law will apply on reserve if the province had the constitutional authority to pass it and if the law is otherwise valid and applicable throughout the province. Examples of provincial constitutional authority are child welfare, labour relations, insurance, contracts, corporations, most aspects of family law and the regulation of professions and trades.

At one time, some judges thought that provincial laws did not apply on reserves. In 1974, the Supreme Court of Canada, in the *Cardinal v. A.G. Alberta* case, changed this view. It declared that, while a province may not legislate on a subject matter given **exclusively** to the federal government, provincial legislation enacted under a heading of section 92 of the *Constitution Act, 1867* does not become invalid just because it affects something which is subject to federal legislation.

In 1986, the Supreme Court of Canada, in the case *Dick v. R.*, stated that provincial laws of general application apply to Indians if they do not affect or touch on their "Indianness". Traffic and family laws are examples of provincial laws which do not touch on "Indianness" in their application.

### **Extension of the General Rule – Section 88**

Even where a provincial law may single out Indians, affect their status or capacity as Indians, or directly affect matters that are "inherently Indian" or "closely related to the Indian way of life", that law may apply on reserve. *Dick v. R.* held that such provincial laws may apply because of section 88 of the *Indian Act*.

Section 88 provides that these provincial laws apply except to the extent that they are inconsistent with the *Indian Act* or any order, rule, regulation or Band by-law made under the authority of the Act and subject to the terms of any treaty and any other Act of Parliament.

### **Exceptions to the General Rule and its Extensions**

#### **(a) Indian Lands:**

While *Dick v. R.* held that provincial laws may apply to **Indians on reserves**, it confirmed that they cannot apply to "**lands reserved for Indians**". Thus, courts will not recognize a provincial law which directly affects Aboriginal title, or the use, disposition or manner of holding Indian lands.

Examples of provincial laws of general application that do not touch on Indianness, but that affect reserve lands are landlord and tenant laws, laws regarding the registration of lands and provisions of family laws relating to the possession or sale of the matrimonial home. These laws do not apply on reserve.

#### **(b) S. 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*:**

A provincial (or federal) law may, through the operation of section 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, be of no force and effect to the extent that it interferes, without justification, with an existing Aboriginal or treaty right.

The scope of this constitutional protection is still being defined by the courts.

### **Overlap of Provincial and Federal Jurisdiction**

Because many provincial laws apply on reserve, there will be situations where both federal and provincial laws might apply to the same set of circumstances. These laws are said to "co-exist". A good example of this type of overlap is in the regulation of highway traffic.

## PART 3: DECIDING IF A LAW IS REQUIRED

*“In law, nothing is certain but the expense.”*  
– Samuel Butler

Making a new law is just one of several ways of achieving governmental policy objectives. Alternatives include agreements and guidelines, policies and directives or, more generally, programs for providing services, benefits, or information. In addition, a law may include many different kinds of provisions, ranging from simple prohibitions through a wide variety of regulatory requirements such as licensing or compliance monitoring. Law should be used only when it is the most appropriate. It is up to the First Nation to show that this principle has been met, and there are no other ways to achieve the policy objectives effectively.

The decision to address a matter through a bill or regulation is made by the First Nation Council on the basis of information usually developed by First Nation officials. The information must be accurate, timely and complete. As a beginning point to determine if a law is required or if another option is available and appropriate, it is important to:

- analyze the matter and its alternative solutions;
- analyze the land code to determine the authorities and processes which permit the First nation to make the law;
- engage in consultation with those who have an interest in the matter, including other First Nation departments, programs or services that may be affected by the proposed solution;
- analyze the impact of the proposed solution; and
- analyze the resources, both human and financial, that the proposed solution would require, including those needed to implement or enforce it.

### **Related Matters should be in One Bill**

When a legislative initiative is being considered, and where it is appropriate and consistent with legislative drafting principles, related matters should be combined in one bill, rather than being divided among several bills on similar subjects. A single bill allows legislators to make the most effective and efficient use of their time for discussion and study by the Council, a First Nation Land Committee and community members and other stakeholders.

### **Review and Expiration Clauses**

Finally, caution should be taken when considering whether to include a "sunset" or expiration provision in a law, or a provision for mandatory review of the Law within a particular time or by a particular committee such as the Lands Committee or Board.

Alternatives to these provisions should be fully explored before proposing to include them in a bill.

## **Choose the Right Tools to Meet the Policy Objectives**

Law should be used only when it is most appropriate. When a legislative proposal is made, it is up to the sponsor – be it Council, a Land Committee or Board, a member or stakeholder, to show that this principle has been met, and there are no other ways to achieve the policy objectives effectively.

This discussion provides guidance on meeting this requirement by providing an analytical framework that covers:

- the range of instruments (techniques) available for accomplishing policy objectives;
- how to determine which ones are the most appropriate; and
- how to decide whether a First Nation land law is required.

First Nations are encouraged to adopt a comprehensive approach to developing proposals to accomplish policy objectives. They should focus on achieving a desired outcome, rather than assuming that a particular instrument, particularly a Law or regulation, will be effective. In this discussion some of the factors to consider in law development are reviewed.

## **Overview**

- Instrument-choice should be considered early in the policy development process.
- First Nation governments cannot deal with every situation. Its involvement must be assessed in light of its responsibilities, its resources and the likely effectiveness of its involvement relative to the involvement of other governments or the private sector.
- The range of possible instruments available to accomplish policy objectives is very broad, allowing the First Nation to choose the type and degree of its intervention, if any.
- A law should only be chosen after assessing the full range of possible instruments.
- Instrument-choice has wide-ranging effects and is an important element of many governmental activities.
- Consultation on instrument-choice, both within and outside the First Nation, is essential to making good choices.

## **Assessment**

If a situation may require the First Nation's attention, it should be assessed to determine what, if anything, should be done to address it. This involves determining the

objectives in addressing it and how these objectives can best be accomplished. This determination should be done as early as possible in the policy development process.

The following questions may help you do this:

- What is the situation?
- What are the objectives in addressing the situation and what particular results are desired?
- Is there a role for the First Nation or Council?
- What instruments are available to accomplish the desired results?
- What is involved in putting the instruments in place?
- What effect would the instruments have?
- How will their success be measured?
- Which (if any) instrument(s) should be chosen?

The assessment process does not necessarily follow the order of these questions. Answers reached at one point in the process may have to be re-evaluated in light of answers to other questions.

In order to obtain sound answers, it is also important to conduct appropriate consultations with those affected.

### **A. Examine the Situation**

This step involves defining the key features of a situation that may require the First Nation Council's attention. A situation may present itself in the form of a problem, in which case you should try to get to its source and not define it in terms of its symptoms.

The situation may also be an opportunity for the First Nation Council to do something creative or positive, for example celebrating a First Nation event – Aboriginal Day or a treaty, as opposed to responding to a problem.

A description of the situation is often framed in terms of how people are behaving or how they may behave in future. Their behaviour may be active (doing something) or passive (not doing something). A behavioural approach involves identifying the following elements:

- the behaviour that is, or may be, creating or contributing to the situation;
- who is engaging in the behaviour;
- who is affected by the behaviour and what these effects are;
- whether some behaviour, or behaviour by some persons, is more serious than others;
- what external factors are influencing the behaviour;
- what behavioural changes are desired to address the situation.

## **B. What Are the Objectives and Desired Results?**

This question is intended to help define the objectives as concretely as possible in terms of particular results to be achieved. Objectives and the desired results go hand in hand, but they are not quite the same.

For example, an objective might be to make a particular activity safer – build fences around swimming pools to protect children from drowning in backyard swimming pools, while the desired result might be a 30 percent reduction in the rate of drowning.

Another example is an objective of reducing graffiti on public buildings in the First Nation by the prohibition of the defacing of First Nation public buildings, here again the desired result might be 25 percent reduction in graffiti.

## **C. The Role of the First Nation**

Consider whether the First Nation can or should do something. The *Constitution*, the *Framework Agreement* and the First Nation Land Code limit the authority of the Council through:

- the legislative powers of the First Nation
- limits on the exercise of legislative powers, for example the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;
- obligations relating to such things as the provision of services to all residents, not only members; or to all members whether resident on or off First Nation lands.

Practical considerations should be addressed as well. Governments have limited resources and they can't deal with every situation: perhaps others are better placed to achieve a desired outcome.

Finally, if the First Nation does become involved, what role should it play? Possible roles include taking the lead, acting in partnership with others or stimulating or facilitating action.

## **D. Instruments Available to Accomplish the Desired Result**

This question looks at the full range of available policy instruments, which can be grouped into five categories:

- information;
- capacity building;
- economic instruments, including taxes, fees and public expenditure;
- rules; and
- organizational structure.

## **i. Information**

Information can be a powerful tool. People act on the basis of the information available to them. By giving them specific information, it may be possible to influence their behaviour. Some examples are:

- consumer information about the quality or safety of products;
- occupational health and safety information;
- anti-drinking and driving advertising and education campaigns;
- "buy-Canadian" promotional campaigns;
- environmental awareness programs (e.g. littering; hazardous substances);
- information about how programs are operated or about administrative practices;
- symbolic gestures (e.g. an apology).

## **ii. Capacity Building**

Capacity-building increases the ability of people or organizations to do things that advance policy objectives. It goes beyond providing information to include transferring to them the means for developing their ability. Some examples are:

- employment skills training programs;
- programs to support scientific research and public education about the results of the research;
- information gathering through consultation or monitoring; and
- working with industry or business to help them develop voluntary codes governing their practices.

## **iii. Economic Instruments**

Many instruments have a mainly economic focus. They affect how people behave in the marketplace or in other economic transactions. These instruments include taxes, fees and First Nation expenditure, which are considered separately below. They also include the creation of exclusive or limited rights, such as marketable permits, licences or marketing quotas that acquire value because they can be bought and sold. Insurance requirements are another example of economic instruments because they can, for example, force businesses to assess and reduce risks and ensure that their products are priced to cover the costs of insurance or preventive measures.

### **a) Taxes and Fees**

The basic purpose of taxes and fees is to raise revenue. However, they are also capable of influencing how people make choices about the activities to which the taxes or fees apply. In this sense, they can be powerful tools for accomplishing policy objectives. Examples include:

- taxes on income, property or sales;
- fees or charges for licences or services; and
- tax exemptions, reductions, credits or remissions.

#### b) First Nation Expenditure

The First Nation can act by transferring or spending money in a particular area in order to accomplish policy objectives involving those who receive the money. This makes it a potentially effective instrument for encouraging particular activities that support the policy objectives. Some examples of public expenditure are:

- monetary benefits, grants or subsidies;
- loans or loan guarantees;
- vouchers redeemable for goods or services;
- transfers to other governments or agencies for education or health programs.

#### iv. Rules

Rules, in the broadest sense, guide behaviour by telling people how things are to be done. However, there are many different types of rules. For example, they differ in terms of how they influence behaviour:

- laws, regulations or directives tend to apply to groups of people and have legal force in that they can be enforced by the courts;
- contracts or agreements also have legal force, but they generally apply only to those who are parties to them; and
- guidelines, voluntary codes or standards and self-imposed rules usually apply to groups of people, but they do not have legal force, relying instead on their persuasive or moral value.

Rules having legal force are generally cast in terms of requirements, prohibitions or rights. A combination of these elements can be seen in rules that create:

- rights that entitle people to do things on an equal footing, such as obtaining goods, services or employment, and corresponding requirements to provide these things to those entitled to them; and
- prohibitions against doing something without a licence that confers a right to do it, for example, exclusive or limited rights, such as marketable permits, licences or marketing quotas that acquire value because they can be bought and sold.

Rules may also be formulated in different levels of detail, for example:

- as precise requirements that tell people exactly what to do; or
- as performance standards that set objectives that people are responsible for meeting.

## **Incorporation by Reference**

Finally, it is worth noting the drafting technique of incorporation by reference. Rules of one type (for example, Laws or regulations) can sometimes be drafted so that they incorporate rules of the same or another type (for example, other Laws or regulations as well as industry codes or standards) simply by referring to them, rather than restating them. This avoids duplication of the incorporated rules and can be a way of harmonizing the laws of several jurisdictions if they each incorporate the same set of rules.

### **v. Organizational Structure**

Organizational structure is often critical in accomplishing policy objectives. It generally supports the use of other instruments by providing for their administration. Examples of organizational instruments include:

- First Nation structures to deliver programs;
- framework agreements and partnerships with other governments or organizations;
- privatization or commercialization of First Nation government services (e.g. garbage collection); and
- First Nation investment in private enterprises.

### **vi. Combination and Timing of Instruments**

These instruments are not necessarily stand-alone alternatives to one another. In fact, many of them are mutually supportive or otherwise interrelated. For example, information enables organizations to work effectively and organizations are often needed to administer legal rules, such as Laws or regulations, which may, in turn, be needed to support the creation of organizations.

Another important dimension of the range of available instruments is timing. Some instruments are better used in the initial stages of policy implementation while others may only be needed later if circumstances warrant. For example, information campaigns often precede the imposition of legal rules and, if they are effective enough, they may avoid the need for such rules.

## **E. Putting the Instruments in Place**

This question involves the legal, procedural and organizational implications of using each instrument as well as the process requirements for making them operational. It also involves considering in greater detail the role that the First Nation council may play, whether acting alone or as a partner with other levels of government or the private sector.

You should assess:

- whether the use of the instrument is within the general mandate or authority of the First Nation;
- whether some specific legal authority is needed, for example, authority to impose taxes or penal sanctions, and, if so,
  - whether it requires new Laws to be made,
  - whether there is legal authority for the First Nation to make the new laws

It is particularly important to consult legal advisers when considering this legal aspect of the question.

- what the short- and long-term operational requirements, both organizational and financial, of the instruments are, including:
  - organizations and personnel needed to administer the instruments, for example, officials needed to assess benefit claims or conduct inspections,
  - additional resources for court costs;
- who should be consulted before the instruments are put in place (other First Nation departments, other governments, stakeholders);
- what processes are required to put the instruments in place, including processes required for any new laws (e.g. do guides and forms for the process to register documents in the First Nation Law Register need to be developed?);
- what, if any, monitoring or enforcement measures will be needed, such as penalties, inspections and court action (this is closely connected to the next question of what effect the instruments would have).

#### **F. What Effect Would the Law Have?**

This question involves assessing how the Law (or other instrument) would work, including:

- whether the Law will bring about the desired results, including whether people will voluntarily do what the instruments encourage or require, or whether some are likely to try to avoid compliance or find loopholes;
- whether the Law will cause any unintended results or impose costs or additional constraints on those affected by them;
- what the scope and nature of any likely environmental effects will be, particularly any adverse environmental effects and how they can be reduced or eliminated;
- what effect the instruments may have on inter-governmental relations, particularly in light of the First Nations' obligations under provincial or federal agreements;
- how the general public will react to the Law and, in particular, whether it will be perceived as being enough (or too much) to deal with the situation.

When deciding whether to choose Laws, you should also keep in mind their strengths and weaknesses. They can often be used to overcome resistance in achieving the desired results because they are binding and enforceable in the courts. However, they may also give rise to confrontational, rights-based attitudes or stifle innovative approaches to accomplishing the policy objectives. It should not be assumed that a legal prohibition or requirement will, by itself, stop people from doing something or make them do it.

### **G. Measuring the Effectiveness of the Law or Other Instrument?**

It is not enough to choose various instruments and use them. Clear and measurable objectives must also be established as well as a means for monitoring and assessing whether they are being achieved. This assessment should be ongoing and include looking at how other governments are addressing the same situation. This is necessary both for determining whether the chosen instruments should continue to be used as well as for providing a better basis on which to make instrument-choice decisions in future.

### **H. Is a Law the Only Choice?**

The final step is to choose the instruments that would be most effective in achieving the policy objective. It is important to realize that a single Law is seldom enough. Usually a combination of instruments is required, often in stages with different combinations at each stage. They should be chosen through a comparative analysis of their costs and benefits, taking into account the answers to the preceding questions.

This is also a good time to consider again whether there is a role for the First Nation Council. It may be that none of the instruments should be chosen if:

- the situation does not justify the First Nation's attention, for example, because there is no problem or the situation is beyond the First Nation's jurisdiction or is not a priority for it;
- the situation will take care of itself or will be addressed by others;
- the First Nation does not have the resources to address the situation;
- the First Nation becoming involved in the situation would lead to unmanageable demands to become involved in similar situations.

### **Sources of First Nation Legislative Proposals**

There are basically five sources of legislative policy:

- the members;
- the Chief and Council;
- First Nation administration or Land Committee;
- courts and administrative agencies; and

- federal legislation (e.g. membership and election codes; matrimonial real property).

## **I. Guidelines / Checklists for Policy Development of Law (or other Instrument)**

These Guidelines or checklists are a set of analytical criteria for use in the assessment and development of policy to propose a law. While the focus of this discussion is on making a law, a similar analysis or approach can be used to develop other instrument such as guidelines, policies, programs etc. These guidelines were originally developed as part of a broader exercise designed to improve policy-making in the federal government and to improve the quality of policy discussions in Departments and Cabinet Committees. The Guidelines have been modified for use by First Nations.

### **POLICY BASICS TEST**

- ✓ Has the problem been adequately identified and are the goals and objectives clearly defined?
- ✓ Are there horizontal considerations and interdependencies with other priorities or issues (e.g. environment, etc.)?
- ✓ Are they in member-focused terms?
- ✓ Does this initiative build on and fill gaps in existing policy and programs (federal, provincial)?
- ✓ Does the proposal replace or overlap any existing program?
- ✓ Will this initiative be sustainable (social, economic, environmental) in the longer term?
- ✓ Have a range of options for the achievement of goals/objectives been considered? The full range and choice of instruments (e.g. legislative, regulatory, expenditures)?
- ✓ Has a feedback mechanism been incorporated into policy and program design to allow for evaluation, fine-tuning, and updating?
- ✓ Is the policy based on sound science advice?

### **PUBLIC OR COMMUNITY INTEREST TEST**

- ✓ How would the proposal meet the needs of community members and other stakeholders?
- ✓ How do the overall societal benefits compare to its costs? Have the full range of risks been assessed?
- ✓ Does the proposal respect the rights of community members and other stakeholders and take into account their diverse needs (e.g. non-member, off reserve members, etc.)?
- ✓ Have community members and other stakeholders been given an opportunity for meaningful input?

## **FIRST NATION INVOLVEMENT TEST**

- ✓ What is the rationale for First Nation involvement in this area (e.g. constitutional, legal, scope of issue)?
- ✓ Have the particular First Nation interests been adequately identified?

## **QUESTION OF ACCOUNTABILITY TEST**

- ✓ Has an adequate accountability framework been developed? (in particular for multi-stakeholder arrangements)
- ✓ Have mechanisms been established for ongoing monitoring, measuring, and reporting to members on outcomes and performance?
- ✓ Have eligibility criteria and First Nation administration commitments been made publicly available?

## **URGING PARTNERSHIPS**

- ✓ Can this initiative benefit from joint planning and collaboration?
- ✓ Has it been designed in a way that complements existing programming and services provided by the First Nation or another level of government?
- ✓ Are the relative roles and contributions of partners clear? How will they be publicly recognized?
- ✓ Have opportunities for partnerships with communities, voluntary sector and private sector been considered?
- ✓ Have mechanisms been established to consult with other governments?

## **EFFICIENCY AND AFFORDABILITY TEST**

- ✓ Will the proposed option be cost-effective?
- ✓ Does the proposal assess non-spending options?
- ✓ Does it consider reallocation options?
- ✓ Would a partnership based effort result in a more efficient or effective program or service?
- ✓ What are the longer term funding issues associated with this proposal - for the First Nation, and for its partners?
- ✓ Are there program integrity issues related to this initiative (e.g. non-discretionary/legal commitments, risks, strategic investments)?
- ✓ Has the initiative considered downstream litigation risks?

## PART 4: DRAFTING LAW

*“The best way to get a bad law repealed is to enforce it strictly.”  
- Abraham Lincoln*

When drafting laws, First Nation Councils should be aware that laws enacted under the authority of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management and the Land Code ratified by the First Nation will apply only upon the territory over which the Council has jurisdiction, that being the actual reserve or First Nation land territory.

First Nation Councils must also bear in mind the fact that laws are a type of legislation, and, as such can come under the scrutiny of the courts. Accordingly, it is highly recommended that Councils retain the services of a lawyer to be of substantial assistance in the law development process.

When drafting a law it is critical to be logical and organized. A good suggestion for a guideline is to write the law in as simple and straight-forward a manner as the subject area allows.

For organizational purposes the law should be arranged in such a manner that the subject area of the law is divided into major groupings (i.e. administrative setup, administrative procedures, offences and penalties, appeal procedures...), or into whatever groupings are required to be addressed in the law. Then, within each general grouping there is a breakdown of related information pertaining to that specific grouping. Each piece of information that is included should be described separately. What results is a system of parts, sections, subsections and other subdivisions similar to the organization of federal and provincial laws. This will ensure readability and facilitate interpretation. Any law that is vague or ambiguous could be held invalid by a court.

Whether the First Nation Council drafts the law itself or takes the matter to a lawyer, certain basic drafting requirements must be met. There is a structure to every law and each part is important for different reasons.

A law consists of the following parts:

- title and numbering;
- recital;
- enacting clause;
- definition section (optional but strongly suggested);
- main body of the law;
- land code law procedural requirements; and
- schedules and appendices (optional).

## **A. Title and Numbering**

A law should have a title which sufficiently describes its purpose. If the title is lengthy, the law may designate a "short title" for common usage. Using a short title is optional but quite common, and is used for easier reference purposes - for written or oral description.

It is critical to accurately identify laws. Any logical, clear, consistent system to identify laws may be used, however, it is suggested that a consecutive numerical system be used when numbering laws. For example, the year of enactment can form part of the number, i.e. " XX First Nation Law No. 1996.15" would mean the fifteenth law enacted in 1996. For each new year, the numbers would start again at number 1. The identification system is to ensure that when the law is being cited or used by the courts, First Nation Council, or any affected person there will be no reference to, or confusion with anything other than that particular law.

## **B. Recitals**

A recital is not necessary, but may be important because a recital allows the Council to describe the reasons why the law is required. The recital gives the context in which the law can be interpreted. Courts, when interpreting laws may use the recital section to understand the context of the law and this may assist the courts in determining the reasonableness of the provisions.

The recitals to the law are a brief statement of its purpose and reasons why the law is required, and a listing of the authorities in the Land Code upon which the law is based. [Re Caldwell and Galt (1899) 30 O.R. 378]

## **C. Enacting Clause**

An enacting clause is a formality that states that the First Nation Council has enacted the law, and that the law is in fact a law and not simply a Band Council resolution.

## **D. Definition Section**

There is a particular purpose to every law. As laws are a method of addressing your community's needs it is extremely important for the law to be clearly written and understandable, yet precise enough that the law does what you intend it to do, when interpreted by a court.

One of the methods that may be used to ensure that a law is interpreted in a fashion you want it to be interpreted is to use a definition section wherein you define the key words in the law. If this is done then the courts, if they review your law, will use the definition you have assigned to the word and not some other definition which may or may not reflect what you want the law to do.

There are different sources of definitions for key words or concepts;

1. Definitions should be used to define words in a law which might require interpretation in the context of the law. Many words and phrases are defined in the Interpretation Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. I-2, and this Act should be referred to when developing a law.
2. Words used in a law, if defined in the First Nation Land Management Act (FNLMA), have the meaning given to them in the FNLMA unless a contrary intention appears in the law (see: sections 3 and 16, Interpretation Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. I-21). Although it may be possible in some circumstances to define a word in a law more broadly than it is defined in the FNLMA, in most cases to do so could affect the legality of the law. It is especially important not to expand in a law the meaning of any word used in the FNLMA, if that word is defined in there. Although it is usually permissible to define a word in a law more narrowly than it is defined in the FNLMA, the legality of this may also be questioned in some instances.
3. If the words or phrases are not defined in the law, or in other legislation, the courts will look to the generally accepted or established meanings of the words or phrases (i.e. dictionary meaning).

Accordingly, as a matter of practice it is advisable not to define words and phrases differently than they are defined in the FNLMA, unless it is absolutely necessary. If such a situation occurs it is suggested that the First Nation Council seek legal advice on the question.

Once the word, or phrase, is defined then the same word or phrase should be used in the body of the law to ensure the proper interpretation. For example, if one term is defined in the definition section but another term is used in the body the courts may assign a definition to the used word that is different from the word defined in the law.

When you are defining words and phrases, there are some general rules of construction which may be of assistance;

The definition of a word may be introduced by the verb "means" if it is intended to restrict the meaning of the word to the definition that is given. If, however, the intention is to expand the normal meaning of the word to other meanings that the word might not ordinarily bear, or to give examples of the intended meaning, it should be introduced by the verb "includes". For example, "boat" means a motor boat, or "boat" includes a motor boat - the first example using "means" indicates that only a motor boat is considered when the term "boat" is used, whereas in the second example any type of boat (i.e. sail boat, row boat, canoe, sailboard and any other device used to transport persons by water) also includes motor boats.

Words to be defined should be listed in alphabetical order and may be numbered or lettered. If the law is enacted in two or more languages then the words or phrases

should not be numbered or lettered because the alphabetical order would be different between the different languages.

### **E. Main Body of Law**

The main body of a law will include substantive rules of procedure or conduct as well as measures for administering and enforcing the law.

Any format that is clear and understandable is satisfactory, but it is generally accepted that administrative provisions precede the operative or substantive rules.

It is also generally understood that the section or part pertaining to offenses and penalties come towards the end of the law. Offenses and penalties should include the following;

- the law should include a general provision that a person who violates any provision of the law, or a specified provision of the law, commits an offence. A specific offence may be cited wherein a specific penalty for that section may be used, however any penalty must comply with those set out below; and
- the penalties for violation of a First Nation law cannot differ in nature from those set out in Section 22 of the FNLMA. The law may also limit the fines to less than \$5,000.00.

### **F. Law Making Procedures**

It is very important to adhere to the procedural requirements of laws pursuant to the Land Code because laws can be successfully challenged in broad general ways in one, or a combination of the following ways, which could result in the law being ruled invalid;

- factually; examples such as "I was not the person who committed the offence" or "the facts as alleged by the law enforcement officer are not correct, and the real facts do not disclose an offence", (losing a case on factual grounds does not mean the law is invalid)
- on substantive or jurisdictional grounds; examples such as "the subject area in the law is beyond the jurisdiction of the First Nation Council to enact under Clause 18 of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management", or "the law infringes the Charter of Rights and Freedoms", and/or,
- procedural deficiencies; examples such as "not holding a special meeting of the band for purposes of considering the law under the Land Code, but enacting the law anyway".

It is essential to comply with the provisions of the Land Code regarding enactment.

A statement to the effect that a law was made by a Council or community at a duly convened meeting on a particular date must be included. As well, the signatures of the

members of the First Nation Council who voted in favour of the law should appear at the end of the law with a statement informing the reader what constitutes a quorum of the band and the number of members of the Council present at the meeting.

## **G. Schedules and Appendices**

There may be attached to the law schedules and appendices that are referred to in the law. These attachments to the law would be used for required forms necessary for application of the law (i.e. application forms to be used when applying to the band, i.e. residency, licenses), or schedules outlining the categories pertaining to the law (i.e. different zones described, or qualifying lists established in zoning laws; traffic zone designations, traffic offence fines, signing...). Reference to the schedules or appendices must be included within the body of the law as being part of the law.

## **Power to Make Certain Laws**

Laws are enacted pursuant to the First Nation's Land Code. The Land Code outlines the power of First Nations to make land laws. The Framework Agreement, section 18.1 provides that:

The council of a First Nation with a land code in effect will have the power to make laws, in accordance with its land code respecting the development, conservation, protection, management, use and possession of First Nation land and interests or land rights and licences in relation to that land. This includes laws on any matter necessary or ancillary to the making of laws in relation to First Nation land.

To be valid, the subject-matter of the enacted laws must fall within the scope of the areas indicated in the Land Code. If the enacted laws do not fall within the scope of the authority given by the section of the Code then a reviewing court will overturn the laws, or delete from the law the improper portions, as they would be in excess of jurisdiction given to the Bands under the Framework Agreement.

## **Enforcement of First Nation Laws**

First Nation Councils enact laws to encourage or require members/residents/visitors of the community to conduct themselves in particular ways or to avoid certain types of prohibited conduct.

Often the mere existence of a law with a small penalty is enough of a deterrent to stop or prevent undesirable behavior or practices. An example of this is a garbage law where a warning to someone to clean up garbage usually achieves the desired result.

Many people obey laws because they represent the community's collective view of how one should conduct oneself. Others obey laws to avoid the penalties which follow

failures to comply. Nevertheless, some laws may require significant penalties and strict enforcement to bring about the desired conditions in a community.

As First Nations laws are primarily a band's concern, in order to be effective there has to be a penalty and a method of enforcement. It is the obligation of band councils to enforce their own laws. The Department of Indian Affairs does not take responsibility for doing so.

The discussion in this session mainly concerns the enforcement options available to First Nations and the procedures involved in enforcing laws.

### **Identifying Offenses and Setting Penalties in the Law**

Defining what conduct constitutes offenses under the law and setting the maximum amount of penalties for them is a matter of policy for the Council to determine. Above, we discussed the legal principles affecting penalties and the factors a Council might consider in setting maximum penalties, we also discussed the drafting requirements related to penalties and enforcement.

The key points to keep in mind in this session are:

- the by-law must set maximum penalties within the maximums set in the Framework Agreement;
- the law cannot establish minimum penalties; and
- the judge determines the actual sentence, based on input from the prosecutor (who may also include band council or community views or wishes) and from the offender

### **The Main Methods of Enforcing Laws**

There are two main methods of enforcing laws:

- verbal and written warnings or discussions are often sufficient to convince people to modify their behavior to conform to the law requirements; and
- formal charges bringing offenders before the provincial courts may be required in other situations

Some communities have also developed Alternative Justice Mechanisms. These are discussed at the end of this session.

### **Two Kinds of First Nation Laws**

There are generally two kinds of laws:

- those that are **administrative** in nature, such as building code or a zoning law; and

- those that are **quasi-criminal** in nature (dealing with law and order), such as traffic and environmental infractions.

# SUMMARY - CHECKLIST FOR PREPARING BILL-DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS

## Getting Started

- Main objectives of the proposal
- Time needed to prepare drafting instructions
- Public commitments

## General Legal and Policy Matters

- Legal context
- Policy context
- Resources
- Legal instruments for accomplishing policy objectives

## Legal Structure of the Proposal

- Combining matters in a single bill
- Types of legal instruments
- Provisions that should be in the Law
- Provisions that should be in regulations
- Incorporation by reference
- Administrative instruments
- Recipients of powers

## Drafting and Organization of a Law

- Titles
- Preambles and purpose clauses
- General application provisions
- Application to the Crown
- Financial provisions
- Information provisions
- Monitoring compliance
- Sanctions for noncompliance
- Enforcement powers
- Appeals and review mechanisms
- Dispute resolution mechanisms
- Extraordinary provisions

## Technical legislative matters

- Sunset and review provisions
- Repeals
- Consequential and conditional amendments
- Transitional provisions
- Coming into force

## GETTING STARTED

### MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSAL

- ✓ What are the main objectives of the proposal?

It is essential to clearly articulate the precise purpose of proposed legislation, so that decision makers and the drafters properly understand what the legislation is supposed to achieve.

For amending bills that are intended to accomplish a number of different purposes, the instructions should explain these purposes separately in relation to the provisions that are to be amended. They should also include a general instruction to make consequential amendments to other provisions.

### TIME NEEDED TO PREPARE DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Is there enough time to prepare the drafting instructions?

Thinking through the detail of drafting instructions will raise policy issues that were not identified when ideas were expressed in general terms in the policy development stage. Time will be needed to address and resolve these issues. The First Nation must be prepared to spend the time necessary to produce a coherent set of provisions to implement the proposal. Unresolved issues haunt a legislative project until they are resolved and it is wiser and more efficient in the long run to resolve as much as possible before the actual drafting begins.

The time spent in thinking through drafting instructions is well worth it. Good drafting instructions will avoid:

- delays in drafting the bill because of unresolved policy questions;
- having to go back to Council or the community to clarify policy issues that were not adequately resolved in the original proposal;
- having to propose amendments once the draft law has been prepared because the policy was still in flux after the draft law was introduced;
- being left without the necessary legal authority after the Law is passed to draft the regulations required to complete the legislative scheme.

Before establishing the time frames for the proposed law make sure that the legislative drafter has been consulted. The time needed to prepare the draft may be much greater than the expected.

## **PUBLIC COMMITMENTS**

- ✓ Has the Chief and Council made any public commitments, either generally or about the specific legislative proposal, that will affect its contents or timing?  
These public commitments could affect the timing of the Law or require it to be framed in a certain way

Stakeholders or other governments are sometimes consulted on the draft proposals. When the aim of consultations is a negotiated agreement on wording that is to be proposed in the legislation, drafters should be consulted before specific wording is agreed on

## GENERAL LEGAL AND POLICY MATTERS

### LEGAL CONTEXT

- ✓ What legal considerations affect the proposal?

This portion of the drafting instructions should be completed by the legal adviser. It involves an assessment of the law related to the proposal in order to ensure that the resulting legislation will operate effectively.

Some areas of particular concern are:

- Does the First Nation have constitutional authority to make the Law?
- Will it affect matters within provincial or federal jurisdiction?
- Is it consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Canadian Bill of Rights?
- Does the proposal distinguish between members and non-members; on-reserve members and off-reserve members?
- Does the proposal raise any gender or other equality issues?
- Is it consistent with the Framework Agreement, the land code and other First Nation Laws?
- Any conflicting legislation should be specifically identified and the conflict should not be resolved by a general "notwithstanding" provision.
- Does the proposal respond effectively to any court decisions or legal opinions that gave rise to the legislation or any of its elements?
- Are there any agreements which the First Nation has signed that relate to the proposal?
- Does the proposal rely on provincial private law (for example, contracts or property) to supplement it? (e.g. Quebec civil law or common law.

### POLICY CONTEXT

- ✓ Do any First Nation policies affect the proposal?

### RESOURCES

- ✓ Who will incur costs as a result of the new Law?

If the First Nation will incur costs as a result of the legislation, a strategy must be identified for managing their reaction or obtaining their support.

- ✓ Will the proposed law require additional First Nation staff and / or staff training; new facilities or equipment?

If there are new First Nation costs associated with implementing or complying with the proposed legislation, a source of funding will be needed before approval.

## LEGAL INSTRUMENTS FOR ACCOMPLISHING POLICY OBJECTIVES

- ✓ How will the policy objectives of the proposal be accomplished?

There are many legal mechanisms available for implementing policy objectives. These include:

- the creation of public bodies and offices;
- the conferral of powers and duties on public officials;
- rules that regulate, prohibit, require or authorize particular activities;
- the creation of sanctions for non-compliance with the rules.

Some particular mechanisms that are often adopted include:

- licensing schemes directed toward controlling particular activities;
- monitoring and enforcement provisions.

As far as possible, the drafting instructions should provide a picture of how the legislation will actually work, describing the type of machinery envisaged and the necessary powers and duties, including how the legislation will be enforced.

## LEGAL STRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSAL

### COMBINING MATTERS IN A SINGLE BILL

- ✓ What should be included in a single bill?

Related matters should be combined in one bill, rather than being divided among several bills on similar subjects. A single bill allows the Council to make the most effective and efficient use of their time for debate and study. However, matters should only be combined if it is appropriate and consistent with legislative drafting principles. Titles to Laws are among the most important tools people use to find the law. If very different matters are combined in one Law, it becomes more difficult for people to find the law relating to the matters that concern them.

### TYPES OF LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

- ✓ What types of legal instruments should be used?

There are many legal instruments and other related documents available to implement policy. They fall into three categories:

- Laws
- Regulations
- Administrative documents (for example, contracts, internal directives, bulletins, decision documents).

Both Laws and regulations are forms of law, with the same legal effect. Administrative documents do not necessarily have legal effect.

Additional differences among these categories involve the procedures used to make them. First Nation Land Codes provide the process for making Laws. There are no general legislative requirements for other subordinate documents, although they are sometimes subject to particular requirements such as those relating to natural justice.

The provisions of any Law must fit together in a coherent scheme with the administrative documents that it authorizes. This means that the authority to make administrative documents must be established by the Law, either expressly or impliedly.

## PROVISIONS THAT SHOULD BE IN THE LAW

- ✓ What should be in the Law?

Generally speaking, the Law contains the fundamental policy or underlying principles of legislation that are unlikely to change. The following additional matters are usually dealt with in the Law:

- provisions that might substantially affect personal rights (search and seizure powers, penalties for serious offences, expropriation);
- provisions establishing the structure of public bodies or providing for appointments;
- controversial matters that should be addressed by the Council;
- amendments to Laws, including the definition of terms used in Laws.

## PROVISIONS THAT SHOULD BE IN REGULATIONS

- ✓ What should be in regulations or administrative documents?

Regulations should deal with matters of an administrative (as opposed to legislative) nature that are subordinate to the main principles stated in the Law. As an alternative to regulations, consider delegating authority to Council to pass a resolution(s) to deal with:

- procedural matters, for example, how to apply for a licence;
- matters that are likely to need adjusting often, for example, prescribing interest rates, setting annual fishing quotas;
- technical matters involving scientific or other expertise;
- rules that can only be made after the department gains some experience in administering the new Law, for example, prescribing the time within which certain steps should be taken;
- fees to be paid for services or programs established in a Law.

## OTHER MATTERS

The drafting instructions should specifically provide authority to do any of the following things and provide reasons for requesting this authority:

- substantially affect personal rights and liberties;
- determine important matters of policy or principle;
- amend or add to the enabling Law or other Laws;
- exclude the ordinary jurisdiction of the Courts;
- apply retroactively;
- sub-delegate decision-making authority from the First Nation Council;
- impose a charge on public revenue or a tax on the public;

- set the penalties for offences

## **INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

- ✓ Should some matters be dealt with through documents or laws incorporated by reference?

Legislation does not have to spell out all the details of what it requires or provides. It can instead refer to other laws or documents and incorporate their contents without reproducing them. If this is to be done, consideration should be given to whether particular authorizing provisions are needed. Incorporation by reference is also subject to the law-making limits of the First Nation and as well as requirements relating to the accessibility and comprehension of incorporated documents. Legal advisers can provide guidance on these questions.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUMENTS**

- ✓ What should be dealt with through administrative instruments?

Many of the elements of a regulatory scheme should be dealt with in administrative instruments, such as permits, licenses, directives or contracts. These include:

- legal requirements that are to be imposed individually on a case-by-case basis;
- fees non-binding guidelines;
- internal directives on administrative matters.

## **RECIPIENTS OF POWERS**

- ✓ Who should decision-making powers be given to?

- Chief and Council
- First Nation manager or program head
- Land Committee
- Other?

Judicial and quasi-judicial powers

- Judicial and quasi-judicial powers must be exercised with impartiality and the delegates who exercise them should have the qualifications and security of tenure to ensure their impartiality (dispute resolution rules).

## Administrative powers

- Most administrative powers are given to Chief and Council who, in turn, have implied authority to authorize officials in the First Nation administration to exercise them.
- Law registries or other public registries can be given to specific officials – a Registrar
- Inspection and enforcement powers are usually given to classes of officials created to exercise these powers.

## DRAFTING AND ORGANIZATION OF A LAW

### TITLES

- ✓ What will be the title of the Law?

Each bill has a long title, which sets out the scope of the bill and gives a brief description of its purpose. The wording of this title should be left to the bill-drafting stage.

A bill to enact a new Law also has a short title, which is used to identify the Law when discussing it or referring to it in other legislation. A short title is also sometimes included in an amending Law that is likely to be referred to in other Laws. A short title should succinctly indicate the Law's subject matter. The following are examples of the long and short titles of an Law:

- An Law to provide for the regulation of traffic and vehicles on roads on First Nation lands;
- The Road Traffic Law.

Finalizing the short title should also be left to the bill-drafting stage. However, a working title is needed from an early stage and care should be taken to establish an appropriate title since it often becomes more difficult to change as the proposal moves forward.

Try to avoid words such as "First Nation", "Canadian," "National," "Federal" and "Government" because they make it harder to find the Law by its subject matter in a table of statutes.

### PREAMBLES AND PURPOSE CLAUSES

- ✓ Should there be a preamble or purpose clause?

Preambles and purpose clauses should not be included in a Law without carefully thinking about what they would add to the Law and what they would contain. They should not be used to make political statements. They can have a significant impact on how the legislation is interpreted by the courts.

Preambles and purpose clauses perform different, but overlapping functions.

Preambles:

- often provide important background information needed for a clear understanding of the Law, or to explain matters that support its constitutionality;

- are placed at the front of the Law;
- should be drafted sparingly to avoid creating confusion about the meaning of the legislation.

Purpose clauses:

- indicate what the intended results of the legislation are;
- should highlight only the principal purposes;
- are included in the body of the legislation; and
- generally have a greater effect on the interpretation of legislation than preambles.

When a bill amends an existing Law, only the amendments themselves are added to the text of the Law when it is reprinted in a consolidated form. The preamble is not included. In order to ensure public awareness of, and access to, background information for an amending bill, a purpose clause may be considered as an alternative because it can be integrated into the consolidated legislation. Both preambles and purpose clauses must be carefully reviewed by legal advisors for appropriate language and content.

## GENERAL APPLICATION PROVISIONS

- ✓ Should the application of the Law be confined or expanded in any way?

You should consider whether the Law should be applied to the First Nation itself, taking into account the following:

- binding the First Nation may entail additional legal liability for government activities;
- not binding the First Nation may render the legislation less effective if it governs an activity that the First Nation carries on to a significant degree;
- agents of the First Nation (for example, First Nation corporations) generally benefit from First Nation immunity, which may give them an advantage over private sector competitors.

An example is a building law. Does the First Nation have to comply with its own Building Law – obtain a permit, abide by building restrictions, zoning etc.?

## FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- ✓ Will there be provisions involving the collection or disposition of First Nation money?

A law may require that the First Nation pay from its own funds money to support a program or service. Once the money is allocated by Law, the First Nation has a legal obligation to spend that money and must amend the law to avoid non-compliance.

## INFORMATION PROVISIONS

- ✓ Will the legislation restrict or require the disclosure of information?

The disclosure of information is affected by legal concepts of confidentiality and privilege. Provisions affecting the disclosure of information should be reviewed in light of these requirements and discussed with legal advisors.

The laws of other governments may also restrict the release or disclosure of personal or confidential information such as a Social Insurance Numbers.

## SANCTIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

- ✓ Will penalties or other sanctions be needed to ensure compliance with the legislation?

Most legislation is enforced by the imposition of sanctions for non-compliance. They range from penal sanctions, such as fines and imprisonment, to administrative sanctions, such as licence suspensions or disqualifications.

There are three basic methods of imposing sanctions:

- through the prosecution of offences in the courts;
- through offence ticketing schemes, such as the Contraventions Act;
- through the imposition of administrative monetary penalties or other administrative sanctions.

Provisions for the imposition of penal sanctions should reflect the principles set out in (sections 718 to 718.2 of) the Criminal Code. They should be reviewed to ensure that:

- they will be effective in obtaining compliance;
- there will be effective enforcement mechanisms, such as powers to conduct inspections or searches;
- the sanctions are appropriate for the seriousness of the noncompliant behaviour;
- the sanctions are variable enough to reflect the circumstances of the accused person in order to ensure that they receive equal treatment under the Law.

If administrative sanctions are to be imposed, a mechanism will be needed for their imposition. The creation of this mechanism raises many legal and policy choices to be considered, including choices about

- strict or absolute liability;
- the processes by which liability for and the amount of a sanction will be determined;

- the relationship of the administrative sanctions to criminal prosecution;
- the institutional structure of required impartial review.

It is essential that legal advisors be consulted in the development of sanctions and penalties to make certain the Law can be adequately enforced.

## **ENFORCEMENT POWERS**

- ✓ Should the Law authorize searches, seizures and other action to support the prosecution of offences?

The Criminal Code provides a basic set of powers for the enforcement of legislation, including powers to make arrests, conduct searches and seize things. However, these powers may not be sufficient or they may have to be supplemented.

## **APPEALS AND REVIEW MECHANISMS**

- ✓ Should there be procedures for appealing or reviewing decisions of administrative bodies created or authorized to make decisions under the Law?

### Judicial Review

The Federal Court Act provides that the Federal Court may review the decisions of any "federal board, commission or tribunal." A First Nation decision can be reviewed as a result of this definition. This review concerns the legality of the decisions, as opposed to their merits. In most cases, applications for review are heard by the Trial Division of the Court. However, section 28 of that Act specifies bodies whose decisions are reviewed by the Court of Appeal.

### Appeals

Appeals generally concern the merits as well as the legality of decisions. A right of appeal (or judicial review) exists only if it is granted expressly by the Act. Appeals may be taken to the courts (usually the Federal Court) or to an administrative tribunal created by the Act. A decision is not generally subject to judicial review if it is subject to appeal.

### Review

It may also be appropriate to create other review mechanisms (in addition to judicial review and appeal). A decision-making body may be authorized to review its own decisions. Another body may be created to review the decision or an existing body (for example, the Chief and Council) may be authorized to review them.

## DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISMS

- ✓ Should there be mechanisms for the resolution of disputes arising under the legislation?

Consideration should be given to including provisions for the resolution of disputes instead of relying on the courts, whose procedures are usually costly and involved. Some examples of dispute resolution mechanisms are negotiation, mediation and neutral evaluation.

Alternative Dispute Resolution is provided for under the Framework Agreement.

## EXTRAORDINARY PROVISIONS

- ✓ Does the proposal include any extraordinary provisions requiring specific Council attention and consideration?

Certain types of provisions should be specifically identified because they may be controversial. These sorts of provisions involve:

- the retroactive application of legislation;
- broad powers to grant exemptions from the legislation;
- power to sub delegate regulation-making powers;
- excluding the jurisdiction of the courts;
- expropriation of property;
- emergency powers;
- substantial restrictions on fundamental rights or freedoms; and
- regulation-making powers dealing with matters that are usually provided for in Laws

These matters are technical in nature and require that legal counsel provide opinions on the use of any of these matters having regard to the object of the proposed Law and compliance with laws of general application. For example, criminal legislation cannot be made retroactive.

## TECHNICAL LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

### SUNSET AND REVIEW PROVISIONS

- ✓ Should provisions be included for the expiry or review of the Law?

Caution should be taken when considering whether to include a "sunset" or expiration provision in a bill, since these provisions may result in a gap of legal authority if the new legislative regime cannot be brought into force in time. Similarly caution should be taken when considering inclusion of a provision for mandatory review of the Law within a particular time or by a particular committee given that this limits flexibility. Alternatives to these provisions should be fully explored before proposing to include them.

### REPEAL

- ✓ Are there any Laws or regulations that have to be repealed as a result of the legislation?

If a new Law is proposed to replace an existing Law, the existing Law will have to be repealed. It may also be necessary to repeal particular provisions of related Laws as well as regulations.

### CONSEQUENTIAL AND COORDINATING AMENDMENTS

- ✓ Are there any Laws or regulations that will have to be amended as the result of the legislation?

New legislation often affects provisions in other Laws. One of the most common examples of this occurs when the name of an Law is changed. References to the Law in other legislation must be amended to reflect the change.

You should also determine whether any other legislation amends the same provisions. If so, amendments will be needed to co-ordinate the amendments so that one does not undo the other.

### TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

- ✓ Will any transitional provisions be needed to deal with matters arising before the Law comes into force?

Whenever changes are made to the law, consideration should be given to matters that arose under the previous law, but which are still ongoing after the new law comes into force. These matters include:

- regulations made under the previous law;
- rights or benefits granted under the previous law;
- appointments to offices;
- offences committed under the previous law; and
- judicial or administrative proceedings involving the application of the previous law.

## COMING INTO FORCE

- ✓ When should the Law come into force?

When a Law comes into force, it begins to operate as law. A First Nation Law must include a provision concerning when it comes into force. There are a number of options. It may come into force:

- on a specified day;
- on a day dependent on a specific event (for example, the coming-into-force of another Law).

A Law may also provide that different provisions may come into force on different days.

## CONCLUSION

Over the course of this workshop we have covered numerous law-making principles and practices. Through our brief dissemination of the Canadian Legal System, First Nation Law-Making Authorities, and the new abilities granted to First Nations under the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*, as well as our discussions on the need for, and drafting of, laws on reserve land, it is our hope that we have helped in that first step towards the creation of your individual laws.

Please note that at the end of this Law Making Guide, we have provided a summary of important points that you may want to consider when contemplating the creation of a new law. This summary includes a list of general legal and policy concerns, the process of drafting and organizing a proposed law, and technical points to consider prior to a law coming in to force. It reiterates that a law is not always the only instrument at your disposal. There are other legal instruments that you may find work better in varying situations, with the same legal effect.

It is important to remember that you are not alone when going through the process of developing new laws. The First Nations Land Management Resource Centre is available to help if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to assist you. Please feel free to contact us at:

### **First Nations Land Management Resource Centre**

Address:  
350 Terry Fox Drive, Suite 106  
Kanata, Ontario  
K2K 2W5

Telephone: (613) 591-6649  
Facsimile: (613) 591-8373  
E-mail: [webadmin@labrc.com](mailto:webadmin@labrc.com)

You may also contact your workshop administrator, Chris Angeconeb, directly at:

Telephone: (613) 591-6649 ext. 210  
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## **LAWS, REGULATIONS AND POLICIES**

Laws, regulations and policies are critical components of our society and government. They establish public priorities, help maintain order and safety, and play an important role in shaping the political and social fabric of communities at every level - from towns and cities to provinces and the nation.

### **LAWS**

**Laws** are enacted by government bodies (First Nation, federal, provincial and municipal). Laws are a set of rules or norms of conduct, in other words, they describe what can or cannot be done and they must be obeyed by everyone including private citizens, groups and companies. Laws have a specific enactment procedure and are administered and enforceable through our system of courts. Laws are not easily changed or amended.

### **LAWS BY FIRST NATION COUNCILS**

**Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management** – Pursuant to the *Framework Agreement* First Nations Councils may enact laws respecting the development, conservation, protection, management, use and possession of First Nation reserve land and interests or land rights and licences in relation to those reserve lands. This includes any matter necessary or ancillary to the making of laws in relation to First Nation land.

For example, a First Nation may enact laws respecting zoning, land use, subdivision control and land development, environmental assessment and protection, the provision of local services, provision of services for the resolution of disputes in relation to land decisions. The *Framework Agreement* specifies laws that can be enacted by the Chief and Council acting alone but it also specifies laws that require community support (i.e. matrimonial real property, land use planning).

**Indian Act** – Even if a First Nation has a land code in effect, a First Nation may choose to enact bylaws under section 81 of the *Indian Act*. Pursuant to that section, a Council may make by-laws in a number of areas including traffic, observance of law and order, prevention of disorderly conduct and nuisances, removal and punishment of persons trespassing upon the reserve, etc.

The laws are enacted by the Chief and Council but must be approved by the Minister of Indian Affairs, even where the First Nation has a land code in effect. An intoxicant by-law can also be passed by Council pursuant to section 85.1 of the *Indian Act*; these laws do not require Ministerial approval but rather need community approval. Lastly, Councils may also pass a taxation by-law, with the consent of the Minister, pursuant to section 83 of the *Indian Act*.



## REGULATIONS

**Regulations** – are a form of law or rule that are authorized under a law and subordinate to that law. Departments and administrators generally write regulations to implement and support the requirements of the law. Regulations deal with the details or technical matters that are not found in a law. Regulations can be easier to change and amend. Regulations are made by federal or provincial Departments of government and approved by Cabinet.

For example there are Regulations under the *Indian Act* concerning Band Council elections, timber, referendums. There are many Regulations under the *Fisheries Act* which set quotas and seasons for different species of fish and which are different in each of the provinces and territories. The *Canada Environmental Protection Act* also has many regulations concerning pollutants, emissions from various industries and similar subjects. Lastly, the First Nations Land Registry Regulations were established pursuant to the *First Nations Land Management Act*.

## POLICIES

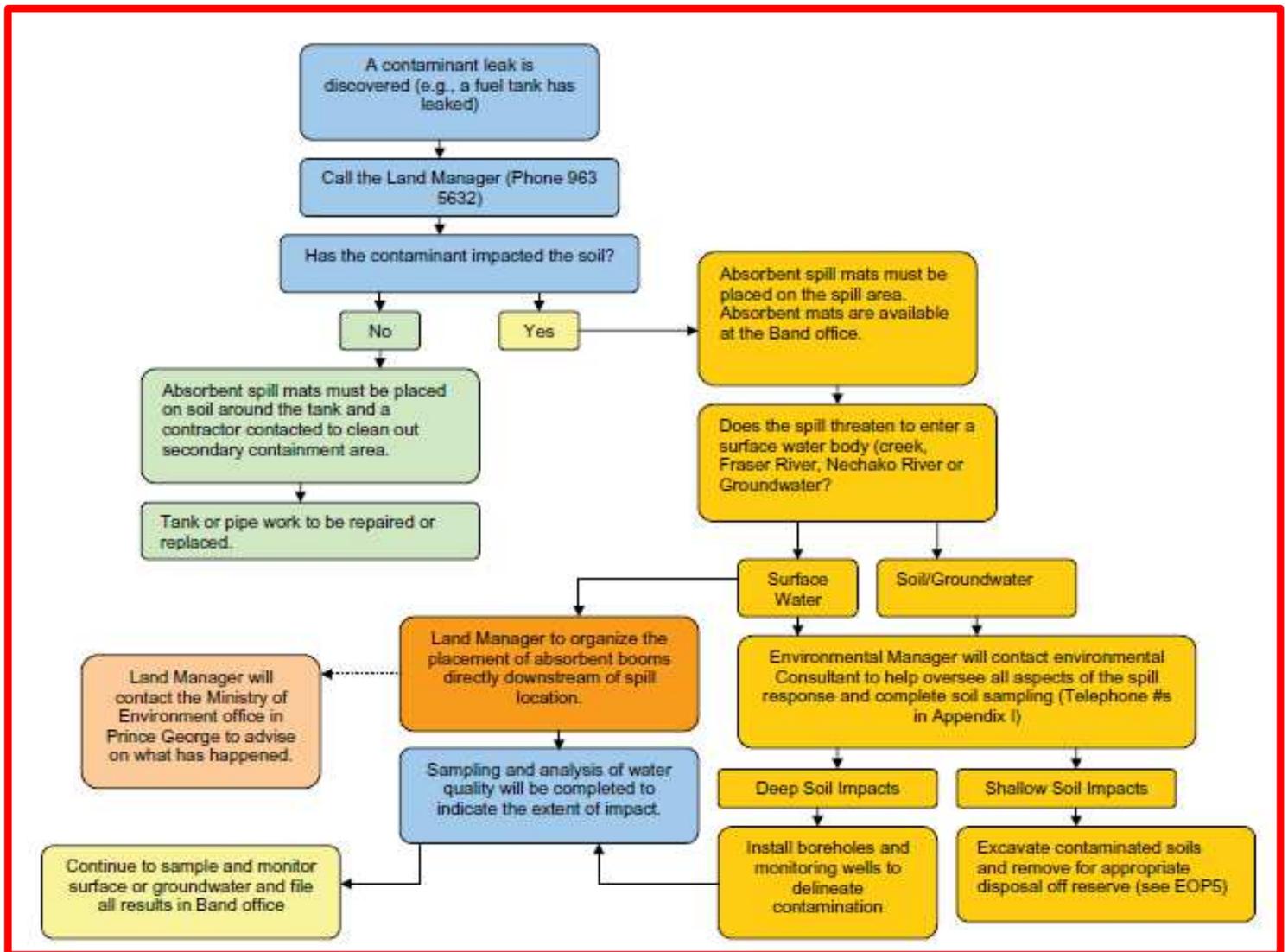
**Policies** – are a less stringent set of rules or strategies set in place by a government to improve standards. They are set in place to achieve certain objectives that are within the law or that need to comply with the law. Policies are easier to change and amend.

# Lheidli T'enneh

## Ground and Surface Water

### Environmental Operational Procedure

#### Flowchart for: Leaks Threatening Surface and Groundwater Quality





## **OVERVIEW OF PHASE II AND III ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENTS (ESA)**

Developmental First Nations (FNs) would have done a Phase I ESA. Phase I ESA only suggests potential or actual contamination, based on available reports and field observation. No physical sampling (e.g., of soil or water) is conducted, so a Phase I ESA cannot confirm the presence or extent of contamination on reserve land. Furthermore, a Phase I ESA report is accurate only at the time of assessment, and may become outdated if conditions at a site change.

A FN ideally would have ensured that its Individual Agreement and work plan contain a commitment by Canada to assist the FN in identifying contaminated sites by conducting a Phase II ESA and a workplan and timeline to remediate them in a Phase III ESA. Without a Phase II ESA, a FN will not be sure about the extent of contamination on its lands, and without a Phase III, it will not know the cost of remediation.

Phase II and III investigations may be required to support, refute or extend the Phase I ESA findings and fulfill Canada's obligations set out in the Individual Agreement environmental work plan.

### **WHAT IS A PHASE II ESA?**

**Phase II ESA** is an intrusive investigation and assessment of a property's surface and subsurface media. Phase II studies typically investigate "Areas of Potential Environmental Concern" (APECs) identified by Phase I ESAs to determine whether they are "Areas of Environmental Concern" (AECs). A Phase II ESA investigates and confirms the environmental condition of the APECs and determines the site characteristics (chemicals, contamination, and concentrations) present. This information is necessary to file a Record of Site Condition (RSC) and perform a Risk Assessment, which assesses and physical pathways to human exposure, ecological effects, and the potential for off-site migration of contaminants.

**Phase II ESAs** are intended to examine the areas identified during a Phase I ESA and to determine whether contamination actually exists on a site. The Phase II ESA focuses on gathering specific information as required about an APEC and can include the following tasks:

- Sampling of surface and subsurface soil, groundwater and surface water, soil vapour (along with laboratory analysis), sediment, and collection of terrestrial or aquatic plant samples;
- Aboveground and underground fuel storage tank content and tightness testing, asbestos containing material (ACM) sampling, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) sampling and identification, geomagnetic or geophysical surveys;
- Directly measuring conditions such as noise levels or radiation;
- Using environmental fate or transportation models to evaluate the potential migration of the contamination.

The result of a Phase II ESA is the determination of the need for a remedial work plan and may also reveal whether conditions or events at the site are causing or likely to cause adverse effects that require notification of regulatory authorities. The results of Phase II analyses are typically compared with federal guidelines and provincial standards for contaminant concentrations. If contaminant concentrations exceed these established levels, then AECs may be identified.

The typical scope of work may include:

- collection of soil, groundwater, surface water, sediment, or vapour samples,
- chemical analysis of samples for relevant parameters,
- surveying the site and establishing groundwater flow direction,
- determining the appropriate criteria to which the results must be compared,



- interpretation of data, possibly including modeling, qualitative risk assessment, or development of a Conceptual Site Model,
- preparation of a clear, comprehensive report documenting the findings and presenting a conclusion regarding the environmental condition of the site.

**Phase II ESAs** are guided by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Standard Z769 (1998) - [CAN/CSA-Z769-00](#)

The CSA standard establishes the principles and practices that are applicable to a Phase II ESA. The standard is intended to provide a consistent framework and minimum requirements for conducting Phase II ESAs that can accommodate broad regulatory and liability requirements, and can address pertinent site-specific conditions. The CSA framework involves developing a sampling plan, preparing for and undertaking an investigation for sampling and measuring, and interpreting and reporting on the information gathered. This Standard is an updated version of the previous CSA Standard Z768.

### **WHAT IS A PHASE III ESA?**

Phase III ESA examines the need for, and methods of, remediating identified contamination on a site. If delineation was not conducted during the Phase II investigations, Phase III sampling is conducted to delineate the physical extent of previously-identified contamination. Phase III investigations may involve intensive testing, sampling, and monitoring, “fate and transport” studies and other modeling, and the design of feasibility studies for remediation and remedial plans. A Phase III study normally involves assessment of alternative cleanup methods, risk management strategies, and costs and logistics. Phase III reports detail the steps needed to minimize human or ecological risk, to perform site cleanup, and conduct follow-up monitoring for residual contaminants.

If a Phase II confirms contamination and determines that unacceptable levels of contamination exist, a Phase III Remedial Investigation should be carried out to determine what approach should be taken to clean up or contain the contaminants present at the site.



## **PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT**

### **WHAT IS A PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT (ESA)?**

A **Phase I ESA** identifies the potential presence of contaminants in soil, sediment, groundwater or surface water through site inspection and review of reports and historical information. Sampling and analysis of soil or water typically is not conducted in a Phase I ESA. The key aspects of a Phase I ESA are records review, site visits, interviews, information evaluation, reporting and identifying “areas of potential environmental concern” (APECs), which may be studied further in a Phase II and III ESA.

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) usually funds Phase II and III ESAs after a Land Code has been enacted. The limitation of Phase I ESA is that it only identifies **potential** contamination. It is important that a Phase I ESA identifies all APECs, because this list will establish the extent of potential contamination that has occurred while reserves were managed by INAC. Phase II and III ESAs (which involve sampling) are needed to determine whether contamination actually exists, its extent, and implications for remediation. The parties to the Phase I ESA are the First Nation (FN) and Canada (INAC). Lands Advisory Board provides assistant when requested.

### **WHY IS PHASE I ESA REQUIRED IN THE DEVELOPMENTAL PROCESS?**

Canada provides a FN, at its request, with “all existing information, in Canada’s possession, respecting any potential or actual environmental problems with the proposed FN land”. Such existing information may be inadequate to fully describe the condition of reserve lands, so Canada’s policy is to fund the preparation of Phase I ESAs.

### **WHY IS PHASE I ESA IMPORTANT TO THE INDIVIDUAL AGREEMENT?**

Because the Phase I ESA helps to describe the environmental condition of reserves and identifies areas for further investigation, results of the Phase I ESA will be summarized in the Individual Agreement.

Because Phase I ESAs do not determine the actual presence or extent of contamination on reserve land, a FN should ensure that its Individual Agreement and work plan contain a commitment by Canada to assist the FN in identifying contaminated sites on reserve and a timeline to remediate them. Therefore, before



approving an Individual Agreement, a FN should meet with INAC to confirm responsibility for further studies and remediation of identified contamination. It is imperative that the nature and scope of further environmental work be included in the work plan before a FN signs its Individual Agreement.

### **WHAT WORK IS TO BE CARRIED OUT DURING A PHASE I ESA?**

INAC has a Statement of Work (SOW) template that outlines the scope of the work to be carried out during a Phase I ESA, including records review, interviews (e.g. with elders), site visits, evaluation of information and reporting, project management, project scheduling, insurance and safety, standards requirements, special requirements, submission of proposals, proposal evaluation criteria and budget. A FN may wish to identify additional ESA tasks to be conducted.

### **WHO OVERSEES THE PHASE I ESA WORK?**

A Joint Management Committee (JMC) is usually established to oversee and manage the Phase I ESA work. The JMC's responsibilities are outlined in the Statement of Work (SOW). The SOW also outlines the responsibilities of the qualified Environmental Assessor that will be carrying out the Phase I ESA.

The JMC committee is comprised of FN and INAC representatives. A FN may wish to retain their own technical advisor to participate in JMC deliberations.



## Scope of Typical Provincial and Federal Environmental Regimes (Moffat, 2004)

<b>Provincial Environmental Protection Regime</b>		
<b>Air</b>	<b>Water</b>	<b>Land/Waste</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air emissions</li> <li>• Boilers</li> <li>• Incinerators</li> <li>• Open burning</li> <li>• Industrial emissions</li> <li>• Lab emissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aspects of drinking water quality</li> <li>• Discharges to surface water</li> <li>• Discharges to sanitary sewer</li> <li>• Discharges to storm sewer</li> <li>• Discharges to septic systems</li> <li>• Regulation of surface and ground water withdrawals</li> <li>• Protection of aquifer quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid waste and recycling</li> <li>• Contaminated sites</li> <li>• Hazardous waste</li> <li>• Nutrients (from agriculture)</li> <li>• Pesticides</li> </ul>
<b>Federal Environmental Protection Regime</b>		
<b>Air</b>	<b>Water</b>	<b>Land/Waste</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International air emissions</li> <li>• Vehicle, engine, or equipment emissions</li> <li>• Industrial emissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drinking water</li> <li>• Discharges to surface water</li> <li>• Irrigation water quality</li> <li>• Water quality for aquatic life</li> <li>• Livestock water quality</li> <li>• Land based discharges to marine environment</li> <li>• Disposal at sea</li> <li>• International water pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid wastes and recycling</li> <li>• Contaminated sites</li> <li>• Hazardous wastes and substances</li> <li>• Nutrients</li> <li>• Pesticides</li> <li>• Fertilizers</li> <li>• Fuels</li> </ul>