

## Land Use Planning Development Initiative 2024-25 Program Overview

The purpose of this initiative is to provide funding and assistance to up to ten Operational or Developmental First Nations for the development of their individual Land Use Plan (LUP).

The overall intent of the Land Use Planning (LUP) Development Initiative is to assist planning and lands governance processes that are community-driven, where the First Nation and the Lands Department play a lead role and are supported by a professional planner. The funding initiative encourages unique planning approaches that build on and advance good governance under Land Code. Completing and implementing a Land Use Plan requires considerable commitments of time, effort, and the capacity to work collaboratively to reach consensus as a community.

- **Land Use Plan (LUP) / Land Relationship Plan** – A community-driven process that informs good governance and decision-making on First Nation Lands. Using technical studies as well as community guidance, planning supports First Nations Lands Staff and Committee Members to determine whether land should be developed, protected, or remain as is.
- **Funding for Participating First Nations** - The FNL MRC will provide **\$125,000** in funding for participating First Nations, based on the completion of project milestones for eligible project costs, as well as one-on-one technical support to help guide Land Code First Nations through the LUP development process. Once the LUP is complete, participating First Nations will be eligible to apply for an additional **\$175,000** in funding to support LUP implementation.
- **Scheduling** - Milestones and deliverables for the LUP funding initiative are established through a funding agreement that is co-developed by the FNL MRC and each participating First Nation. Through this community-driven approach, First Nations communities are able to effectively determine their needs for land use planning and have them reflected in the LUP deliverables. LUPs take approximately 2 to 3 years to complete.

### Eligible First Nations

To be eligible for this funding initiative, First Nations must:

- Be an Operational or Developmental First Nation;
- Not have a Land Use Plan in place or have an outdated Land Use Plan that requires significant revisions (i.e., LUP older than 5 years); and
- Not currently be receiving Land Use Planning funding from another source (i.e., Indigenous Services Canada, National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association).

- **RC Contacts** – For more information about this special funding initiative, please contact Adam Wright at [Adam.Wright@labrc.com](mailto:Adam.Wright@labrc.com) or Hilary Black at [hilary.black@labrc.com](mailto:hilary.black@labrc.com)