

**Q & A / Comments****Q: Are the laws enacted under the authority of the Framework Agreement or the Land Code?**

A: The answer is both. If your First Nation is ever in court or debate with other governments – we would say that your First Nation has the authority to make laws and has made laws under the Framework Agreement. And the provisions of the Framework Agreement regarding your land governance authority have to be respected. At the same time, your laws are enacted in accordance with the land code and all of those procedures, subject to any rules that are set out in the land code.

*Follow up comment-* When enacting laws, we ground it within the authority of our land code because it is the Nation's law. We believe that it amplifies the self-determination of the Nation by putting it within the land code, and it provides the civic provisions on how a law should be enacted, which ensures that processes are followed per the land code.

The Framework Agreement respects an inherent right of self-government. It's not that law-making powers are granted by the Framework Agreement - so perhaps the better terminology would be to say these are First Nation laws made in accordance with the land code. But also, to say "in accordance" to the Framework Agreement instead of "under" the Framework Agreement.

**Q: If we were to develop a law on clean drinking water, would it then be our responsibility to maintain the water facilities, or does ISC still have a supporting arm in respect to funding etc.?**

We would certainly want to speak with you more regarding specifics to your community. But generally, under land code authority, you can establish the views of your own community. However, there may be a need to have some sort of agreement with ISC if there is that questions of imposing some specific responsibility.

**Q: In community involvement, does anyone have any experience of creating an understanding of legal language? Or have noticed a lack of participation because they don't understand?**

*We have seen a lack of participation which has caused us to reformat our law engagement process internally. I have also seen laws/agreements misinterpreted because of the technical legal wording.*

**LAC also great way for other departments to communicate, ec dev, housing, construction, public works etc**

*LAC comprise of experienced members on land issues, bring issues forward and provide an extra communication within the membership ...*

**It's good to have a rep from housing/public works and or health to sit on the Lands Committee.**