



Training, Mentorship & Professional Development

# Relationship Protocol

**Financial Governance National Workshop**  
January 14-15, 2020





## Protocol Governing Relationship between:



LINKS:  
[Protocol Agreement](#)

# Relationship Protocol

## PREAMBLE

### WHEREAS

- A. *The First Nations Fiscal Management Act (FMA)* is First Nation-led legislation that was enacted in 2005 to create a First Nations Tax Commission, First Nations Financial Management Board and First Nations Finance Authority, as well as to make consequential amendments to other Acts;
- B. The FMA provides First Nations, who choose to join, with the opportunity to assume fiscal powers including real property taxation, financial management and debenture financing;
- C. The Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management (FAFNLM) was signed in 1996 and is a Government-to-Government agreement that was ratified by the *First Nations Land Management Act (FNLMA)* in 1999. It provides signatory First Nations with authority to make laws in relation to their reserve lands, resources and environment;
- D. The Framework Agreement is a First Nations-led initiative supported by the Lands Advisory Board (LAB). The LAB is composed of First Nation-elected representatives who work collectively to provide signatory First Nations the opportunity and support to opt out of the restrictive land management provisions of the *Indian Act* and to return law-making powers to the hands of the First Nations;
- E. In 2018, the Parties worked together for the first time to host an historic two-day national meeting in Vancouver, B.C., on May 16 and 17. It was attended by more than 320 delegates from more than 160 FMA and / or FAFNLM First Nations from across the country;
- F. The Parties have agreed to enter into a Protocol Agreement (the "Agreement"), which will formally establish their desire to work co-operatively together on initiatives related to the First Nations economic opportunities and growth.

# Relationship Protocol

**The signatories of this Protocol Agreement acknowledge and agree that:**

1. This Protocol Agreement is based on the principle of mutual respect and recognition.
2. The Parties agree to respect each other's individual legislative, political, technical and organizational mandates. As well, they agree to work in a co-operative and mutually supportive manner to facilitate opportunities for greater economic development and growth for First Nations communities. This will include but is not limited to:
  - new infrastructure;
  - increased revenue opportunities;
  - new economic development opportunities;
  - increased fiscal and administrative independence from other governments;
  - improved financial management;
  - improved administrative efficiency;
  - 10-Year Grant Allocations;
  - lands management and governance; and
  - positive actions to support climate change and environmental integrity.
3. The Parties further agree to:
  - Provide a forum in which First Nations governments can work together to share experiences and seek solutions to common challenges;
  - Develop a more formal framework to co-ordinate and advance proposals supported by FMA and FAFNLMA First Nations and organizations;
  - Work with First Nations and other governments to promote the advancement of First Nation authority, revenue powers and land jurisdiction, in a way that enhances tax integrity and contributes to the national economic and social union;
  - Support the development of a revenue-based fiscal relationship;
  - Improve the ability of First Nations to generate and attract business investment; and
  - Drawing on the legislative and contractual frameworks of the FMA and FAFNLM, recommend policies and advance initiatives designed to improve the quality of living standards in First Nations communities.
4. This Protocol Agreement is not a legally binding agreement, and for greater certainty, does not create legally enforceable obligations for either of the Parties, nor are the parties hereto legally committed to concluding any further contract or agreement.
5. The actions contemplated in this Protocol Agreement will begin upon signing.
6. The Parties may terminate this Protocol Agreement upon delivery of written notice to this effect.



**FIRST NATIONS  
LAND MANAGEMENT  
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**THANK YOU!**

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