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First Nations Land Management Surveyor General Branch

Survey Capacity Development Program

Presentation to LAB-RC Survey Workshop – Ottawa – August 14-15, 2018



Presentation Overview

- A Brief Chronology of First Nations Land Management
- Recognition of Capacity Development
- SGB Survey Capacity Development Program
 - Program Goals
 - Potential Candidates
 - Training Overview
 - Training Budget
 - Entry Selection Process
 - Questions and Answers
 - Contact Information

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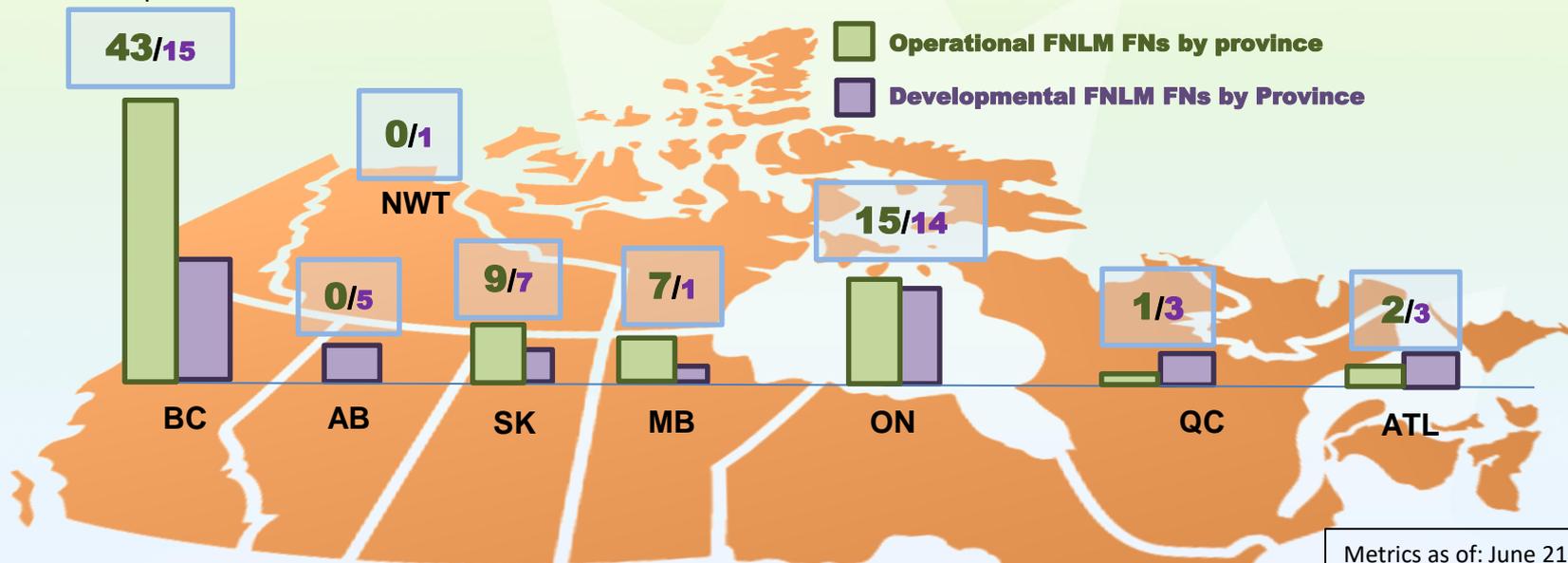
First Nations Land Management

- In 1991, a group of First Nations Chiefs approached INAC with a proposal to enable First Nations to opt-out of the 33 sections of the *Indian Act* related to land and environmental management.
- This resulted in the signing of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management (Framework Agreement) between Canada and 14 First Nations in 1996 and passage of the *First Nation Land Management Act* in 1999, which ratifies and brings into effect the Framework Agreement.
- First Nations operate under a community developed and approved Land Code that enables communities to manage their reserve land, resources, and environment according to their own cultural values, community priorities and objectives.



Distribution of FNLM First Nations

- Communities who are operational or working towards becoming operational are considered “active” in FNLM. There are currently 126 active participants:
 - 49 Developmental communities
 - 77 Operational communities



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Recognition for Capacity Development

- The success of FNLM has provided a growing interest in the regime and has resulted in a greater diversity in land management experience among First Nations expressing interest in participating.
- This experience along with continuous engagement with First Nations on reserve land management have demonstrated the need for flexible funding that can respond to specific needs of individual First Nations.
- As a result pre-readiness supports and capacity development funding has been allocated through Budget 2018 to support First Nation Land Management.

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SGB Survey Capacity Development

- As part of the Budget 2018 expansion of FNLM, the Surveyor General Branch was asked to develop a capacity-building program in land surveying to support First Nation communities operating under, or considering operating under FNLM.
- The SGB Survey Capacity Development Program has been built upon the success of a First Nation-led 2016 survey capacity pilot project with Wikwemikong First Nation.

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Program Goals

- The SGB Survey Capacity Development Program will target 24 First Nation communities over 5 years and will provide up to 12 weeks of in-community training to:
 - Remove barriers to effective land management and advance the success of the First Nations Lands Management Regime;
 - Increase First Nation Community's knowledge of property rights systems and spatial data management, to support human activity on the land and to unlock the economic potential within their lands;
 - Enhance surveying knowledge of First Nation land managers, administrators, and decision makers, to allow them to communicate their requirements effectively with the surveying profession, and be able to assess the service they receive and reduce the cost of those services;
 - Stimulate an interest in furthering education in Science and Technology, specifically Geomatics and;
 - Reduce economic leakage by building skills and capacity to do work within their community.

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Potential Training Candidates

- Potential training candidates will be employees or members of their respective Indigenous communities.
- The goal will be to provide practical knowledge in land surveying principles and techniques, and an understanding of how surveys support interests in First Nation lands.
- Preference will be given to candidates willing to explore continuing education and commencing on a career path to survey technicians, survey technologists, or accredited professional lands surveyors.



Training Overview

- The training will demonstrate the fundamental purpose of:
 - legal surveys, practical techniques and methodologies used by industry to complete surveys;
 - provide experience operating the latest survey equipment and software;
 - provide training on researching land records and surveys and how to interpret those records; and
 - provide appropriate health and safety training relevant to field survey activities.

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Training Overview

- The training will be customized to the First Nation's needs, spread out over a span of up to 24 months in order to provide time for participants to absorb information, conduct research (both external and internal) and experiment on their own between training sessions.
- In developing a customized training plan with the communities at project start-up, the communities will help define what “success” means from their perspective. Participants will be measured against this definition rather than an arbitrary standard.

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Training Overview

- SGB mentor(s) will be assigned to provide on-site training in the participant's community.
- In addition to the structured field visits, the SGB mentor(s) will be accessible to the participant full time for the duration of the training program.
- During and at the completion of the training period, participants will be tested on their surveying knowledge and practical skills related to conducting legal surveys in the field and in the office (all related to the customized training program).
- Successful participants will receive a Certificate of Completion from the SGB.
 - NOTE: this is not an academically accredited certificate.

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Training Budget

- Each First Nation community will be provided \$50,000 in funding allocations to support the First Nation training participant(s) over the 24 month training period.
 - This funding is provided to each First Nation community to support training participants in covering any additional costs incurred during the attendance of this training.
- An additional \$12,000 in funding allocation will be available, per community, for administrative overhead and purchase of incidental materials.
- The full training budget amount of \$62,000 will be available to the First Nation if the First Nation participants complete all of the training activities in less than the 24 months training schedule.



Entry Selection Process

- Indigenous Services Canada, through a selection process developed in partnership with the Capacity Development Working Group (members include Lands Advisory Board – Resource Centre, NALMA, ISC and SGB) shall identify First Nations communities for entry.
- First Nations seeking entry into the SGB Survey Capacity Development Program should submit an expression of interest to their Regional Indigenous Services Canada Office, Regional Lands Advisory Board – Resource Centre or to their NALMA contacts.

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Questions and Answers

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- **ISC**

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