

# THE LANDS ADVISOR



**DID YOU KNOW?** 205, or 1 in 3, First Nation Communities in Canada are either already involved in the Framework Agreement as signatories, or have submitted formal interest in becoming a signatory!

205



## IN THIS ISSUE:

### FIRST NATIONS SUCCESSES:

Squiala First Nation is leading the way with it's Eagle Landing Project. Home to one of the largest Walmart stores in all of B.C. Eagle Landing is quickly becoming...

### FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT OR FNLMA?

Bill Henderson sheds light on the importance of the Framework Agreement and the FNLMA. He discusses the primary differences between to the two documents, and the popular misconceptions of their roles. Bill reminds us why we should proud to be a Framework Agreement First Nation!

### NEWS FROM THE RESOURCE CENTRE

Results of a ratification vote? Communities in-the-news? Up-coming meetings or training opportunities? Important documents, issues, or questions? Take a moment to read up on what's been happening during the 1st quarter, and what is up-and-coming!

Welcome to our first edition of the new First Nations Land Management Resource Centre Inc. (FNLMRC) quarterly newsletter, *The Lands Advisor*. In it we hope to share exciting news, stories, and updates as they pertain to the Signatories of the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* (Framework Agreement).

Throughout this issue, and the ones to follow, you will find a number of interactive links that will take you to full copies of important documents, news articles, videos, etc. Should you have any problems accessing those links, or if you are reading the newsletter offline, please do not hesitate to contact the communications team at the Resource Centre. We would be happy to send a full set of the information shared in this edition!

#### First Nations Land Management Resource Centre Inc.,

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# SUCCESS STORIES: SQUALA FIRST NATION



## Community Profile:

Total Members: 219

On-Reserve: 147

Off-Reserve: 72

Tribe: Ts'elxweyewq

Tribal Group: Coast Salish

Council: Stó:lō Nation

FA Status: Operational

Vote Date: Sept. 12/2007

Address: 45005 Squala Road  
Chilliwack, BC V2P 7Z9

Website: [www.squala.com](http://www.squala.com)

**S**quala First Nation is located in the Fraser Valley of Southern British Columbia, Canada. Squala First Nation is composed of two reserves; IR #7 and IR #8. Squala IR #7 is located on the north-west side of the City of Chilliwack. Squala IR #8 is located on the north-east section of Chilliwack Mountain.

Located on Squala First Nation land, and with Squala's Eagle Land Development Limited Partnership as majority owner, the Eagle Landing Shopping Centre is poised to become the largest open-air shopping complex in the Province. When complete, Eagle Landing will consist of approximately 600,000 square feet of shopping space.

Tenants of the shopping centre include one of the largest Walmart Supercentres in B.C., a 10 screen Cineplex Odeon theatre, and a variety of top name restaurants, retail stores, and banking

institutions to include companies such as Swiss Chalet, Tim Hortons, The Source, Bell Mobility, Citi Financial and many others.

A member of the Stó:lō Nation, whose membership collectively owns the largest land base in the Fraser Valley, Squala First Nation is part of a number of new business ventures and is seeing great gains in employment and training opportunities for the region.



**“ With community support to ratify the Squala First Nation Land Code in 2007, SFN is now the true decision maker over our reserve lands and resources. Not only do we have the ability to assert control over our lands, we can also move at the speed of business which is essential in today's world when it comes to economic development. “**

*Chief David Jimmie*



**\$1.4B**

A 2016 KPMG Partial Benefits Study estimates the *Framework Agreement* provides a positive net return to Canada of up to \$1.4 billion. This is due to the dramatic growth of First Nations led economic development ventures in operational *Framework Agreement* communities.



# A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

by Bill Henderson

The *Framework Agreement* on First Nation Land Management lies at the heart of what the Lands Advisory Board does and what your First Nation does to achieve the goal of governance over reserve lands, resources and the environment. In fact, it is more than the heart of the process, it is the process.

If your First Nation is developing a land code, or governing pursuant to its land code, that is because your First Nation has signed or adhered to the *Framework Agreement*. There is no other way to gain access to the opportunity. And when your community votes to implement its land code, it formally ratifies the *Framework Agreement*. To date, 74 First Nations have ratified the *Framework Agreement*.

The important point here is that the *Framework Agreement* is an agreement between your First Nation and the government of Canada. To make it work, your First Nation must sign and ratify it, and Canada must do the same. Parliament ratified the *Framework Agreement* and its amendments by enacting the First Nations Land Management Act in 1999, often referred to as the FNLMA.

You hear a lot about the FNLMA, to the point where people get the impression that nothing else matters. Nothing could be further from the truth. Federal ratification is equally important to First Nation ratification of the *Framework Agreement*, not more important. So let's all keep our eye on the ball here, and the ball is the *Framework Agreement*.  
[\(continued..., click here for the full article...\)](#)

The number of First Nation Communities who have ratified their community Land Code!

74



## Misipawistik Cree Nation

**April 9th, 2017:** Misipawistik Cree Nation (MCN) became the 73rd Operational Signatory to the *Framework Agreement*. Not only was the vote a tremendous success, with an overwhelming majority (94%) of participating voters choosing to ratify their community's land code, but it was also the first time that E-voting was used in a land code vote in Manitoba. The incredible show of support for the MCN Land Code by the community's membership is yet another prime indication of their will to re-assume governance and jurisdiction over their reserve lands and resources.

## Temagami First Nation

**June 24th, 2017:** In an outstanding show of support, members of Temagami First Nation (TFN) in Ontario ratified their community Land Code. TFN is the 74th community to become an Operational Signatory to the *Framework Agreement*. With 42% of eligible voters participating, and an approval rate of 87%, members of the community can take great pride in regaining governance control over their reserve lands and resources through the TFN Land Code.

[Check out the Chief's Message on their Land Code!](#)



### COFFEE ANYONE?

**July 19th, 2017:**

The Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation announced the opening of a Tim Hortons restaurant, adding to the list of successful businesses and jobs opportunities on Scugog Lands!

The number of First Nation Communities currently on the waitlist to join the *Framework Agreement*.

57

## April 21st, 2017: New Signatories Added!

21

On behalf of the Lands Advisory Board, and the *Framework Agreement* Signatory First Nations, and with the full support of Canada, we are delighted to welcome the following 21 new signatory Nations to the *Framework Agreement*. This brings the total number of *Framework Agreement* Signatory First Nations to 148.

These new Signatory Communities are: (B.C.) Ditidaht, Iskut, Kwaw-kwaw-apilt, Lytton, Penelakut, Splotsin Indian Band, T'it'q'et, (Alb) Enoch Cree, Fort McMurray, (SK) Carry The Kettle, James Smith, Sakimay, (ON) Animiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishnaabek, Chappleau Cree, Big Grassy, Hiawatha, Mattagami, Saugeen, Sheshegwaning, (QC) Listiguy Mi'gmaq, (NS) Paqtnkek Mi'kmaw Nation. [Click here for more information!](#)

The number of First Nation Communities who are developing their community Land Code.

57

## SIGNATORIES IN THE NEWS!

### WESTERN REGION

Lower Nicola First Nation

["Indigenous-owned company brings renewable energy to First Nations"](#)

Ktunaxa Nation

["Ktunaxa Nation regains full ownership of St. Eugene Resort"](#)

Tsuut'ina Nation

["We never really did give up the land': Tsuut'ina chief urges public to see Treaty 7 document"](#)

### PRAIRIE REGION

Whitecap Dakota First Nation

["Whitecap Dakota First Nation hopes to vote on self-government in 3 years"](#)

Fisher River Cree Nation

["Fisher River Cree Nation Breaks New Ground"](#)

Enoch Cree Nation

["Federal government will fund new water project for Enoch Cree Nation"](#)

### EASTERN REGION

Nipissing First Nation

["Natural gas on Jocko Point set to flow to Nipissing First Nation"](#)

Membertou First Nation (& FAFNLM)

["Life under the Indian Act a 'horrible existence,' Indigenous senator says, but there's hope"](#)

### ACROSS CANADA

Rainy River First Nation

["Ontario and Rainy River First Nations announce new reserve creation"](#)

Quebec First Nations

["Quebec launches \\$147 million action plan for Aboriginal communities"](#)

Self-Governing First Nations

["Self-governing First Nations can keep all revenues, Ottawa says"](#)

33

The number of sections of the Indian Act that no longer apply to First Nations governing their reserve lands and resources under their own community land code.

NOW ONLINE: The 2016-2017 LAB Annual Report is available, in both official languages, by visiting our web site at: [www.labrc.com](http://www.labrc.com) or by following these links: [ENGLISH](#)/[FRENCH](#)



**THE LANDS ADVISORY BOARD.**

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. THE RESOURCE CENTRE.**

Who are We? What are our roles and responsibilities? How do we work together for the Framework Agreement and your community? [Click here for an informative presentation](#) with the answers to these questions and more!



**LAND GOVERNANCE MANUAL:**

**A GUIDE TO BEST PRACTICES FOR LAND GOVERNANCE**

The Resource Centre has been holding a number of "Think Tank" training sessions to review and expand upon this incredible, living resource tool. For more information on this extensive document, and the many training opportunities surrounding it, [PLEASE CLICK HERE!](#)



**2017 LAB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**

**AN INVITATION TO OPERATIONAL & DEVELOPMENTAL NATIONS**

This year the LAB AGM will be hosted by Chief Michel R. Bernard of Conseil des Abenakis de Wolinak at Hotel Musee Premieres Nations, Wendake, Quebec on Sept. 26 & 27, 2017. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION!](#)

**IN OUR NEXT ISSUE:**

# A PRAIRIE FOCUS



## HAVE AN IDEA?

Is there something specific you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter? We'd love to hear from you! Contact us at: [communications@labrc.com](mailto:communications@labrc.com)



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