

Presentation to Namgis community and administration

Namgis First Nation

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Topics for Discussion

- Historical and Legal Foundations
- The *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*
- Land Code and Individual Agreement
- Governance and Implementation
- Resource Centre Support
- Questions and Answers

Legacy of the *Indian Act*

- Paternalistic;
- Permission needed to leave the reserve;
- Permission required to sell hay, etc.;
- Residential Schools;
- Enfranchisement;
- Forbade First Nations from forming political organizations;
- Prevented First Nations from pursuing land claims;
- Potlatch and other cultural ceremonies declared illegal;
- Denied First Nation peoples the right to vote;

The Framework Agreement

The Framework Agreement was signed on February 12, 1996, between 13 First Nations and Canada's Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.



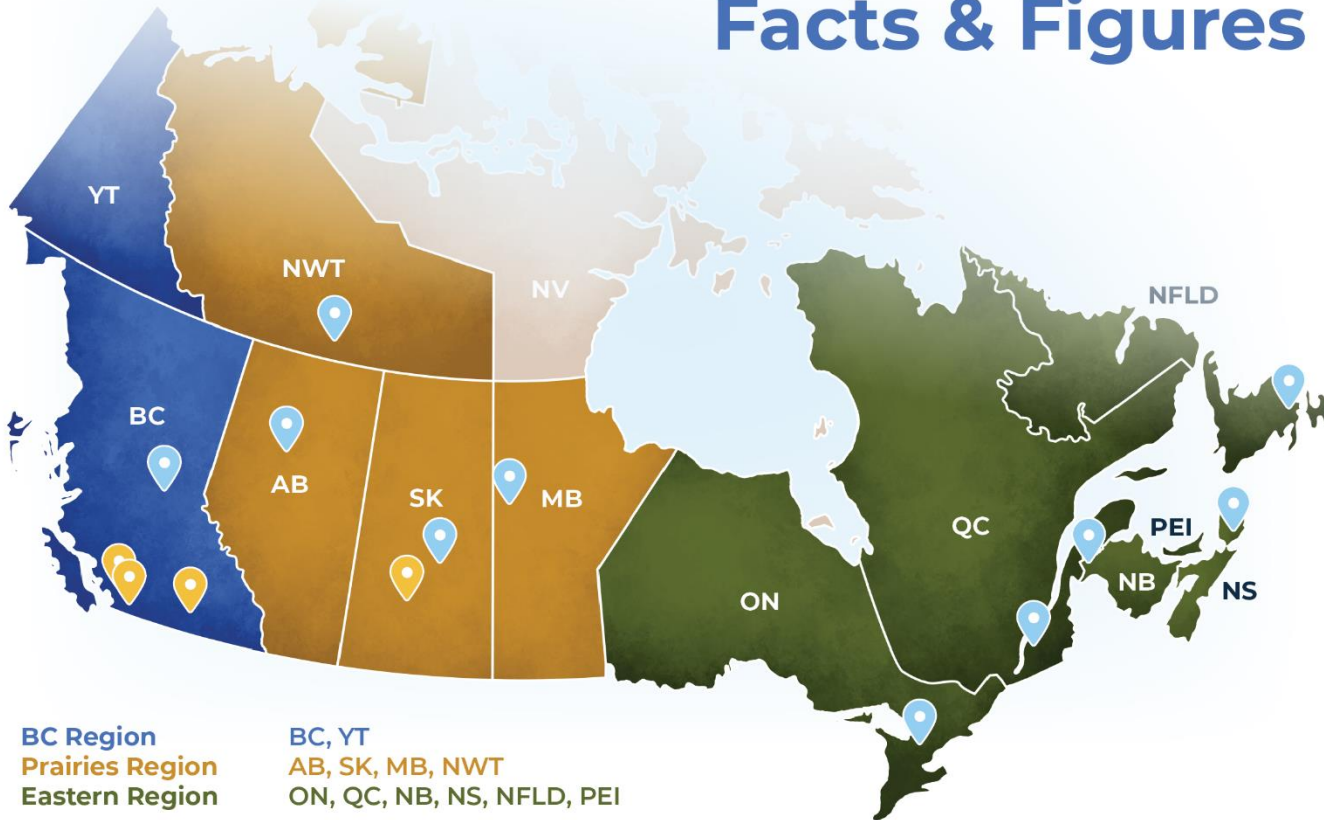
- Chippewas of Georgina Island
- Chippewas of Rama
- Cowessess
- Lheidli T'enneh
- Mississaugas of Scugog Island
- Musqueam
- Muskoday
- Nipissing
- N'Quatqua
- Opaskwayak Cree
- Siksika
- Squamish
- Westbank

Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management

- A government-to-government agreement between First Nations and Canada.
- First Nations have law and decision-making powers under the Framework Agreement.
- Driven by First Nations to restore land governance through the development and approval of their own land code.
- The Framework Agreement protects First Nation lands.

📍 1st Operational Signatory in the Province/Territory 📍 Community now in Full Self-Government or Treaty

February 12, 2026 Facts & Figures



128

Operational First Nations have established land codes

224

Signatory First Nations across Canada at various stages land code

1 in 3

First Nations are signatory to the Framework Agreement or have expressed formal interest to become a signatory

10

Provinces / Territories are home to operational First Nations

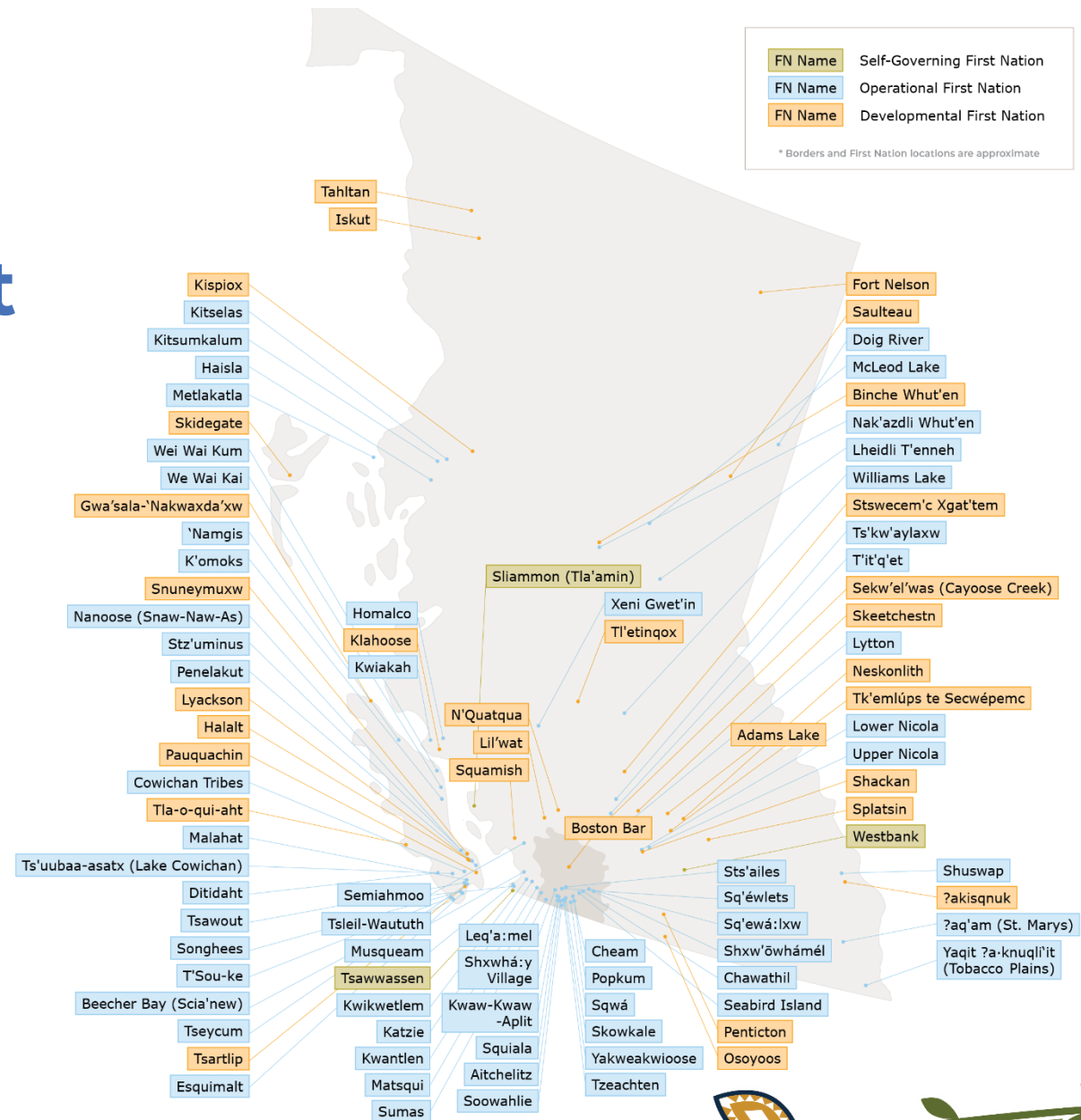
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First Nations have moved on to full self-government or treaty after ratifying their land codes

1.2+ M

Acres of First Nation Land have been removed from the colonial *Indian Act* lands system

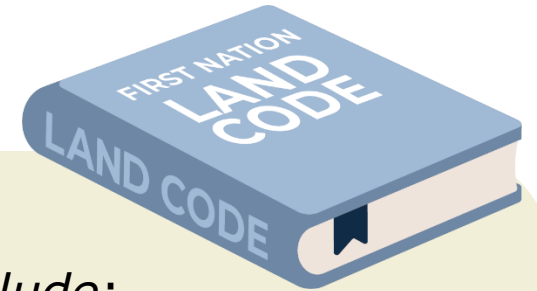
There are 100 BC First Nation Signatories to the Framework Agreement.



Land Code

Establishes the system of governance for the management and administration of First Nation lands.

- Description of Lands
- Use and occupancy rules and procedures
- Rules and procedures for land revenues
- Requirements for accountability to members
- Law making procedures and publication
- Conflict of interest rules
- Dispute resolution process
- Rules for granting or expropriating interests
- Delegation of Council authority
- Procedures for amendments and land exchanges



Could include:

- Law-making Powers for Council
- Limitations to rights and interests
- Encumbering, seizing, or executing interest

First Nation Laws



Make First Nation land laws, regulations, and policies under the First Nation's land code



Can establish offences that are punishable on summary conviction, provide for fines, penalties and other enforcement mechanisms



First Nations can still make by-laws under the Indian Act



Power to make environmental laws



First Nation land laws are stronger than ordinary municipal or *Indian Act* by-laws



First Nations can enforce their enacted land laws.

First Nation Land Laws



Land Use, Zoning, and Development



Allotments, and Interests and Licences



Environmental Assessment and Protection



Natural Resource Management



Trespass, Enforcement and Ticketing



Residential Tenancy



Business Permitting, and Licensing



First Nation Expropriation

Benefits

- Land Base cannot shrink
- Laws made for the First Nation, by the First Nation
- Weight of law
- Control over development
- Create and enforce environmental protection
- Manage Reserve land holdings
- Greater accountability
- Land transactions may be more efficient
- Dispute resolution mechanisms
- Priority Based Land Registry
- Land Code is not a treaty
- A to A leasing
- Manage your lands by your own rules, not Canada's

RESOURCE CENTRE SUPPORT TO FIRST NATIONS



**First Nation
Requests
Support**



**RC Support
Services**

Land Code Governance Support

Environment

Surveys &
Legacy Issues

Land Registry

Land Use
Planning

Solid Waste
Management

Law
Development &
Enforcement

LGM &
Knowledge Path
Tools

Communication
& Public
Relations

Geographic
Information
Systems (GIS)

For further information...



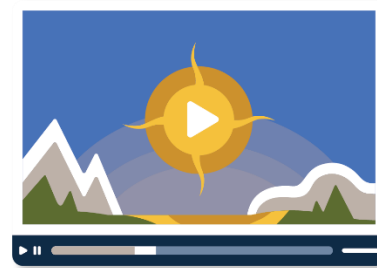
Website

www.labrc.com



Newsletters

[www.labrc.com/
lands-advisor-newsletter](http://www.labrc.com/lands-advisor-newsletter)



Videos

www.vimeo.com/labrc



Podcasts

www.buzzsprout.com/1515202

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Thank You

Questions?

