

RESERVE LAND AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (RLEMP) FIRST NATION EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PAW number/Fiscal year:
6978371 (2024-2025)

Purpose:

The Reserve Land and Environment Management Program (RLEMP) First Nation Expression of Interest form is for First Nations that manage their land under the *Indian Act* to express interest in participating in RLEMP. The purpose of this form is to understand the needs of First Nations interested in building land management capacity, as well as to prioritize new entrants to the Program.

Existing land management capacity is not a prerequisite to enrollment in the program. Answering “no” to any prompt on this form does not exclude a First Nation from RLEMP participation immediately or in the future. Program enrollment is subject to funding availability. ISC may not be able to offer a space to all First Nations that express interest. The amount and scope of existing land management activities a First Nation performs may factor into the prioritization of entrants to RLEMP. Factors that may contribute to prioritization in program entry may include current, planned, or ongoing lands activity related to infrastructure, environment, land use planning, natural resource management, mapping, community-building, education, culture, and economic development.

Other factors that may be considered in prioritization of new First Nations entrants include First Nations who:

- have a low General Assessment score;
- are not subject to a third-party funding agreement manager;
- have provided the Department with consolidated audited financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards;
- have land management activity registered within the Indian Lands Registry.

Due date:

Contact your Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) regional office.

Field definitions:

Field	Definition
A. Applicant/Contact information	
Recipient name	Name of First Nation/tribal council requesting entry.
Recipient number	The number assigned to the First Nation/tribal council.
Contact	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given name - Family name - Title - Mailing address (Number/Street/Apartment/P.O. box) - City/Town - Province/Territory - Postal code - Telephone number - Facsimile number - Email address 	<p>The name and contact information of the primary contact person in relation to the self-assessment.</p> <p>A valid postal code is in the upper case in the format A#A#A#.</p> <p>A valid telephone or facsimile number includes the 3 digit area code in the format ###-###-####.</p> <p>A valid email address may be in upper or lower case in the format a@a.a.</p>

Field	Definition
B. Experience with land administration under the <i>Indian Act</i>	
Land management	
<p>1. Does your First Nation currently perform any of the following land management activities under the <i>Indian Act</i>?</p>	<p>Confirm the types of land transactions/instruments that your First Nation is currently managing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Permits - Leases - Individual land holdings - Other (explain) <p>If 'yes' to any of the above, identify if your First Nation registers these land management instruments in the Indian Lands Registry.</p>
<p>2. Employing a land manager is a requirement to participate in the Reserve Land and Environment Management Program. Does your First Nation have a land manager who currently administers land management activities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If 'no', is your First Nation planning to either hire a land manager or obtain expertise from outside sources? Identify. - If 'yes', identify land management activities from the past five years (type, volume). - If 'yes', has your land manager participated in a land management training (federal government, post-secondary, Professional Lands Management Certification Program, experiential learning/on-the-job training, other)? 	<p>Identify if your First Nation currently has an individual hired to perform land management activities on behalf of the First Nation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If no land manager, identify how the First Nation plans on managing land management activities (e.g., First Nation is in the process of hiring a land manager, or identify how outside expertise will be obtained and used). - If 'yes', identify land management activities such as land transactions / instruments or other land related projects that the First Nation has been conducting in the past five years. Clearly identify the type and volume of activity that has been conducted. - If 'yes', identify land management training that has been undertaken.
<p>3. Does your First Nation use or seek expertise from resources outside of the band office to assist with land and environmental management activities (tribal council, law firm, consulting firm)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If 'yes', list resources and provide a brief explanation. 	<p>Identify whether or not your First Nation has any outside resources being used to provide expertise or to manage land and environmental management activities.</p> <p>List the resources being used (for example, tribal council, law firm, consulting firm). A brief explanation and listing of current education and experience is required.</p>
<p>4. Does your First Nation have experience responding to land management enquiries?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If 'yes', what type of enquiries? 	<p>Confirm whether or not your First Nation currently has the working knowledge and ability to respond to land management enquiries/questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If 'yes', explain the types of land management enquiries your First Nation has experience responding to.
<p>5. Does your First Nation have experience in negotiating all aspects of land transactions? For example, reviewing appraisal information, ensuring fair market value, etc.</p>	<p>Confirm whether or not the First Nation has the internal capacity to complete the negotiation activities of land transactions. Examples would include:</p>

Field	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring fair market value; • reviewing appraisal information; • confirming if non-standard clauses within transaction templates require review by legal.
<p>6. Does your First Nation use standard forms, agreements and document templates developed by Indigenous Services Canada for use in the management of reserve lands and the creation of legal interests (land transactions) under the <i>Indian Act</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If 'no', identify how your First Nation administers land transactions. 	<p>Confirm whether or not the First Nation is using standard templates developed and approved by Indigenous Services Canada for the creation of legal interests (land transactions) under the <i>Indian Act</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If 'no', identify how the First Nation is administering and recording legal interest (land transactions).
<p>7. Does your First Nation have a land office with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plans/maps? - Land management records? - Storage/filing system that is secure from fire and water damage and from theft or tampering? - Access to a working computer and internet connection? - Monitoring and compliance systems (for example, the Indian Land Registry System)? 	<p>Identify if you First Nation has a lands office.</p> <p>Confirm whether or not your First Nation currently has in their possession: maps/plans for reserve lands, land management records outlining activities/interests held by First Nation members or on reserve lands. Confirm if the First Nation has adequate storage/filing systems for securing land management interests and documentation and has access to a working computer and internet connection.</p>
<p>8. Does your First Nation have a land use plan?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If 'yes', describe how your community has progressed in implementing your plan (short and long term goals, plan approval date, human resources used to implement plan). 	<p>Confirm whether or not your First Nation has a land use plan in place.</p> <p>Provide details related to the implementation plan, last approval date/update of plan and details related to resources used to implement the land use plan.</p>
<p>9. Does your First Nation have access to and working knowledge of the Indian Lands Registry System (ILRS)?</p>	<p>Confirm whether or not the First Nation has access to the Indian Lands Registry System (ILRS) and individual(s) with the knowledge to conduct research within the system.</p>
C. Experience with environmental management	
<p>10. Does your community have an environmental manager or a person responsible for environmental management activities?</p>	<p>Confirm whether or not the First Nation has an environmental manager or person(s) responsible for environmental management activities on reserve.</p>
<p>11. Does your First Nation have an environmental management plan/strategy (Community Environmental Sustainability Plan, Environmental Management Action Plan)?</p>	<p>Confirm whether or not the First Nation has an environmental management plan/strategy (also known as Community Environmental Sustainability Plan or Environmental Management Action Plan) outlining the key environmental responsibilities, policies and processes of the community.</p>

Field	Definition
12. Is there a process in place for managing non-compliance with environmental terms and conditions in land transactions?	Confirm whether or not your First Nation has a process/plan for managing non-compliance (breach) of environmental terms and conditions found within land transactions/instruments.
13. Does your First Nation have knowledge of the environmental requirements that need to be met to complete land management transactions (i.e., environmental assessments, environmental site assessments, environmental audits)?	Confirm whether or not your First Nation has the knowledge of environment requirements on reserve prior to the issuance of land transactions/instruments (e.g., environmental assessments, environmental review process, etc.)
14. Does your First Nation have an emergency plan for environmental hazards and cumulative effects?	Confirm whether or not your First Nation has an emergency plan for environmental hazards and cumulative effects.
D. Pursuing economic development opportunities	
15. Does your First Nation have an economic development plan? List and describe any current and future economic development activities (construction, natural resources, tourism, gaming/casino, industrial, recreation, etc.) that are being pursued on reserve.	Confirm whether or not your First Nation has an economic development plan in place. Provide details related to current and future economic development activities being pursued on reserve.
16. Does your First Nation have an economic development officer?	Confirm whether or not your First Nation has an economic development officer.
E. Conclusion	
Please outline why your First Nation is interested in the Reserve Land and Environment Management Program. Provide any further information that relates to your community's vision for land management. Include any community, environmental, or land use planning that has occurred or is ongoing. Attach additional pages as required.	Provide a summary of any further information that relates to how the First Nation will be successful in the Reserve Land and Environment Management Program (for example, future goals of the First Nation related to building capacity in land and environmental management and/or the First Nation's vision for future economic development on reserve).
Supporting documents (if applicable)	This table allows you to identify the supporting document(s) being submitted and the method of submission.
Title	Enter the name of the supporting document.
Submission method	From the drop-down list, select the method by which additional documents will be submitted. The options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - attachment - email - facsimile - mail - by hand/courier If you select 'Attachment' as the submission method, an 'Attach file' button will appear. Selecting this button allows you to select a file that will be attached

Field	Definition
	to the report. After attaching the file, you can click on the paper clip icon on the left side of the Adobe application to see the attached file. Once the file is attached, the 'Attach file' button changes to 'Remove file'. To remove the file only, select this button. To clear all fields for a single document and remove the associated file, select the [-] button.
Declaration	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given name - Family name - Title - Date (YYYYMMDD) 	The given name, family name and position title of the person who acknowledged the accuracy of the information, and the date on which it was completed. Dates are in the format of 'Year-Month-Day'.