



Crown-Indigenous Relations
and Northern Affairs Canada

Relations Couronne-Autochtones
et Affaires du Nord Canada



Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Additions to Reserves (ATR) Overview and Redesign

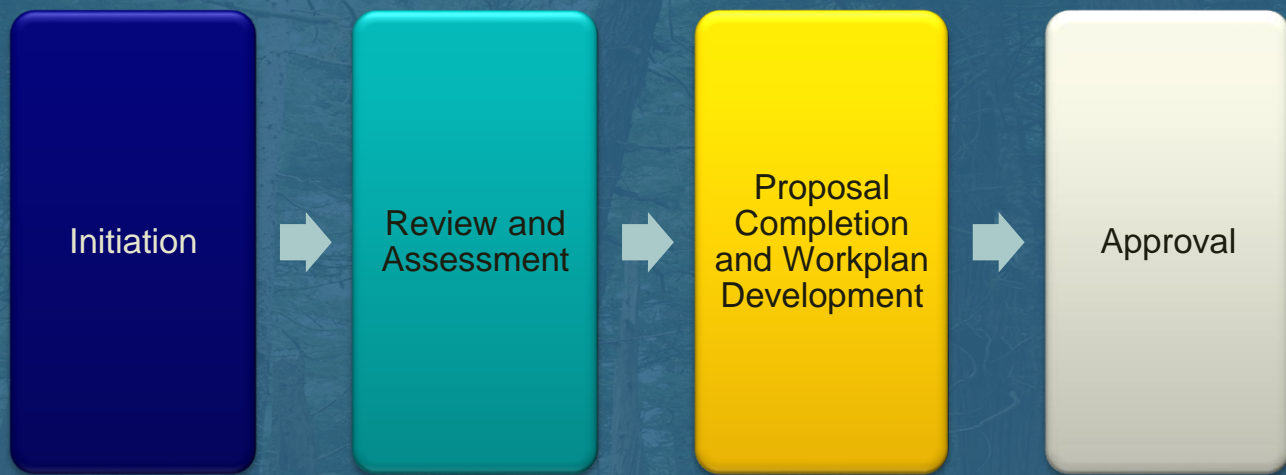
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Current Situation



➤ Additions to Reserve/Reserve Creation Policy (2016)

➤ *Additions of Lands to Reserve and Reserve Creation Act (2019)*





ISC IS GOING ELECTRONIC

- The National ATR Tracking System, commonly referred to as NATS, is the departmental system of record for the ATR portfolio.
- A new modernized system will be released soon which will streamline the ATR process and provide direct access to First Nations so they can submit their ATR proposals online within the system.
- Developed with First Nations and NALMA input.

RESULTS

- **Reduced uncertainty and transaction costs**
- **Enhanced communications and project management**
- **Improved transparency on the status of the ATR as it moves through the system**





Budget 21 Investments

▶ Investing \$32.2 million over four years in:

- ISC Capacity
- First Nation Capacity
- ATR Technical components

RESULTS

- Increased rate of completion of ATR proposals
- Reduced size of inventory





Duty to Consult

➤ In July 2022, a Duty to Consult unit was created in HQ.

➤ This team will:

- produce essential tools; and
- provide regional officials with support, tools and guidance on Duty to Consult matters

RESULTS

- Better equip regional officials with the necessary tools to meaningfully consult
- Make incremental improvements to Duty to Consult obligations
- Strengthen Provincial and Municipal relationships





Urban Reserves

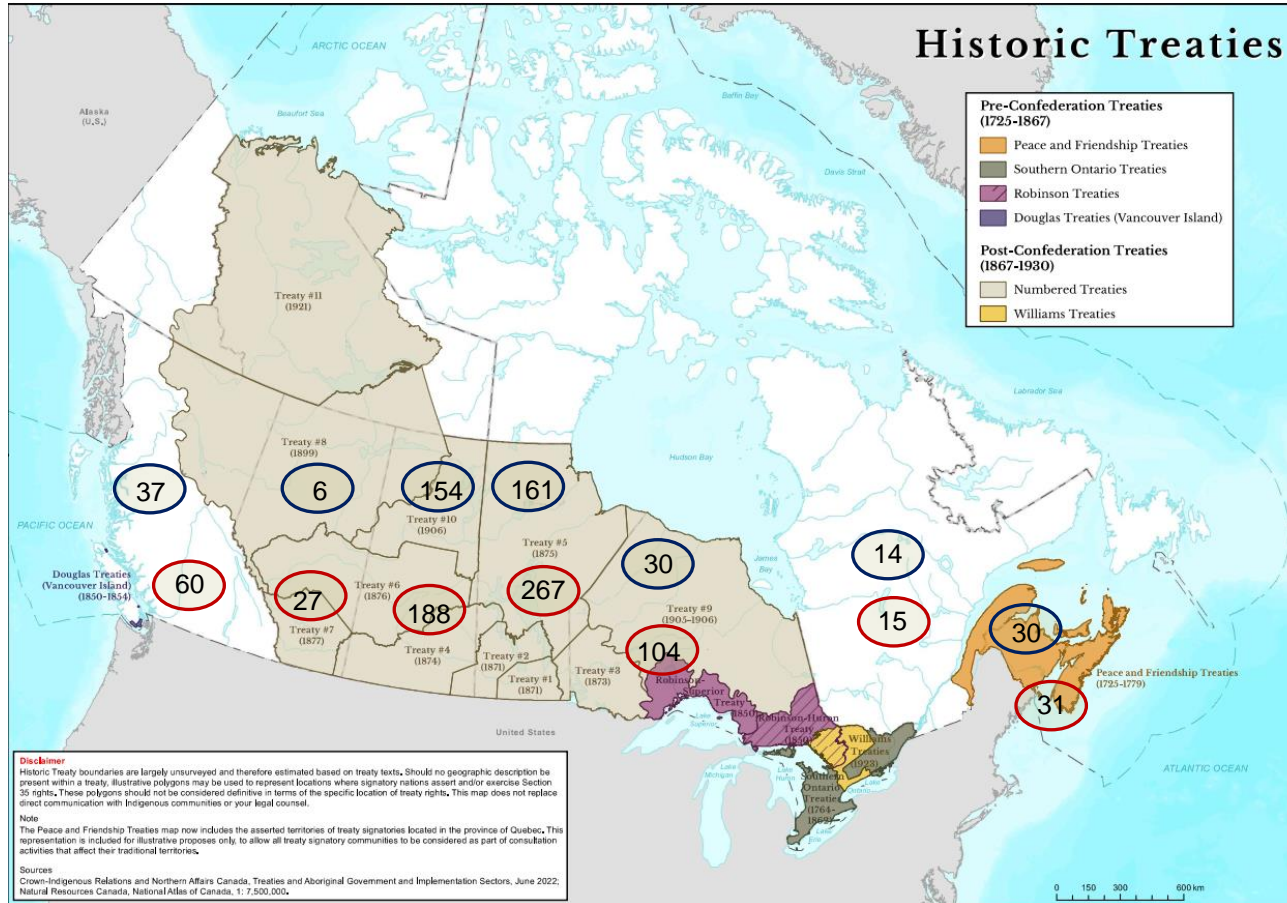
- First Nations are increasingly interested in adding land to reserve in urban settings to take advantage of economic development opportunities.
- Since 2015, 102 urban reserves have been created across Canada, including the commercial development on Tsuut'ina Nation land in Calgary and the First Nations University of Canada on Star Blanket Cree Nation land in Regina.
- ISC plans to engage with partners and stakeholders to further support First Nations seeking to add lands in urban markets.
- In June of 2021, the City of Edmonton adopted their Urban Reserve Strategy to respond to increased inquiries and calls for urban reserves, including Indigenous economic development opportunities and service provision by First Nations for their members in Edmonton

Opportunity

- Urban reserves increase economic development opportunities for First Nations, especially those in northern and remote settings where there are no access to urban markets.



Regional breakdown of approved and active ATRs in Canada's inventory:





Additions to Reserve Redesign

First Nation-led engagement strategies and policy redesign

Transformative change – ATR Policy and process are due for a comprehensive redesign led by First Nations

Discussions at all levels – Broadening the reach of engagement by including Indigenous organizations, First Nations, and other government organizations

Advancing the implementation of the *United Nation Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*





Background: ATR Policy

- The 1972 ATR policy has been incrementally updated in 1991, 2001, and 2016
- **2018:** The first ATR provisions added to legislation (*Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management Act*)
- **2019:** *Addition of Lands to Reserves and Reserve Creation Act* came into effect
- **2021 CIRNAC Mandate:** Accelerate ongoing work with First Nations to redesign federal policies on ATR and the Specific Claims process





Draft Timelines and Objectives

Preliminary Engagement

- Building partnerships across all regions to seek direction on how to engage
- Building tools and resources to support engagement and ATR knowledge
- NIOs, RIOs, First Nation Leadership

Input from Indigenous partners

- Co-develop policy options
- Seek confirmation and input from First Nation partners on options



**January
2022 –
March 2023**



**2022-23/
2023-24**



**Fall
2024**



**Spring
2025**

First Nation-led Engagement

- March 20, 2023: Call for proposals launch
- Continued outreach with Indigenous partners
- Supporting pilot projects
- **Internal policy and process analysis**
- **Building on what we have heard to date**

Policy Options

- Present policy options





Call for Proposals

➤ Funding is available for First Nation-led engagement activities

➤ **Purpose of engagement:** Identify considerations and recommendations that will contribute to developing options for the Additions to Reserve redesign

➤ Engagement is an important **first step** in developing policy and process options

➤ Validate options, considerations, and recommendations in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners





Contacts

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Call for proposals:

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1675453553290/1675453602039>

