

Best Practices for Title Searching

All documentary evidence related to the land that is being surveyed, and the adjacent lands, should be obtained and reviewed prior to undertaking a survey. Failure to carry out proper research constitutes a serious breach of the surveyor's professional responsibility. While the title of the lands being surveyed is an essential part of the research, this is not end of the research required. Easement documents, land codes, agreements, and lease documents are some of the other documents that need to be researched. It is also important to retain your research as part of the project file.

The Canada Lands Surveyor is responsible for determining the status of rights in the land that is to be surveyed. Copies of documents outlining the land rights may be obtained from the appropriate land administrator, land registry or land titles office. MyCLSS provides links to the registry and land title offices. The Geo-ED website also has courses and seminars available that can provide more detailed information.

Indian Lands Registry System (ILRS) – IRLS/FNLRS/SGFNLRS

The IRLS is a database of instruments registered in the Indian Lands Registry relating to Reserve Lands and Crown Lands.

The FNLRS is a database of instruments registered in the Indian Lands Registry relating to Reserve Lands under the First Nation Land Management Act.

The SGFNLRS is a database of instruments that are registered/recorded in a First Nation's Land Registry established according to its specific Self Government Land Management Act.

The Registry System provides the following System Tabs to aid in your research: Search Instruments, Search Evidence of Title, Search Land, Tables and Reports.

IT Service Desk ☎ 866-795-6465 ☎ 819-953-4263 aadnc.sti-its.aandc@canada.ca

Surveyors have been granted access to download the instruments that are returned in the searches. To set up this access please contact the ILRS IT Service Desk.

Additional Research on Reserve Lands

It is important to include in your research the review of the First Nation's Land Code, policies or Laws as they pertain to:

- Requests for a survey
- Providing permission to enter the Reserve
- Preparation of required documents
- Approval of a survey
- Requirements of the survey

The First Nations Land Management Resource Centre provides contact information and links to the First Nations that are signatory to the Framework Agreement on First on First Nation Land Management:

www.labrc.com

Electronic Registry Index Plan (eRIP)

The Electronic Registry Index Plan (eRIP) is a digital map that shows Reserve Lands and the surveyed parcels on Reserves. eRIP displays the status of lands on reserves (Band Land, Lawful Possession, Leased Land, Designated Land) as well as detailed information on parcels of reserve land.

The Canada Lands Survey System (CLSS)

The Canada Lands Survey System (CLSS) provides capabilities to search for and download surveys plans and field books.

National Parks

While there is no legislation specifically requiring a land registration system for National Parks, there is a Land Registry located in Gatineau Quebec that contains hard copy and electronic records of all acquisitions, disposals and alienation of all Parks Canada Lands. Copies of some of the documents may be available from the Service Centres and Field Units located at each of the Parks, by contacting the Realty Officer at the Park.

Territories

Links to the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut Land Title Offices are available under the Research tab in MyCLSS.

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