

The Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management (Framework Agreement) is a government to government agreement that provides the opportunity for First Nations to opt out of 44 sections of the Indian Act and restore their lands and resources governance authority. 13 First Nations and Canada first signed the Framework Agreement in 1997. Since then a total of 165 First Nations have become signatory. Independent studies and First Nation's experience have demonstrated the societal benefits and economic multipliers of the Framework Agreement for both First Nations and Canada.

Land Surveyors play an important role in facilitating and supporting this grass-roots approach to the exercise of First Nation's inherent right of self-government.

This one-hour session will review the current implementation state of the Framework Agreement across the country including recent amendments to both the agreement and its ratifying legislation the First Nations Lands Management Act (FNLMA). The session will also examine recent survey related projects in signatory First Nation communities. The presentation will provide updates on efforts to build a better understanding of surveying in communities, to build tools and processes to address boundary conflicts, and to address Indian Act related legacy land survey and boundary issues on First Nation's lands. The presentation will answer; how to work with First Nations who have a ratified Land Code, as well as what laws and policies enacted by operational First Nations that affect surveys.