

Land Estates

The Lands Program has identified numerous unresolved land estates in Stó:lō Territory that have been outstanding, in many cases, for several years. Therefore the land remains inactive until the estate transfers ownership.

- Assist with unresolved estates.
- Do proactive work on land estates such as coordinating estate planning and will workshops.
- Provide information on land estates including lot numbers, CP information, and property boundaries.
- Provide resource materials for individuals to draft their wills and understand the responsibilities of administering an estate.
- Assist with appointment and duties of Estate Administrators and Executors.
- Liaise with the Department of Indian Affairs



Coqualeetza Property

Land Code

All of the RLAP First Nations have opted into the First Nations Land Management Initiative (FNLMI). FNLMI allows the First Nations to have total control over their lands. Last year (2010) Sumas successfully ratified their own land code, it is expected that this fiscal year they will be managing their own lands under their own laws.

Each First Nation will have two years to complete the process and adopt their final land code. The Lands Advisory Board selects the First Nations that will be added to the FNLMI. Only 30 First Nations are accepted into the program at a time and once a First Nation adopts their land code a new First Nation is added into the process, thus the "Rolling 30".

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Stó:lō Nation



Lands Program

Stó:lō Nation Lands Program

The Stó:lō Nation (SN) Lands Department currently works under the Regional Lands Administration Program (RLAP) for 6 First Nations. These First Nations have a total of 16 reserves, 279 Certificate of Possessions, 338 Leases, Sub-Leases, and Permits and a total membership of 984.

Full-time staff consists of one Lands Officer Trainee and one Lands Assistant. The Lands Officer Trainee can offer assistance in the fields of Individual Land Holdings, Land Estates, Leases and Permits. The Lands Department also assists First Nations with Indian & Northern Affairs Canada's Addition to Reserve (ATR) Process.

Land Research

The SN Lands Program assists and provides training to RLAP members on the various research tools available such as the Indian Lands Registry System.

A resource centre is available to all RLAP members at our office for research and information on various topics.

Stó:lō Nation Lands Department
<http://www.stolonation.bc.ca>

Indian Lands Registry System
<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca>

Aboriginal Mapping Network
<http://www.nativemaps.org>

Autodesk
<http://www.wroc.nrcan.gc.ca>

The 6 Stó:lō First Nations Under Regional Land Administration Program

1. Aitchelitz
2. Popkum
3. Skowkale
4. Skwah
5. Shxw'ow'hamel
6. Yakweakwioose

What is Regional Lands Administration Program (RLAP)?

RLAP is a co-management form of devolution, which means Stó:lō Nation Lands Program staff share the responsibilities of land management with Department of Indian Affairs staff. RLAP offers no delegated authorities; therefore less control as accountability for land management functions resides with the Minister of Indian Affairs.

Individual Land Holdings

Individual Land Holdings under the Regional Lands Administration Program include: land transfers, survey request applications and survey approval requests, research on individual land titles, updating titles, and allotments of land.

Leases and Permits

The SN Lands Program co-manages leases and permits under the Regional Land Administration Program.

Staff provide assistance to RLAP First Nations and individual land holders in developing their lands (i.e. recreational, residential, commercial, industrial).

Staff also act as a liaison between First Nations, land holders, developers, and government agencies.

Information on land use plans, designations and leases to help First Nations achieve their objectives are also available through the SN Lands Program.

Examples of Leases within the Stó:lō Territory

- **Skowkale First Nation**
 - ◇ *Clover Creek Estates*—7600 Chilliwack River Road
 - ◇ *Country Park*—45918 Knight Road
 - ◇ *Ranchero Estates*—Ranchero Drive
- **Skwah First Nation**
 - ◇ *Cart BC Race Track*—Wolfe Road