

Legislative Development Protocol

Background

The *Northwest Territories Intergovernmental Agreement on Lands and Resources Management* (IGA; 2014), provides for:

- Development of protocols to ensure management of lands and resources is consistent with honour of the Crown
- Mutual collaboration in developing changes to land and resource management systems

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and Indigenous governments of the Northwest Territories worked closely on land and resource legislative initiatives during the 18th Legislative Assembly.

In September 2018, the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) recommended a “lessons learned” exercise, with the goal of developing an IGC legislative drafting protocol. In August 2019, the GNWT Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment also recommended a legislative drafting protocol in the *Committee Report on the Process Used for Devolution Legislative Initiatives*.

In November 2020, the IGC agreed to a new legislative development protocol that respects the jurisdictions of all IGC members and provides opportunities for collaboration on the development of land and resource legislation and regulations in the Northwest Territories.

About the protocol:

- The protocol is consistent with the IGA commitment to collaborate on changes to land and resource management systems, as well as providing a consistent approach for parties to follow.
- The protocol is the first agreement of its kind in Canada, and provides opportunities for the collaborative development of land and resource statutes and regulations for the GNWT and Indigenous governments.
- The protocol supports the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by respecting, consulting and collaborating with Indigenous Governments on land and resource management.