



Additions to Reserve (ATR) Redesign

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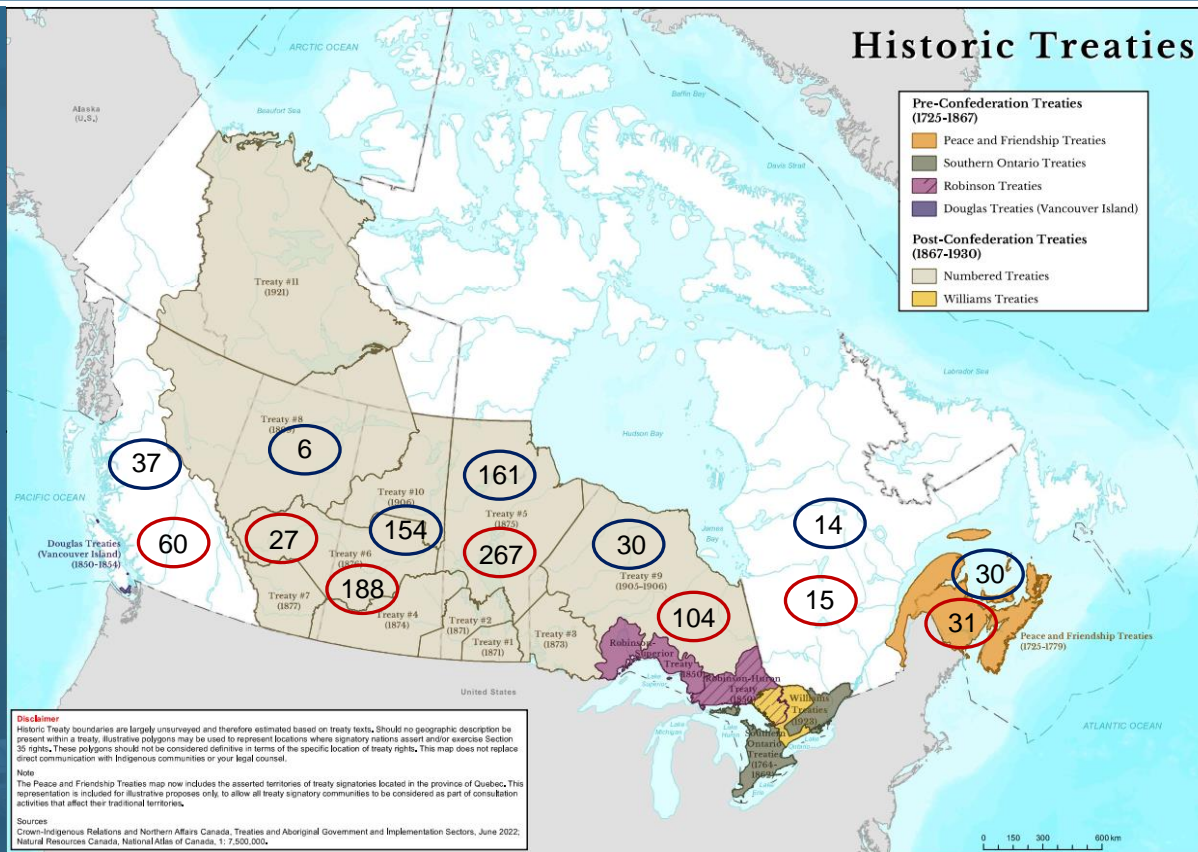
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Active and Completed ATRs



432 Approved
ATRs since
November
2015



Approximately
692 Active
ATRs





Additions to Reserve

Additions to reserve is the process by which land is added to an existing reserve base of a First Nation or new reserves are created for First Nations without an existing reserve. The process can be triggered following a legal obligation, a request for community addition, or through a tribunal decision.

The federal responsibility for ATR is shared between the Minister of CIR and the Minister of ISC. The Minister of CIR is responsible for ALRRCA and the FNLMA, including the authority to issue Ministerial Orders pursuant to these Acts to set land apart as reserve. The Minister of ISC is responsible for the administration of the ATR process and ensures that all requirements of the ATR policy have been addressed.

By adding lands to reserve, the Government of Canada helps advance reconciliation, fulfill legal obligations, improve treaty relationships, and foster economic opportunities.





Phases of the ATR Process

1

Initiation

- First Nations submits proposal to ISC Regional Office

2

Assessment and Review

- ISC reviews the proposal and advises the First Nation in writing of the results, issuing a Letter of Support to First Nations with successful proposals

3

Proposal Completion

- ISC and the First Nation work together to create and execute a work plan to complete the proposal

4

Approval

- ISC prepares Ministerial Order submission and CIRNAC obtains Ministerial approval





Background: ATR Policy

- **1972:** The ATR policy guidelines were formalized.
- **1982:** The policy focused on the land base serving social purposes for First Nation communities rather than economic development.
- **1991:** The policy was amended to include environmental assessment criteria and a procedural framework to allow for more uniform consideration of ATRs.
- **2001:** The Policy was amended to facilitate urban reserves and reserve creation for economic development purposes.
- **2018:** The first ATR provisions were 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.





Budget 2021 Investments

▶ Budget 2021 provided \$43 million over three years.

▶ \$10.8 million allocated to CIRNAC to work with Indigenous partners and other stakeholders to redesign the federal additions to reserve policy.

▶ \$32.2 million for ISC to accelerate work on existing requests from First Nations across the country.





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*





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
 - AFN, LABRC, NALMA, FNTC, FMB, NIEDB, APC, ARALA, TALSAA, SALT, OALA, USKE

Input from Indigenous partners

- Co-development of options
- Seek confirmation and input from First Nation partners on options



- **First Nation-led Engagement**
 - Open national call for proposals
 - 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

As of March 20, 2023, funding is available for Indigenous-led engagement that will inform the additions to reserve redesign. The call for proposals will be open until May 19, 2023.

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 leadership





Call for Proposals (cont'd)

"The current Additions to Reserve Policy is broken, riddled with delay and doesn't deliver results for communities. Additions to Reserve are an important part of advancing reconciliation, which is why this policy redesign is a critical reform that needs to be driven by Indigenous Peoples. Supporting co-developed engagement is imperative so that the Additions to Reserve Policy redesign is informed by Indigenous solutions, ideas and lived experiences. Advancing reconciliation isn't only about the progress we make, it's also about making progress the right way, which means together, led by Indigenous Peoples."

The Honourable Marc Miller
Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations





For more information

- **Call for Proposals:** [Engagement funding for the Additions to Reserve Policy redesign \(rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca\)](https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)
- **News Release (ENG):** <https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2023/03/call-for-proposals-opened-to-support-the-additions-to-reserve-policy-redesign.html>
- **News Release (FRE):** <https://www.canada.ca/fr/relations-couronne-autochtones-affaires-nord/nouvelles/2023/03/ouverture-dun-appel-de-propositions-pour-appuyer-la-refonte-de-la-politique-sur-les-ajouts-aux-reserves.html>

Access the Call for
Proposals via QR code:



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