Memorandum of Understanding
(hereinafter referred to as "MOU")

between

Department of Indigenous Services Canada, Lands and Environmental Management Branch
(hereinafter referred to as "ISC")

and the

Department of Natural Resources Canada, Surveyor General Branch
(hereinafter referred to as "NRCan")

(hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Participants")

concerning

COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF LAND SURVEY-RELATED ACTIVITIES ON RESERVE LANDS

WHEREAS this MOU establishes a framework for the cooperation between the Participants in the area of land survey-related activities and land management for Reserve Lands that are managed under the *Indian Act*;

WHEREAS this MOU applies to Reserve Lands and lands to become Reserve Lands managed under the *Indian Act*.

WHEREAS this MOU also applies to land descriptions of provincial/territorial lands which will be considered for additions to Reserve Lands.

WHEREAS the *Indian Act* and the *Canada Lands Surveys Act* (CLSA) set out the responsibilities for surveys on Reserve Lands.

WHEREAS the Surveyor General, subject to the direction of the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Canada, is responsible for the management of surveys of Reserve Lands under the CLSA.

AND WHEREAS the requirements for land descriptions for Reserve Lands within Annex B of this Agreement are considered the minimum required to define the extent of the interest to be registered in the Indian Land Registry System (ILRS).

1.0 PURPOSE:

The purpose of this MOU is to identify the specific areas of cooperation and understanding between the Participants in support of their mandated activities in conducting survey-related activities on Reserve Lands managed under the *Indian Act*. The Annexes outline the standards and specifications required to ensure the land descriptions prepared in accordance with this MOU will provide a reliable foundation to support effective land management on Reserve Land.

2.0 MANDATED ACTIVITIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:

2.1 In accordance with their respective departmental mandated responsibilities, ISC is responsible to:

a. support the registration of legal interests (First Nations and non-First Nations) in the ILRS, and ensure registration is carried out in accordance with the *Indian Act*;
b. provide advisory and research services, including confirmation of the status of the lands to departmental officials and external parties resulting from interpretations of land descriptions and titles found in historical records;
c. review land descriptions to ensure they meet requirements for registration in the ILRS, and are compatible with previously registered interests;
d. review land descriptions for Reserve Lands to be managed by First Nations under their Land Code in accordance with the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management Act* (FAFNLMA);
e. set criteria for survey project funding with NRCan, National Indigenous Organizations and individual First Nations;
f. allocate survey funds to ISC regions and track funded survey projects/activities; and
g. provide ministerial approval for official survey plans under Section 29 of the CLSA for external reserve boundaries, with approval from the regional ISC offices, which hold delegated authority from the Minister.

2.2 In accordance with their respective Departmental mandated responsibilities, NRCan is to provide the following activities/responsibilities in the area of land survey-related activities on Reserve Lands managed under the *Indian Act*:

a. set survey standards for Canada Lands;
b. provide specific survey instructions for the survey of Canada Lands;
c. examine plans and survey returns;
d. retain and maintain survey records;
e. collect and maintain digital cadastral fabric;
f. provide public access to survey records;
g. provide advice on the use and application of the Canada Lands Surveys System including processes and on-line tools for accessing records; and
h. confirm, approve, and record appropriate documents in the Canada Lands Surveys Records (CLSR).

3.0 COST RECOVERY ACTIVITIES/SERVICES OF NRCan:

NRCan may provide other activities/services on a cost-recovery basis funded by ISC through an Interdepartmental Memorandum of Understanding (IMOU). These IMOU's are developed nationally and regionally between Participants on a program-by-program basis, whereby the products and services provided may include but are not limited to:

a. researching and providing advice on boundary issues and survey requirements;
b. conducting field surveys for boundary investigations, boundary monitoring and parcel surveys;
c. preparation of land descriptions;
d. preparation of expert reports and custom mapping products;
e. providing training for ISC staff and First Nations;
f. providing advice, project and contract management for Additions to Reserve (ATR) and Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Surveys; and
g. other survey-related activities or services requested by ISC will be funded as mutually consented to in the IMOU.

4.0 ANNEXES:

This MOU is general in nature and is not intended to be comprehensive or exhaustive of the mandated activities/responsibilities for each of the Participants. Annexes A through D that accompany this MOU provide additional details on the related requirements, including the descriptions to support the registration of documents in the ILRS, survey plan approval requirements, minimum land description requirements, and terminology.

5.0 INTERDEPARTMENTAL COOPERATION:

5.1 It is understood that the ability of each Participant to undertake forms of cooperation under this MOU is subject to the availability of appropriated funds and resources (including facilities and personnel). The form of cooperation shall be negotiated and signed at the appropriate management level, within the scope of their respective mandates, responsibilities, and capacities.

5.2 Services considered to be over and above the mandated NRCan activities noted in Section 3.0 will be funded by ISC. The terms of financing will be established and approved by the Participants in an IMOU, prior to the commencement of any cooperative activity. All costs or estimated costs will be detailed in the IMOU. No cost incurred by one Participant shall be assumed by the other Participant unless otherwise agreed to in writing under an IMOU.

6.0 REPORTING

6.1 NRCan tracks and submits an annual spending summary of ISC-funded activities as agreed to in the IMOU.

6.2 NRCan submits reports to the Lands and Environmental Management Branch detailing surveys registered on lands administered under the *Indian Act*.

7.0 AMENDMENTS:

This MOU and Annexes may be amended at any time by the mutual written consent of the Participants.

8.0 EFFECTIVE DATE, REVIEW, AND DURATION OF MOU:

8.1 This MOU and associated Annexes become effective on April 1st, 2026.

8.2 The Participants will review this MOU and associated Annexes every four years from the effective date.

8.3 This MOU ends ten years from the effective date or upon 90 days written notice by either Participant to the other Participant.

Accepted on behalf of ISC by:

mitchell, laura

Digitally signed by mitchell, laura
Date: 2026.03.10 12:28:37 -04'00'

Director General
Lands and Environmental Management Branch
Lands and Economic Development Sector
Indigenous Services Canada

Accepted on behalf of NRCan by:

Gingras, Martin

Digitally signed by Gingras, Martin
Date: 2026.03.10 10:52:40 -04'00'

Director General and Surveyor General for Canada Lands
Surveyor General Branch
Lands and Minerals Sector
Natural Resources Canada

ANNEX A - SURVEY PLAN TYPES & TEXTUAL DESCRIPTIONS

A.1 The National Standards for the Survey of Canada Lands (National Standards) provides a professional Canada Lands Surveyor (CLS) with the types and requirements of survey plans that can be prepared and the technical standards that apply to surveys undertaken on Canada Lands and for the lands required to be surveyed under provisions of the CLSA. A copy of the National Standards including numerous specimen plans are available through NRCan's website: https://clss.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/clss/surveystandards-normesdarpentage/

A.2 As the National Standards specify the technical requirements to be followed, the companion document "Surveying of First Nation Land Managed Under the Indian Act" provides information for managing survey projects on First Nation Reserve lands. The companion document provides information, tools and links to additional resources regarding the overall survey process from determining the scope of the project, type of survey plan required for the intended purpose, to the recording of the survey plan in the CLSR. This document is available from: https://natural-resources.canada.ca/maps-tools-and-publications/maps/canada-lands-surveys/publications-canada-lands-surveys/surveying-first-nation-lands-managed-under-the-indian-act/25706

A.3 The following are general descriptions of the various types of survey plans described in the National Standards and referenced in Annex B:

"Administrative Area Plan" or a "Land Use Area Plan" is an administrative plan that is commonly used for illustrating areas of land for administrative purposes or for certain short term or limited uses of land, where the boundaries do not need to be defined by or referred to surveyed boundaries. These types of plans may be used to depict zoning or plans of land use areas for agricultural permits. Refer to Section 2.9 of the National Standards for additional information regarding this type of plan. A Land Use Area Plan is not the same product as a Land Use Area Map.

"Explanatory Plan" is an administrative plan prepared without a full field survey of the boundaries, approved under Section 31 of the CLSA. The parcel boundaries are defined by, or in relation to, existing boundaries or monuments shown on plans and field notes recorded in the CLSR. Refer to Section 2.8 of the National Standards for additional information regarding this type of plan.

"Highway, Railway and Similar Right-of-Way Survey Plans" is a survey plan that can either be an administrative plan or an official plan (where a jurisdictional boundary is to be defined), which is used to define a parcel, corridor, or other physical tract of land used for the passage of people, vehicles, or materials such as oil and gas, electricity, telecommunications, or water. These types of plans are usually used to define an interest of an exclusive nature (i.e. public highway, railway, irrigation canal, etc.) or for a non-exclusive nature where the right-of-way crosses over a large, unsurveyed area (more than 1 km), or if the boundaries of the right-of-way cannot easily be related to existing surveyed boundaries or monuments (i.e.

electric power lines, telecommunication lines, oil and gas pipelines, etc.). Refer to Section 2.5 of the National Standards for additional information regarding this type of plan.

"Jurisdictional Boundary Plan" or a "Plan of Survey (Official Plan)" is an official plan prepared from a full field survey with official survey monuments placed to reference all corners of the parcels or boundary, confirmed under Section 29 of the CLSA. Refer to Section 2.3 of the National Standards for additional information regarding this type of plan.

"**Land Use Area Map**" is an example of a Textual Description in a graphical reference format and is not a survey plan (i.e. not a Land Use Area Plan) as it is not prepared according to the National Standards. It is mainly used to depict zoning or land use areas for agricultural, grazing and/or seasonal permits where there is minimal boundary information available for the specific location. This product usually has a map as the background and the survey plan linework depicted, with the land use area parcels identified by a unique number and an approximate area. The land use area parcels are not surveyed, they do not subdivide the underlying survey fabric and can only be used for the purposes identified in Chart A of Annex B.

"Land Use Area Plan" refer to Administrative Area Plan for the definition and additional information relating to this type of survey plan.

"Parcel Survey Plan" or a "Plan of Survey (Administrative Plan)" is an administrative plan prepared from a full field survey with official survey monuments placed to reference all corners of the parcels or boundary, approved under Section 31 of the CLSA. Refer to Section 2.4 of the National Standards for additional information regarding this type of plan.

"Plan of Building Unit(s)" is an administrative plan that can be for an entire building or multiple units within a constructed building, approved under Section 31 of the CLSA. The plan will depict an area within a building, enclosed by walls, floors and ceilings, or the whole of a building. The exclusive use areas that may be allocated to a particular unit (e.g. patios, decks, parking areas) or common elements (e.g. hallways, stairwells) can also be shown on the plan. Refer to Section 7.0 of the National Standards for additional information regarding this type of plan.

"Plan of Survey Air Space Parcel(s)" is an administrative plan prepared to depict a volume of space, showing a parcel(s) with an upper and lower vertical limit, having three-dimensional coordinates, approved under Section 31 of the CLSA. The parcel will be defined by three-dimensional coordinates, such as in the case of underground tunnels, bridges, and overhead walkways. Refer to Section 9.0 of the National Standards for additional information regarding this type of plan.

"Textual Description" can be a written/transcribed reference (i.e. textual reference to directions, distances or geographic coordinates), a graphical reference (i.e. a sketch showing distances and other references that would assist in locating it on the ground) or combination

of both written and graphical references. It is not a survey plan and is not based on a field survey, therefore it can be prepared without survey instructions and would not be recorded in the CLSR. The accuracy of the location for the area described may vary as it is dependent on the accuracy and reliability of the source information used to prepare the description. It is strongly recommended that a textual description be prepared by a CLS or by someone who has experience in preparing and understanding these types of descriptions (i.e. prepared in such a manner that would enable a CLS to locate it on the ground and where it can only be interpreted one way). As there is no visual representation of the area of interest provided with a textual description, there will be no graphical depiction of the interest on any mapping source of ISC (i.e. the electronic Registry Index Plan), nor on any of NRCan's mapping, survey records or databases (e.g. Google Earth overlay, CLSR, map browser, etc.).

ANNEX B – REQUIREMENTS FOR LAND DESCRIPTIONS FOR RESERVE LANDS TO DEFINE THE EXTENT OF INTERESTS TO BE REGISTERED IN THE ILRS

B.1 ISC is responsible for managing land transaction records for Reserve Lands in the ILRS. New transaction documents will not be accepted for registration in the ILRS unless a sufficient land description of the extent of the interest is provided. This Annex defines the minimum requirements for a transaction to be registered in the ILRS.

B.2 To describe the location and extent of lands subject to a land transaction that will be registered in the ILRS, only the following land description products shall be used:

a. Official Plan prepared under Section 29 of the CLSA, or
b. Administrative Plan prepared under Section 31 of the CLSA, or
c. Surveys prepared under provincial jurisdiction and filed in a provincial land title or registry office with a copy recorded in the CLSR, or
d. Surveys prepared under the National Standards and filed in a territorial land title office with a copy recorded in the CLSR, or
e. Textual Description.

B.3 The minimum land description requirement for any new interest to be recorded in the Registry is identified in Chart A of this Annex. In the event that a higher standard of land description is being contemplated (i.e. where a survey plan is being requested instead of a textual description), NRCan can advise on the options available.

B.4 A survey plan that was authorized by specific survey instructions issued prior to the signing of this MOU may continue to be used for the transaction, provided NRCan deems the survey to be technically equivalent to a survey plan required by Chart A of this Annex.

B.5 If specific circumstances warrant it, or in cases where it is not clear which product should be used, the NRCan Regional Manager and the ISC Regional Lands Manager, will jointly identify the product to use.

B.6 General land description suitability criteria for the ILRS:

a. When an entire interest in land is being returned to a First Nation, the original land description used to create the interest could be acceptable for use in the transaction document if the boundaries have not been materially altered. ISC should seek advice from NRCan before confirming the use of the original land description;
b. If the parcels created by a plan conflict with current registered interests, any request for registration to the parcel using the plan will be rejected until the underlying interests are dealt with. No reference will be made to the new parcels until the individual interests are resolved;

c. Any existing land description (whether by reference to a surveyed parcel, surveyed township fabric or a textual description) used in a transaction document currently registered in the ILRS, may be re-used on subsequent transactions if: (i) the land description continues to meet the minimum description requirement for the land transaction in Chart A of this Annex, (ii) where occupation or activities continue to align with the extents of the parcel described, and (iii) no issues are identified with the description. The ISC Regional Lands Manager should consult with the NRCan Regional Manager to confirm the re-use of the existing description.

B.7 An existing parcel defined on a survey plan that is prepared from field work and is recorded in the CLSR may be subdivided without surveying the entire parcel. Once the smaller parcel is surveyed out from the original/parent parcel, the remaining extent of the original parcel creates a remainder parcel. Subject to B.8 of this Annex, a remainder parcel may be recognized in the ILRS as long as the remainder parcel can be described by reference to two or more survey plans (For example Lot 1 on Plan X, except Lot 2 on Plan Y). The remainder parcel may not receive a new ILRS parcel identification number (PIN) and this can create challenges with searching and determining the correct extents of the parcel within the ILRS. The ISC Regional Lands Manager can be contacted to provide assistance with searches of the remainder parcels in the ILRS, including any other ILRS related questions. Refer to Section 2.2.5 of the National Standards for additional information on Remainder parcels.

B.8 Where remainder parcels described in B.7 of this Annex, are to be recognized in the ILRS, they must be dealt with by a new survey, either as part of a Parcel Survey Plan, Plan of Survey (official plan) or on a separate Compiled Plan of Survey, and assigned a distinct parcel designator, in the following cases:

a. Where the original/parent parcel being subdivided is not shown on a recorded plan of survey which is based upon a field survey;
b. Where the subdivision of a parcel creates two disjointed or unconnected remainder parcels, and these remainder parcels define an interest registered in the ILRS;
c. Where, due to the complexity of the parcel description or the potential for conflict or conflicting interests, the registrar in the ISC HQ Registry Unit has placed a note on the Parcel Abstract for the parcel being subdivided indicating that “Any further subdivision of the parcel will require the entire parcel to be surveyed leaving no remainder parcels”.
d. Where the survey of a road or other right-of-way parcel, intended as an Exclusive Use Parcel, creates a remainder parcel(s) of the parent parcel.

B.9 A CLS is encouraged to deal with remainder parcels as part of their survey whenever it is practical to do so. The First Nation has the option of having the remaining extents of the original/parent parcel surveyed and assigned a new parcel designator, rather than having it create a remainder parcel. How the remaining lands are to be dealt with will need to be clear in the CLS’s request for specific survey instructions.

B.10 Parcels shown on a new survey plan, or existing parcels referenced in a document registered in the ILRS need to have access to a road (cannot be landlocked). Access to the parcel needs to be either evident on the survey plan or have a note regarding access added to the survey plan. Should it become evident that there is no access to a parcel or parcels (that the parcel or parcels are or will become landlocked), NRCan will endeavour to advise the CLS and the First Nation that they should contact ISC for further assistance. **While access to a parcel may be shown on a survey plan, the survey plan itself does not establish legal access to the parcel. Legal access to a parcel would need to be created through an interest registered in the ILRS.**

Chart "A" – Guidelines for Minimum Land Description Requirements to Support the Registration of Land Transactions in the ILRS	
***Indian Act* Land Transaction**	**Minimum Description Requirement to support the registration of a land transaction in the ILRS** note 2
1. Addition to Reserve	**Option of:** Plan of Survey (Official Plan) **or** ***(if available)*** an equivalent Provincial/Territorial Plan (recorded in the CLSR) note 10
2. Band Vote for Designation	Explanatory Plan (Administrative Plan)
3. Surrender of Parcel note 3	Plan of Survey (Official Plan)
4. Highway / Right of Way Transfer note 4	Plan of Survey (Official Plan)
5. Allotment of land; note 5	Plan of Survey (Administrative plan) note 1
6. Interest having a term of 10 years or more (not related to utility or other major infrastructure note 9) including: a. Set-aside land for community purposes b. Lease of land note 6 c. Permit d. Easement over Encumbered Land e. Right of Way over Encumbered Land	**Option of:** Plan of Survey (Administrative plan) **or** Explanatory Plan (Administrative plan)
7. Interest in Airspace	Plan of Airspace Parcel(s) (Administrative Plan)
8. Interest having a term of less than 10 years (not related to utility or other major infrastructure note 9) including: a. Set-aside land for community purposes b. Lease of land note 6 c. Permit (including for agriculture and grazing purposes) d. Grazing or Agricultural Lease e. Easement over Encumbered Land f. Right of Way over Encumbered Land	**Option of** note 11**:** Plan of Survey (Administrative plan) **or** Explanatory Plan (Administrative plan) **or** Land Use Area Plan (Administrative plan) **or** Administrative Area Plan (Administrative plan) **or** Textual Description (includes Land Use Area Map)

9. Interest for the purposes of a utility or other major infrastructure [note 9] that would not be otherwise by a blanket permit: a. Lease of land b. License or Permit c. Easement over Encumbered Land d. Right of Way over Encumbered Land	Plan of Survey (Administrative plan)
10. Interest to a Unit within a building having a term of less than 10 years: a. Lease of Building Unit [note 6] b. Rental agreement of Building Unit	Textual Description
11. Interest to a Unit within a building a term of 10 years or more: a. Allotment of Building Unit b. Lease of Building Unit [note 6] c. Rental agreement of Building Unit	Plan of Survey of Building Unit(s) (Administrative plan)
12. Permit over unencumbered land**:** for the purpose of providing a utility service to a resident over portions of a Lot that are unencumbered	Textual Description
13. Blanket distribution permit: for the purpose of providing utilities distribution over the entirety of a reserve	Textual Description

Notes:

1. A Compiled Plan prepared under S.2.7 of the National Standards is equivalent to a Plan of Survey prepared under S. 2.3, 2.4, or 2.5 of the National Standards.
2. The land description requirements referenced in this chart are the minimum standard for products that may be used to support the registration of a land transaction in the ILRS. A product of a higher standard may be used where desired. For example, a Plan of Survey (Administrative Plan) may be used in place of an Explanatory Plan (Administrative Plan) where it is desired to have survey monuments found and/or placed to define the extent of the parcel.
3. Surveys under this section, for parcels to be transferred from Reserve status, will create a jurisdictional boundary once the lands are removed and therefore require an Official Plan under S. 29 of the CLSA.
4. This Plan is intended for S.35 *Indian Act* transfers or equivalent.
5. This includes S.20 *Indian Act* allotments, S.24, 49 and 50 *Indian Act* transfers, S.18(2) Welfare of the First Nation interests, and equivalent. For S.24 and 49 transfers, there may be other options available for these transactions depending on the existing description and to whom the interest is being transferred to (i.e. return to Band land). ISC regional staff and the SGB regional staff may assist in providing confirmation as to the use of an existing description.
6. “Lease” includes a head-lease or a sub-lease. The terms of the lease include any renewal or extension provisions contained in the lease
7. A survey plan that was authorized by specific survey instructions issued prior to the signing of this MOU may be used for the transaction that was intended in the original request for specific

survey instructions, under the condition that the survey is technically equivalent to a survey plan required by this MOU (refer to B.4 of Annex B)

8. To ensure the location and extent of lands subject to a land transaction is suitable for registration in the ILRS, please refer to B.2 a-e of Annex B.
9. The land description requirements in this section are specific to major infrastructure that would extend through a reserve and are likely to not directly service the reserve. This may include, but is not limited to, roads (used by the public), transmission lines, fiber optic lines, telephone lines, water lines, sewer lines, etc. **where there is to be an interest registered for that infrastructure in the ILRS**. This section does not apply to the infrastructure (i.e. utilities distribution) that services a reserve which may be registered under a blanket permit (refer to Item 13 in the chart) or local roads where there is no interest to be registered in the ILRS.
10. When dealing with provincial plans from Quebec, please note that the lot number (also termed cadastral designation) in le Cadastre du Québec (the Québec Registry) is the official description.
11. As there are several options provided, attention needs to be given to ensure the type of plan selected will align with the intended use. For example, a Land Use Area Plan would not be used for easement purposes. Refer to Appendix A, Section A.3 for further details on each type of plan.

ANNEX C - SURVEY PLAN APPROVALS

C.1 For Administrative Plans:

a. Any survey plans used to create new parcels, including easements, rights-of-way and permit areas, within Reserve Lands must be approved by the First Nation Council or by an individual authorized by the Chief and Council (i.e., First Nation Land Manager) and any other parties specified by the First Nation, prior to being submitted to NRCan for recording. This approval is to confirm: the creation of the new parcels shown on the plan; that the plan is suitable for the intended transaction; and that the plan meets with any planning or land use requirements of the First Nation. The approval can be in any written format (i.e., e-mail, letter or Band Council Resolution) acceptable to the First Nation and must include:
    i. the date of the approval
    ii. the name(s) and title(s) of the person(s) approving the survey on behalf of the First Nation Council (where a Band Council Resolution is not provided as the written approval)
    iii. the title of the survey plan
b. The CLS is responsible for obtaining the written approval and will submit it with their survey returns to NRCan. ISC regional staff may assist First Nations in confirming survey plans are satisfactory.
c. Administrative Plans do not require ISC approval and will not be sent to ISC for review and comment prior to being recorded in the CLSR.

C.2 For Official Plans:

a. Pursuant to S.29 of the CLSA, an Official Plan of Survey will not be confirmed or recorded in the CLSR by NRCan unless it is considered satisfactory to the Minister of ISC.
b. NRCan will notify the appropriate ISC Regional office through the online MyCLSS application when an official plan is ready for review.
c. The ISC Regional office will review the plan to ensure it complies with registered interests and the extents of the reserve agree with ISC records.
d. It is the responsibility of the ISC Regional office to obtain the First Nation's approval of the plan and to provide a copy of the approval to NRCan, prior to the plan being confirmed by NRCan.
e. The ISC Regional Lands Manager will signify that the plan is satisfactory to the Minister of ISC through the online MyCLSS application.
f. ISC will strive to provide approval within 30 business days of notification.

C.3 For Provincial/Territorial Land Title/Registry Office Plans (i.e. where lands are to be added to a reserve):

As these survey plans are prepared and approved under their respective provincial or territorial jurisdiction, there are no additional approvals required from NRCan, ISC or the First Nation prior to recording a copy of the plan in the CLSR.

ANNEX D – TERMINOLOGY

“Administrative Plan” refers to a survey plan approved pursuant to S.31 of the *Canada Lands Surveys Act* (CLSA). As a general rule, Administrative Plans will be used for all new internal subdivisions or other surveys related to internal interests in Reserve Lands. These plans are approved by the Surveyor General of Canada but are not sent to the Provincial/Territorial Land Titles/Registry Offices. Common administrative plans include Parcel Survey Plans, Explanatory Plans, Compiled Plans, Plans of Building Unit(s), and Land Use Area Plans.

“Allotment” refers to the process by which an individual First Nation member receives lawful possession of reserve land under S.20 of the *Indian Act.*

“Blanket distribution permit” also referred to as a blanket utility permit or blanket permit, is a distribution permit authorizing utilities over the entirety of the reserve. Any lands added to the reserve after the blanket permit is issued are not covered under the permit.

"Canada Lands" refers to the lands as defined under S.24 (1) of the *Canada Lands Surveys Act,* R.S.C., 1985, c. L-6.

“Canada Lands Surveyor” or **“CLS”** is the only person who is legally authorized to conduct land surveys on Canada Lands. A CLS is an expert in property rights systems and is able to provide advice on property boundary-related matters, various types of surveys, land management and administration.

“CLSA” refers to the *Canada Lands Surveys Act,* R.S.C. 1985, c. L-6. An Act respecting the surveys of public lands of Canada.

“CLSR” refers to the Canada Lands Surveys Records in National Capital Region. The CLSR is a registry of legal documents comprised of survey plans, field notes, reports and other documents supporting property rights on Canada Lands. The Surveyor General of Canada is legally responsible for managing all surveys on Canada Lands and maintaining all original plans, journals, field notes and other documents connected with those surveys.

“CLSS” refers to the Canada Lands Survey System. A system providing a framework and infrastructure that defines, demarcates, and describes the boundaries of Canada Lands. In conformity with the *Canada Lands Surveys Act*, the system documents the administrative limits of Canada Lands and supports different land registry systems to protect property rights.

“Exclusive Use” in relation to a parcel of land, means the party referenced in the document has sole use of the land as per the terms specified in the document, but the rights to the land are not conveyed (e.g., in a lease, the lessor retains exclusive rights and control of the land while the lessee is entitled to exclusive use of the land during the term of the lease).

"Exclusive Use Parcel" is a closed polygon of land, with a unique descriptor (i.e. a distinct Lot number consistent with the records of the ILRS), used or intended to be used to describe the extent and location of an Exclusive Use interest in the land.

"Memorandum of Understanding" or "MOU" refers to this Memorandum of Understanding and associated Annexes A through D (inclusive).

"Indian Act" refers to the *Indian Act [R.S.C.1985, c. I-5]*.

"Indian Lands Registry System" or **"ILRS"** is a database of instruments relating to Reserve Lands (managed under the *Indian Act*) and Crown Lands.

"Interdepartmental Memorandum of Understanding" or **"IMOU"** as referenced in this MOU refers to a separate understanding between NRCan and ISC concerning the funding of cost-recovery activities/services to be provided by NRCan, and to the description of the roles, responsibilities and obligations of each department.

"Lease" refers to a written contract by which one-person (lessor or lessee) grants to another (tenant or lessee) exclusive use and possession of land and/or building for a specified period of time.

"Lot" refers to a unique description assigned to a closed polygon or parcel of land that has been subject to a recognized subdivision of property.

"MyCLSS" (www.myclss.ca) is a website application developed by the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors and NRCan. Canada Lands Surveyors use it to initiate survey projects and to request survey instructions from NRCan. It has online tools that assist with the production of survey plans and enable Canada Lands Surveyors to monitor the status of survey projects.

"Non-exclusive Use" refers to an interest in land for a limited purpose which does not require the exclusion of other parties' use of the land, such as an access right-of-way or permit for a specific use. A Non-exclusive Use interest does not sever or subdivide the Exclusive Use Parcel on which it is situated.

"Non-exclusive Use Parcel" is a closed polygon of land used to describe a Non-exclusive Use interest in land such as a right-of-way, easement, permit, or any other short-term interest. A Non-exclusive Use Parcel is not assigned a distinct lot number as it does not sever or subdivide the Exclusive Use Parcel on which it is situated. Generally, these parcels are shown on an Explanatory Plan.

"Official Plan" Refers to a survey plan confirmed pursuant to S.29 of the CLSA. Official Plans require confirmation by the Surveyor General of Canada and can be used to define a jurisdictional boundary upon completion of the land transaction. These plans are confirmed by

the Surveyor General of Canada and a copy of the plan is sent to the Provincial/Territorial Land Titles/Registry Offices.

“Permit” refers to a written document authorizing the Non-exclusive Use of property for a specific purpose. It does not create lawful possession of the land.

“Registry” refers to the Indian Lands Registry System (ILRS).

“Remainder” refers to a portion of an original/parent parcel that is left over (remaining), once another part of the parcel has been surveyed out to create a new parcel.

“Reserve Lands” refers to surrendered lands or a reserve, as those expressions are defined in the *Indian Act [R.S.C. 1985, c.I-5]*, other than Reserve Lands described in regulations made under S.4.1 of the *First Nations Commercial and Industrial Development Act [S.C. 2005, c.53]*. For the purposes of this MOU, this term does not include lands managed by a First Nation’s Land Code under the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*.

“Right-of-Way” is an example of an easement specifically focused on access to and passage across a parcel of land. A right of way may take the form of a negotiated agreement or a “statutory” right of way in cases where the party benefiting from the Easement has rights set out in legislation or is subject to regulation (typically highways or public utility corridors).