The Nisga'a Land Title System





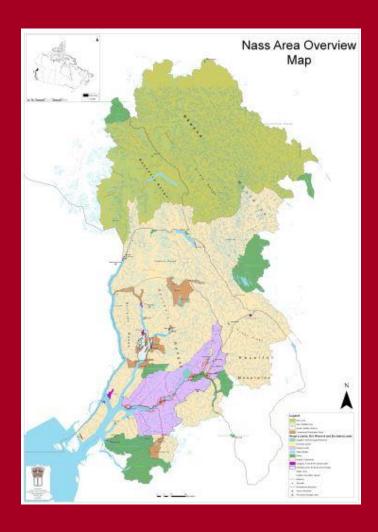
moving to fee simple ownership of First Nations land

The Nisga'a Nation





Nisga'a Final Agreement





Establishing the initial land title system

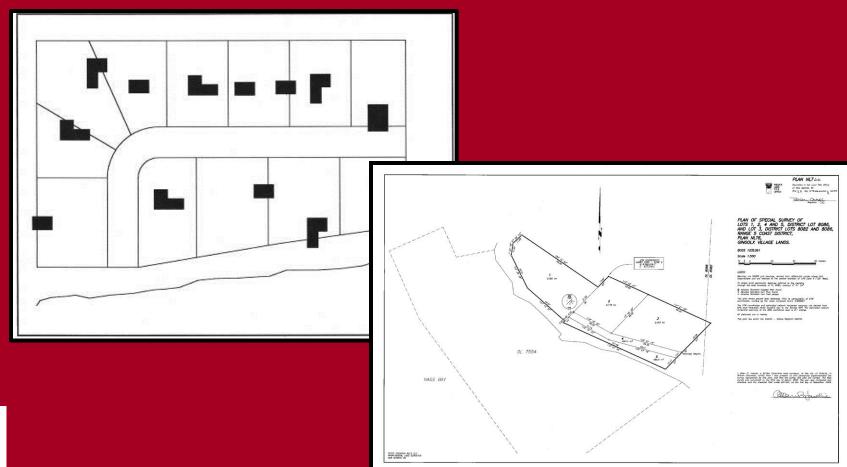
Nisga'a Final Agreement (2000)

Fee simple grant to each Nisga'a village





Accurate legal surveys using provincial (BCLS) standards





Initial restrictions on ownership of land





Must be substantially the same as a Certificate of Possession under the *Indian Act*

Unrestricted fee simple interest for residential lands





New legislation, administrative systems and digital database

Land title as an expression of social and economic policy

- Initial eligibility for fee simple grant
- Voluntary participation
- Fee structure design





Initial eligibility for fee simple title





Voluntary participation







Fee structure design





External Concerns

Loss of land

 Loss of cultural identity





The real concerns

 Database design expertise

 Support from the professional and financial communities



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Expropriation: Rights of BC and Canada

- No expropriation of Nisga'a Lands by BC
- Canada's rights to expropriate Nisga'a Lands restricted by the Treaty





Expropriation





Nisga'a Expropriation Act





Thank you

Diane E. Cragg
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