

PROFESSIONAL LANDS MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM – LEVEL II: TECHNICAL TRAINING

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PLMC101: Laws (Treaties), Acts and Regulations

This course will introduce the legal structure that forms the basis of authorities on reserve lands. Key historical events leading to the establishment of the Government of Canada and the jurisdiction over “Indians and Indian lands” will be reviewed. Significant acts and regulations will be examined and the relevant authority or jurisdiction over specific areas of land management. A summary of law-making authority, obligations, and requirements under the *Indian Act* and the Land Management Manual will be presented. An overview of the land management obligations and requirements for signatories to the Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management and comprehensive self-government acts. Students will learn about the impacts of court decisions as it relates directly or indirectly to the management of reserve lands. Regulatory gap and legal obligation topics will be introduced such as fiduciary obligations of Council and the Land Manager.

PLMC201: Environmental Management

This course will review the main concepts and tools for environmental management on reserve lands while also exploring the importance of Traditional Knowledge (TK) and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) for environmental management processes. Key pieces of federal environmental legislation will be reviewed and which level of government has authority/jurisdiction over specific areas of the environment. An overview of environmental obligations and requirements for signatories to the Framework Agreement for First Nations Land Management will be provided. Students will learn about the environmental management processes and obligations under the Land Management Manual and how they relate to land management processes such as leases and permits. Central environmental management topics will be introduced such as approaches to management of contaminated sites and waste management, species-at-risk management on reserve, climate change, environment management planning, and cumulative effects management. Lastly, the course will provide an overview of available funding programs that provide assistance in furthering First Nation communities environmental management practices.

PLMC301: Land Use Planning

Community land use planning is the process of allocating lands, community resources, facilities, and services with a view to maintain and improve the physical environment and the economic and social conditions of a community. This process assists First Nation communities to reach unique goals for their lands, ensure sustainable development, affirm rights, establish community values on the development of their lands, and determine future land uses. Culture, tradition, type of land regime, experience, available resources, and the wishes of the community are all factors that must be considered to help determine the type and extent of the Land Use Plan. This course will provide an overview of community land use planning from a First Nation perspective, and guide participants through the process of initiating, developing, and implementing a Land Use Plan.

PLMC401: Land Transactions

This course will introduce a variety of land transactions on reserve lands while identifying the legal structure that forms the basis of authorities. The concept of land tenure will be explored and compared to the First Nations' understanding of land stewardship. The difference between land transactions on collective and individual land holdings will be studied. The importance of planning and environmental management as it applies to reserve lands will be reviewed. Basic survey plans, legal land descriptions, and appraisals supporting land transactions will be examined. The applicable sections of the *Indian Act* and Referendum Regulations authorizing a land designation for leasing or a land surrender for sale or exchange will be reviewed. The land management obligations and requirements for leases and permits under the *Indian Act* and the Land Management Manual will be offered. The students will study the common responsibilities i.e., negotiations, cancellation of an instrument, compliance, registration, etc., pursuant to land transactions. The Indian Lands Registry System (ILRS) and the Indian Lands Registration Manual will be reviewed. A summary of the *Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interest or Rights Act* (FHRMIRA) and how it applies to land transactions on reserves will be provided.

PLMC501: Land Administration

This course will discuss the various aspects of land administration and the influential laws and policies that guide the variety of processes. A number of systems will be introduced that assist in the administration of lands, natural resources, and environmental management. These systems are integrated into the day-to-day operations of the Lands Office to support an organized and efficient process when dealing with various activities on the lands. The students

will have training on the Indian Lands Registry System, learning the tools to conduct incumbrance checks, and land status reports. Internal processes including policies and procedures to guide the processes will be discussed. Ideas for tracking items and issues that need attention at a future date will be examined. Management and reporting concepts will be identified, and suitability will be debated. The concept of this course is to identify the required land administration responsibilities, explore methods of managing the obligations, and the tools and resources available to guide efficient and effective land management on reserve lands.

Electives

See *Course Schedule* for the list of current offerings.