



National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association Celebrates 25 Years of Advancing Indigenous Land Stewardship.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Curve Lake First Nation, ON — May 12, 2025 — The National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association (NALMA) proudly marks its 25th anniversary, celebrating a quarter-century of empowering First Nations communities across Canada through professional land management, capacity building, and self-determination.

Founded in April 2000, NALMA was established by a dedicated group of First Nation Land Managers who recognized the need for a national body to support and enhance land management practices. Under the leadership of Executive Director Leona Irons, NALMA has grown into a dynamic, non-political, not-for-profit organization that provides technical expertise, training, and networking opportunities to over 700 First Nations and Inuit participants nationwide annually.

"Our journey began with a vision to unify and strengthen the role of Land Managers in First Nations communities," said Leona Irons. "Over the past 25 years, we've built a strong foundation that honours Indigenous values and promotes sustainable land stewardship."



**Raising Professional Standards
in Land Management**

Key Milestones:

- **Professional Lands Management Certification Program (PLMCP):** Developed in collaboration with Indigenous Services Canada, PLMCP has certified over 225 Land Managers, training them with the skills and knowledge to manage reserve lands effectively.
- **Regional Lands Associations (RLAs):** NALMA's structure includes eight RLAs, fostering regional collaboration and ensuring that local needs and perspectives are integrated into national strategies.



- **Strategic Partnerships:** NALMA has established partnerships with post-secondary institutions; University of Saskatchewan, Algoma University, Vancouver Island University and the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue to provide accredited training programs that blend academic knowledge with practical land management skills.

As NALMA celebrates this significant milestone, the organization remains committed to supporting First Nations in achieving greater autonomy over their lands and resources. Through continued advocacy, education, and collaboration, NALMA aims to build on its legacy and drive positive change for Indigenous communities across Canada.

For more information about NALMA and its programs, please visit www.nalma.ca.

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About NALMA:

The National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association (NALMA) is a non-profit, non-political organization dedicated to providing professional development, technical expertise, and support to First Nation Land Managers across Canada. Through its programs and partnerships, NALMA promotes best practices in land management that respect and integrate Indigenous values and traditions.