



# NALMA Strategic Plan 2024–2029: Summary for Members and First Nation Communities

## Who We Are

The National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association (NALMA) is a national, First Nation-led, non-political organization that supports First Nation land managers through capacity building, professional development, and technical support. We work alongside eight Regional Lands Associations (RLAs), connecting more than 200 professionals dedicated to advancing Indigenous land governance across Canada.

## Vision

Empowering Aboriginal lands management professionals.

## Mission

To be a national organization of First Nation lands managers that actively enhances professional development and technical expertise, while incorporating First Nations values and beliefs in land management, grounded in grassroots practices.

## Values

As stewards of the land, NALMA is committed to:

- Empowering land managers with the highest standards of ethics and professionalism.
- Practicing sustainable management of ancestral lands for the benefit of future generations.
- Embedding First Nations knowledge systems and upholding community-driven values in all areas of land governance.

## Our Strategic Priorities (2024–2029)

### Strategic Priorities and Goals

#### 1. Capacity Building

- Expand access to culturally relevant, regional, and bilingual training programs for First Nation land managers.
- Strengthen RLA capacity to deliver localized services, mentorship, and technical support.
- Promote the profession of land management through certification pathways and intergenerational succession planning.



## **2. Revenue Enhancement**

- Diversify funding by cultivating partnerships across public, private, philanthropic, and non-governmental sectors.
- Improve long-term financial sustainability through risk management strategies and innovation.
- Align revenue generation with NALMA's values and strategic priorities.

## **3. Reconciliation in Land Management**

- Define and implement NALMA's role in reconciliation by supporting the application of UNDRIP Articles 25–29 and 32.
- Advocate for equitable federal funding to support Indigenous land governance and reconciliation.
- Contribute to federal policy reform to ensure Indigenous rights, legal traditions, and governance models are reflected in land-related legislation.

## **4. Environmental Stewardship**

- Support the creation of community-led environmental programs tailored to each First Nation's needs and land regimes.
- Equip land managers with tools and training on legal frameworks, emergency planning, and green energy impacts.
- Promote traditional knowledge in environmental practices, highlighting the sacred role of water, air, and land.

## **5. Traditional Knowledge**

- Document and safeguard traditional knowledge, language, and land use through community-led initiatives.
- Embed Indigenous laws, stories, and stewardship principles into all NALMA education and policy resources.
- Uphold First Nations data sovereignty and support Guardians programs to steward cultural and ecological knowledge.

## **6. Communications**

- Strengthen national and regional communication networks for land managers and RLAs.
- Promote land management as a recognized profession through storytelling, branding, and outreach.
- Ensure communications are bilingual, culturally grounded, and reflect Indigenous languages and identities.

## **7. Governance**

- Maintain strong and ethical governance through transparent leadership, succession planning, and board orientation.
- Regularly review and update bylaws, policies, and risk management strategies.
- Align organizational operations with evolving community needs and best practices.

## **8. Policy Review and Engagement**

- Provide technical input on policies affecting land sovereignty, environmental stewardship, and economic reconciliation.



- Engage with government as experts, not as proxies for consultation, to influence meaningful policy reform.
- Support Indigenous-led models of governance and legal traditions through legislative engagement.

#### **9. Partnerships**

- Strengthen partnerships with government, academia, and Indigenous organizations to enhance service delivery.
- Foster inter-RLA collaboration and community-driven pilot projects.
- Support service transfer by building RLA capacity and exploring new collaborative service models.

#### **Our Commitment**

NALMA remains grounded in the principles of First Nations leadership, ethical land stewardship, and intergenerational responsibility. Through this plan, we commit to building strong partnerships, advancing Indigenous land governance, and supporting every land manager across Canada.