

Information on Federal Crown Land

Land Administration, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Persons who are interested in acquiring Crown Land in the Northwest Territories should be aware of the following:

The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is currently negotiating or has negotiated, land claims with the Dene and Metis of the Northwest Territories. Extensive consultation is therefore undertaken with these groups prior to disposition of land. Although every application will be considered, persons applying for land on which they can “build a cabin in the wilderness and live off the land” should be aware that their application may not be approved.

General Information

Taxes, Levies or other Charges

Should a lease be issued you will be required to pay any taxes, levies or other charges payable to any authority resulting from your occupation of Crown Lands.

Price of Federal Crown Land

Value of land may vary from year to year. Purchasing of land is only available in some Communities in the NWT, as well as areas where First Nations land claims have been settled.

Residency Requirements

There are no residency requirements to acquire Crown Land in the Northwest Territories or Nunavut.

Applications submitted by First Nations or Aboriginal individuals for use of Crown land for traditional purposes.

All applications respecting a use of land, by First Nations or Aboriginal people, for traditional purposes must be accompanied by your proof of First Nation or Aboriginal ancestry for the region or NWT.

Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

Any activity on Crown Land may require a Land Use Permit pursuant to the *Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations*, as outlined in Sections 4 and 5 of those Regulations. You should contact the appropriate Land and Water Board in order to determine whether or not your application activities will require a land use permit:

Gwich'in Land and Water Board	Phone #	867-777-4954
Sahtu Land and Water Board	Phone #	867-598-2413
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board	Phone #	867-669-0506
Wek'eezhie Land & Water Board	Phone #	867-669-9593

Trespass on Territorial Lands

Persons who, in the opinion of the Minister, wrongfully or without legal authority use, possess or occupy Crown Lands are subject to removal pursuant to Section 20 of the Territorial Lands Act, and to a fine and/or imprisonment pursuant to Section 21 of the Act if they fail to vacate the land after having been ordered to do so under Section 20.

Fuel Tank Registration

A set of Regulations called *Registration of Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products on Federal Lands Regulations* were promulgated on August 1, 1997. These regulations apply to tanks containing petroleum or allied petroleum products (excluding propane). As owners, you are required to register aboveground storage tank systems, designed to be installed in a fixed location, and having a single or total capacity of greater than 4,000 litres. Also, you are required to register all underground storage tank systems having a capacity of more than 230 litres. As a storage tank system owner who is responsible for tank management, including proper operation and maintenance, you are now responsible for registration of the tank system with Environment Canada (DOE) at Suite 301, 5204-50th Avenue, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 1E2.

Information regarding Specific Uses of Land

Homesteads

Homesteading is not available in the Northwest Territories.

Agricultural Lands

The disposition of agricultural lands (dairy farming, mixed farming, grazing) is under the legislative authority of the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. While the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development administers federal territorial lands in the NWT, it is the responsibility of the Government of the NWT (GNWT) to establish an agricultural policy and the infrastructure to support it. For further information, contact the Lands Division, Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) (address attached).

Market Gardening

In a joint policy statement issued on June 17, 1977, it was announced by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the GNWT that small acreages of land would be made available for the growing of truck crops for local markets and for community gardens for individual use. Lands under Municipal and/or the Commissioner's administration were to be given priority in meeting initial demands for market gardens. Contact the GNWT Land Administration, MACA office for further information (address attached).

Residential Lands

Information regarding the purchase or lease of federal residential land in communities may be obtained from the GNWT Land Administration, MACA office (address attached), or you may contact the relevant municipality or community.

Generally, residential land is not available outside communities unless it is required in connection with a business operation that is located outside of a community boundary.

Commercial/Industrial or Tourist Facilities

Leases are available for tourist operations, however, only after associated licencing approval has been received from the GNWT- Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (GNWT-ITI) (address attached). A proposed operation should be discussed with that department prior to making an application for the land.

Cottage Lots

Since 1975, based on Ministerial direction it has been the policy of this Department to confine cottage lot disposal to developed cottage lot subdivisions. Current leases on lots of up to half a hectare (1 acre) in size are available in established subdivisions by means of **private purchase only**. Real Estate firms in Yellowknife, NT can provide you with further information.

Titled Land

Transactions involving land held under Certificate of Title are registered in the Land Titles Office in Yellowknife, NT. Real Estate firms can provide useful information on available titled land in many municipalities (addresses below).

Listing of Federal/Territorial Departments for the NWT

DIAND - Yellowknife

Land Administration

Department of Indian Affairs
and Northern Development
P.O. Box 1500, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2R3

District

NWT Region

South Mackenzie District

District Manager

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
P.O. Box 2550, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P8
(867)669-2760

Yellowknife

Resource Management Officer

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
P.O. Box 658, Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0
(867)872-2558

Fort Smith

Resource Management Officer

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
P.O. Box 1420, Hay River, NT X0E 0R0
(867)874-6994

Hay River

Resource Management Officer

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
P.O. Box 150, Fort Simpson, NT X0E 0N0
(867)695-2626

Fort Simpson

North Mackenzie District

District Manager

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
P.O. Box 2100, Inuvik, NT X0E 0V0
(867)777-2997

Inuvik

Resource Management Officer

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
P.O. Box 126
Norman Wells, NT X0E 0V0 (867)587-2011

Norman Wells

Government of the NWT Addresses

*Director, Land Administration
Municipal and Community Affairs*
Government of the Northwest Territories
500, 5201 - 50th Avenue, Northwest Tower
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3S9
(867) 920-8082

Director
Government of the Northwest Territories
Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9
(867) 873-7019

MAP Office Address

*Natural Resources Canada
Geomatics Canada*
Legal Surveys and Mapping Division
P.O. Box 668, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2N5
(867) 766-8522