



Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

# Government On-Line Public Report

**Prepared For:**

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

**October 31, 2001**

**Prepared By:**

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Canada

## Table of Content

Preamble .....	1
Overview .....	2
Aboriginal Canada Portal .....	3
Aboriginal Employment .....	4
Community and Economic Development .....	5
Environmental Management and Protection .....	7
First Nations and Inuit Transfer Payments .....	8
Indian Registry System / Certificate of Indian Status .....	11
Land Management .....	13
Natural Resource Management .....	15
Northern Environmental Management and Protection .....	16
Northern Natural Resource Management .....	18
Northern Science and Technology and Circumpolar Liaison .....	20
On-line Access to Corporate Information .....	22

## Preamble

The information age has dramatically changed the way Canadians do business, communicate and find the information they need. The Government of Canada (GoC) recognizes the importance of information technology and the vast benefits of providing information and services to Canadians on-line. This was confirmed in the October 12, 1999 *Speech from the Throne* in which the GoC committed to having services and information on-line by December 31, 2004.

Government On-Line (GOL) is the Government's plan to deliver programs over the Internet. GOL will provide citizens with the ability to interact with Government, to receive information on programs and services, and to do business electronically.

GOL is a key component in the federal government's plan to improve service delivery to Canadians by providing better access and seamless entry to the full range of government services and institutions. GOL is based on the following principles:

- < client-driven service,
- < convenient and accessible,
- < consistent,
- < responsive, and
- < private and secure.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is committed to the GOL initiative. INAC envisions GOL as a new service delivery channel that, when fully implemented, will improve connectivity and communications between the department and its partners.

The department's GOL plans are contained in the INAC *GOL Public Report*. This report provides an overview of this initiative within the department and describes planned action for each GOL service.

## Overview

GOL is intended to support the aspirations of Aboriginal peoples and Northerners for sustainable economic development and strong governance, and thereby, promote the departmental strategic objectives of *Gathering Strength: Canada's Aboriginal Action Plan*. As stated in the *INAC Report on Plans and Priorities 2000-2001*, GOL is a critical step in the development of the INAC vision of, "An environment that fosters a more promising future for all First Nations, Inuit and other Northern peoples and promotes self-sufficiency, economic independence, and a level of accountability similar to other governments in Canada."

The departmental *GOL Public Report* identifies a planned commitment for each the following services:

- Aboriginal Canada Portal
- Aboriginal Employment Program
- Community and Economic Development
- Environmental Management and Protection
- First Nations and Inuit Transfer Payments
- Indian Registry System/Certificate of Indian Status
- Land Management
- Natural Resource Management
- Northern Environmental Management and Protection
- Northern Natural Resource Management
- Northern Science and Technology and Circumpolar Liaison
- On-line Access to Corporate Information

Questions or comments on the public report are welcomed. Please contact the GOL Project Management Office at [gol@inac.gc.ca](mailto:gol@inac.gc.ca)

## Aboriginal Canada Portal

The Aboriginal Canada Portal (ACP) is an integrated gateway, or single-window, to Canadian Aboriginal on-line resources, contacts, information, and government programs and services. It offers ease of access and navigation to listings of Aboriginal associations, businesses, organizations, bands, communities, groups, news and peoples.

The portal is accessed through the Government of Canada web site by clicking on “Canadians” and then on “Aboriginal Peoples”. It is also linked to the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada web site, [www.inac.gc.ca](http://www.inac.gc.ca), by clicking on the ACP icon.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include: Aboriginal people, researchers, public policy makers, government employees, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students, and Canadians as well as non-Canadians wanting information on Aboriginal people.

Through the application of new information technologies, Aboriginal people can bridge the information and knowledge divide to help improve their quality of life. The sharing of information within and between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians can facilitate a greater understanding of one another and strengthen relationships.

For more information about this service, please contact Ian MacArthur at (819) 953-7597 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

### Achievements

The Aboriginal Canada Portal, <http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca>, was officially launched in March 2001.

### Future Plans

INAC plans to enhance this on-line service through:

- < On-line surveys,
- < Multimedia capabilities (video, web-casting),
- < Aboriginal languages choice options.

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these major service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.

## Aboriginal Employment

The Aboriginal Employment Program (AEP) was developed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), in consultation with the Committee for the Advancement of Native Employment (CANE) and the Public Service Commission (PSC). The goal of the program is to increase representation of Aboriginal peoples at all levels in INAC and foster a climate which will provide opportunities for development, while promoting retention through the creation of an Aboriginal inventory.

The Aboriginal inventory is a recruitment tool which will enable Aboriginal candidates to register on-line. The information will improve INAC's ability to recruit in support of the departmental objectives. As well, the inventory will provide recruitment support to other interested partners. In order to protect the privacy of inventory participants, access to the data will be limited to selected individuals.

The client group benefiting from this on-line service is Aboriginal peoples seeking employment at INAC.

Benefits to the client include convenient access to the service (i.e., clients can register at their preferred time and location), and on-line and immediate acknowledgement to client of registration.

For more information about this service, please contact Donald Bilodeau at (819) 997-8224 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

### Future Plans

INAC plans to develop an Aboriginal inventory recruitment tool to allow Aboriginal candidates to register on-line by March 2003.

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of this service component may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.

## Community and Economic Development

This service supports community development through economic and physical development projects. There are three similar but different sub-components of the service. Functionally, all three sub-component services will accelerate the on-line application, processing and tracking of proposal driven-projects. From a policy objective standpoint, however, the sub-component services will address the three distinct programs of Economic Development, Major Capital Projects, and Ministerial Housing Loan Guarantees.

The economic development projects are focussed on building partnerships with Aboriginal and Northern communities to: improve access to markets, capital, lands and resources; to enhance access to workforce skills and experience; and to create a supportive business climate and economic infrastructure.

Major capital projects aimed at improving community health and safety and quality of life – such as the construction of water and sewer systems and schools – are funded under the department's Capital Facilities and Maintenance Program according to priority and resource availability. Projects are approved based on the submission of acceptable proposals and studies. Once approved, they are monitored until project completion. Most of these transactions are currently paper-based, but can be converted to an electronic format for use on-line.

On-reserve housing loan guarantees have been in existence since 1966. Given the nature of land tenure and federal legislation, a Ministerial Loan Guarantee is necessary for most First Nations to obtain loan financing for housing. By delivering the service on-line, lenders and borrowers have access to the same information, thereby accelerating the process.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include Aboriginal administrators and economic development officers, on-reserve Aboriginal businesses, banking officials, and architectural and engineering consultants working on behalf of First Nations.

Benefits to the client include a more responsive, convenient and faster service, in addition to a reduction in the paper burden.

For more information about this service, please contact Elizabeth Logue at (819) 994-0057 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

## Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < On-line application, approval and tracking of economic development projects by April 2003.
- < On-line application, approval and review of Ministerial Housing Loan Guarantees. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*
- < On-line application, approval, tracking and reporting of community major infrastructure (eg., construction of water and sewer systems, schools). *Completion date uncertain at this time.*

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.



## Environmental Management and Protection

The service consists of the following four sub-components:

- < Administration of fuel storage tanks including registration, assessment and decommissioning;
- < Administration of waste sites including regulation, assessment and decommissioning;
- < Maintenance of an environmental assessment registry; and
- < Management of contaminated sites including tracking environmental issues and remediation plans.

Timing for on-line service delivery and source of funding for the service has yet to be identified.

## First Nations and Inuit Transfer Payments

This service involves the transfer, in an emerging government-to-government relationship, of grants and contributions (\$4.96 billion in 2001/02) for the delivery of essential services to First Nations and Inuit governments and their community members, and the corresponding accountability and performance reporting and evaluation. Combined with the Canada / First Nation Funding Arrangement, this service can become a multi-jurisdictional, single-window Internet access to authorized users for on-line processing of business transactions, both financial and non-financial.

Key transactions that can be conducted through an on-line Transfer Payment service will include the application for and approval of funding, electronic scheduling and adjustment of cash requirements, transfer of funds, and filing of financial and non-financial reports to meet performance and accountability requirements. Financial reports will include audit statements that are consistent with National Accounts schedules, and non-financial reports will consist of administrative data and performance indicators for programs such as education, social development and support, capital and housing, Indian government support services, economic development, land and environment management, population statistics, etc.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include First Nations and Inuit governments and organizations.

The on-line transfer payment process would enhance the government-to-government transfer of resources to First Nations and Inuit governments, increase transparency and accountability to the community members and the Government of Canada, and reduce processing time and duplication through a single-window service.

On-line reporting and retrieval of financial and non-financial data will make the process more responsive to community needs. These reports, which include administrative data on programs such as social, education, capital and housing, band governance, etc., are collected at varying times and frequencies throughout the year.

Reporting results through a consolidated on-line process will improve the quality and consistency of the data. Equally important, experience with this core business on-line will contribute to building capacity in First Nation and Inuit communities to bridge the digital divide.

For more information about this service, please contact Cal Hegge at (819) 994-0667 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

## Achievements

Major service components already on-line include:

- < The Non-Registered On-Reserve Population (NRORP), designed to allow First Nation administrators to file annual statistics of on-reserve non-registered population on-line, was launched in April 1999.
- < In June 1999, INAC implemented the Housing and Infrastructure Assets (H&IA). H&IA is an on-line system for First Nation administrators to file annual reports on conditions of housing and water and sewer servicing on reserves.

## Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < High level mapping of "AS IS" and "TO BE" Transfer Payment Management Control Framework business functions by March 2002.
- < On-line reporting of National Post-Secondary Education (PSE) Program data. This includes all the associated plans up to and including the implementation of an on-line reporting and data gathering process and system for the PSE Program by March 2002.
- < Electronic fund transfer between INAC and First Nations by March 2003.
- < Implement on-line Transfer Payments application, review and approval of funding arrangements. *Completion date of this milestone is uncertain at this time.*
- < On-line reporting of program data for education and enhanced population statistics. *Completion date of this milestone is uncertain at this time.*
- < On-line monitoring and tracking of funding process, including amendments, scheduling and adjustment of cash requirements. *Completion date of this milestone is uncertain at this time.*

- < On-line reporting of program data for capital and housing, Indian government support services, environment and land management, and economic development. *Completion date of this milestone is uncertain at this time.*
  
- < On-line capture of year-end financial statements that are consistent with National Account schedules and on-line monitoring of Remedial Management Plans. *Completion date of this milestone is uncertain at this time.*
  
- < On-line reporting of program data for social development and support services. *Completion date of this milestone is uncertain at this time.*

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.

## Indian Registry System / Certificate of Indian Status

The objective of the Indian Registry System / Certificate of Indian Status Project is to improve access to services, including benefit entitlement for registered First Nations individuals.

The existing Indian Registry System will be modernized and business processes will be re-engineered to enable on-line access to, and update of, Registry information.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada will also be developing and issuing a more secure identification card to minimize the misuse of the existing Certificate of Indian Status.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include First Nations people, other government departments, provincial governments, and Canadian businesses servicing First Nations.

This service will provide improved access for First Nations people to services and benefits provided by other government departments, provincial governments, and Canadian businesses. Currently, some clients are denied access to services and benefits because their status identity cannot be easily determined and authenticated. Primary transactions include uninsured healthcare and provincial sales tax exemption.

Secure on-line transactions with the Indian Registry System by external government departments and registration agents in First Nations band membership offices could also provide registration of life events and information/identity updates.

For more information about this service, please contact Terry Sewell at (819) 994-0951 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

### Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < Enhancement and issuance of the new Indian Status Card pilot project (currently underway in the Alberta Region) by February 2002.
- < Re-engineered and modernized Indian Registry System, providing on-line processing capabilities for Indian Registration Agents in the field by December 2002.

- < Commencement of Indian Status Card roll-out and card issuance system in Eastern Canada (Ontario, Quebec, Atlantic Regions.) *Completion date uncertain at this time.*
- < Commencement of Indian Status Card roll-out and card issuance system in Western Canada (Saskatchewan, Manitoba, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, and Yukon Regions.) *Completion date uncertain at this time.*
- < Complete roll-out of Indian Status Card. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.

## Land Management

This service administers and manages reserve lands in accordance with the *Indian Act*.

Three sub-components of this service are currently delivered on-line. Land transactions are recorded and maintained in the Indian Land Registry System; land leases and permits are tracked using the NetLands system; and land information is displayed graphically as First Nation Community Maps using Geographic Information System (GIS).

A fourth sub-component of this service that can be delivered on-line is the use of GIS for integrated community planning. Information provided by this service may include legal survey fabric, registered interests, underground utilities such as water/sewer/telephone/electrical distribution systems, land use/zoning, environmental issues and any other data deemed relevant by First Nations.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include Aboriginal land administrators, solicitors, departmental staff, researchers, and claims negotiators.

The benefits to the client include faster and more cost effective service by eliminating the need of an individual to travel to a regional office or the Registry Office to obtain the necessary information.

For more information about this service, please contact Jacques Desrochers at (819) 994-6743 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

## Achievements

Major service components already on-line include:

- < In June 1999, INAC implemented NetLands, a restricted access, on-line system that tracks land transactions including leases and permits.
- < The restricted access, on-line Indian Land Registry System provides users with records of transactions of all on-reserve land parcels. The system was implemented in February 2001.

## Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < Refine First Nation Community Maps, including digitization of additional maps and translation of field names in databases according to subject, by March 2003.
- < Enhance NetLands by making it possible to track royalty payments for timber and minerals. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*
- < Enhance the Indian Land Registry System. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*
- < Integrated on-line community planning tool using a Geographic Information System. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.



## Natural Resource Management

Oil and gas activities on reserves are governed by the *Indian Oil and Gas Act* and regulated by the *Indian Oil and Gas Regulations*, 1995. This service administers the collection of royalties for oil and gas produced on Indian lands, reconciles and audits royalty funds, and tracks leases and commitments.

The Resource Access Negotiation (RAN) Program is also included in this service. RAN provides funding to First Nations and Inuit communities to negotiate access to management and harvesting opportunities for off-reserve resources, as well as to negotiate benefits from major projects near communities and from the sale of reserve resources.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include Aboriginal land administrators, Aboriginal economic development officers, financial officers, departmental staff, and operators on reserves where oil and gas production occurs.

Benefits to the clients include convenient on-line service for RAN funding application, and immediate access to financial and production records such as leases, audits and royalties related to oil and gas production on Indian lands.

For more information about this service, please contact Roger Daum (for oil and gas) at (403) 292-6096, Peter Wyse (for RAN) at (819) 997-9276 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

### Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < On-line application to access RAN funding, tracking and reporting of progress by April 2003.
- < For oil and gas, on-line collection, payment and tracking of royalties; management of land leases (i.e. review land lease information). *Completion date uncertain at this time.*

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.

## Northern Environmental Management and Protection

Through this service, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (NAC) develops policies and programs for the management of contaminated (hazardous waste) sites in the territories. It also develops and implements environmental assessment processes, according to federal requirements under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) and legislation resulting from claims negotiations.

Additionally, this service administers the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) which involves the planning of research, and the subsequent synthesis, publication and communication of research results. The negotiation of international agreements and controls on pollutants of concern in the North is also part of the Northern Contaminants Program, as is the formation of multi-agency partnerships including Aboriginal organizations.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include researchers, contractors, project proponents, First Nations Inuit and Northerners, regulatory boards, and the general public.

Client benefits from on-line delivery include improved project planning, access to northern research data, and information on environmental hazards and climate change.

For more information about this service, please contact Sheilagh Murphy at (819) 997-0660 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

### Achievements

Major service components already on-line include:

- < The Northern Information Network, <http://esd.inac.gc.ca/Nin/>, went on-line in 1993. Metadata and links to Northern databases were added to the service in January 1995.
- < Northern Contaminants publications, available on-line at [www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/NCP/prop/index\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/NCP/prop/index_e.html) since January 1995.
- < Project application forms for the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) available for downloading and printing in December 2000.

## Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < Complete feasibility study for the development of a Northern Contaminants Program database to provide the public with details of research projects funded by NCP, including locations and reports. Database will be linked to on-line mapping system by March 2002.
- < Develop an on-line CEAA (*Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*) public registry to comply with CEAA legislation by March 2002.
- < Enhance the features of the Environmental Assessment web site by adding an electronic brochure to provide users with a digital roadmap for project supporters by March 2002.
- < Re-design the Northern Information Network web site to meet *Common Look and Feel* guidelines by December 2002.
- < Develop and implement an on-line climate change system to track and report climate change research by December 2002.
- < Convert the Northern Contaminated Sites database to a web-based application for use on-line. Pilot application will run in March 2002 and the complete service will be on-line by March 2003.

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.

## Northern Natural Resource Management

This service, which includes the following component services, provides for the management of land and natural resources in Canada's three northern territories:

- < Management of on- and off-shore oil and gas resources in the Northwest Territories (NWT) and Nunavut;
- < Development and implementation of policies, legislation and programs which manage and promote the sustainable development of mineral resources. Activities include issuing mineral titles, collecting royalties and fees, and monitoring and inspecting mining activities;
- < Provision of geoscience information on the geology and mineral deposits of the territories in the form of maps, studies, reports and databases;
- < Administration of Crown land and water resources in the North through the development and implementation of policies, legislation and programs;
- < Management of forestry in the Yukon. Activities include the allocation of timber permits, collection of revenues, disease and forest fire prevention and setting of annual allowable cuts; and
- < Coordination of the development of northern sustainable development advice, policies, strategies, legislation and regulations guiding renewable resources utilization, conservation and protection.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include the non-renewable and renewable resource industry, northern residents, territorial governments, northern businesses, Aboriginal organizations, non-government organization, other government departments, and the general public.

Client benefits from on-line delivery include: promotion of economic development in the three northern territories; streamlined project assessment, access to land registries, and the distribution of baseline information on natural resource; more responsive client services; and more control of data by clients including the ability to post their own data.

For more information about this service, please contact Sheilagh Murphy at (819) 997-0660 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

## Achievements

Major service components already on-line include:

- < In June 1996, INAC jointly developed a geoscience website with the Yukon Territorial Government which includes geoscience databases, electronic maps, and reports for the Yukon mining industry. The geoscience web site is available at <http://www.geology.gov.yk.ca/>.
- < Interactive queries, reporting and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping for all mineral showings in the NWT and Nunavut have been available on-line (NORMIN at [www.inacnt.internorth.ca/normin/](http://www.inacnt.internorth.ca/normin/) and [www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/oil/act/Lan/index\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/oil/act/Lan/index_e.html)) since April 1998.

## Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < Produce on-line interactive forms related to mineral and petroleum titles and land use permits. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*
- < Develop and implement an on-line oil and gas management system. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*
- < Create an on-line system to manage and administer granular resources (i.e., quarries, construction material for roads) in the North. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.

## Northern Science and Technology and Circumpolar Liaison

This service delivers the Northern Scientific Training Program (NSTP) and the Northern Science Award, and provides federal coordination with respect to Northern Science and Technology in Canada. The service also promotes cooperation among the eight Arctic nations through the implementation of the new Northern Dimension of Canada's foreign policy, including the engagement in Arctic Council and other international work.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include students and professors at Canadian universities, and the general public.

Benefits to clients include on-line registration for grants, and faster response times as a result of improvements made to the NSTP repository of applications, through which staff can more easily compare and track information.

For more information about this service, please contact Sheilagh Murphy at (819) 997-0660 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).

### Achievements

Major service components already on-line include:

- < Grant application forms and all supporting documentation for the Northern Scientific Training Program (NSTP) have been on-line since April 1997.
- < Since September 2000, applicants are able to complete forms on-line and print them for submission through their nearest university by visiting [http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nstp/electro\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nstp/electro_e.html).

### Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < Northern Science and Technology Program interactive forms on the Internet by April 2002.

- < Complete end-to-end transaction with applicants for the NSTP by September 2002.

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.

## On-line Access to Corporate Information

This service will provide on-line access to discussion forums, INAC's corporate data warehouse, and various departmental information holdings such as program data (i.e., education, population, capital assets, housing, etc.) and the departmental library catalogue. Via this system, citizens can find complete and accurate departmental data, including information on First Nations communities. Providing access to on-line discussion forums will allow for interactive collaboration and consultation between the department and its First Nations, Inuit and Northern partners in policy development and other endeavours.

INAC's corporate data warehouse is an important source of information for First Nations communities, businesses, researchers, and the general public. This information is vital for various planning and policy development work at the community level (i.e., education, economic development, housing and infrastructure, etc.) It is also an effective tool for educating the public about issues and challenges facing Canada's First Nations and Aboriginal people.

The client groups benefiting from this on-line service include: First Nations and Aboriginal communities; First Nations administrators and educators; businesses and economic/community development planners; and researchers involved in land claims, self-government negotiations, and litigation.

As the steward of the historical record of government decision-making, agreements, publications and data for Canada's Aboriginal people and Northerners, INAC must openly share this information with Aboriginal people and Northerners to build the partnership relationship and support Aboriginal goals.

Resources such as the on-line library catalogue and First Nations Community Profiles, will enable INAC to improve services to partners and other stakeholders (i.e., litigation and land claim researchers) who request information.

On-line discussion forums will provide a structured environment through which partners and stakeholders can exchange ideas and share best practices. In much the same manner, these forums will also serve as an on-line meeting place in which consultations, surveys and collaboration among policy development partners can be carried out. Collectively, these on-line services will allow the department to respond more effectively to the information needs of clients and partners alike.

For more information about this service, please contact Ravi Shankar at (819) 953-7062 or via e-mail at [reference@inac.gc.ca](mailto:reference@inac.gc.ca).



## Achievements

Major service components already on-line include:

- < In September 1999, the First Nations Community Profiles went on-line at [http://esd.inac.gc.ca/FNProfiles/FNProfiles\\_home.htm](http://esd.inac.gc.ca/FNProfiles/FNProfiles_home.htm). This system is a user-friendly, web-based system which allows quick and easy on-line access to current profiles of First Nation communities.
- < In April 2001, the *First Nations Governance Talking Circles*, <http://www.fng-gpn.gc.ca/index.html>, was implemented to provide an on-line discussion forum for sharing ideas and discussing issues related to First Nations Governance.

## Future Plans

INAC plans to implement the following major components to this on-line service:

- < Additional on-line discussion forums by October 2002.
- < Web enable the on-line departmental library catalogue management system by April 2003.
- < Re-design the First Nations Community Profiles system to access more departmental databases and expand the amount of First Nations information available. *Completion date uncertain at this time.*

It should be noted that the timing of the launch of these service components may change, as a source of funding has yet to be secured.