



**Atlantic Region
Indigenous Institution Building
for
Service Transfer**



Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Canada 

Purpose

- ▶ Give an overview on current Atlantic Regional Operations “Institution Building” initiatives with a focus on Infrastructure Service Delivery
- ▶ To begin to consider a conceptual framework of requirements for a successful transfer of service delivery responsibilities

Current Snapshot – Atlantic Region

-  Service Delivery Initiatives In Place
-  Service Delivery Initiatives In Development
-  Service Delivery Initiatives Non-Existent



	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Prince Edward Island	Newfoundland and Labrador	Canada
Emergency Management	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow
Economic Development	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow
Child & Family Services	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow
Social Development	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Infrastructure	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow
Education	Red	Green	Red	Yellow	Yellow
Health	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow

Current Service Delivery Transition Initiatives: LEED

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▶ Lands:

- ▶ 1. FNLM - developmental and operational First Nations; assuming responsibilities for reserve lands. Three FN's are already operational while three more are developmental and others have expressed interest.
- ▶ 2. RLEM – enhanced lands capacity for participating (5) FN's
- ▶ 3. AFNWA – support to the regional initiative through the permitting leasing requirements

▶ Economic Development:

- ▶ 1. LEDSP Core – providing funding to core support core capacity for FN's to support self-determination
- ▶ 2. In 2013, Aboriginal Business Canada programming was devolved to Aboriginal Financial Institutions. This enables AFIs to deliver business equity gap and planning and advisory services to individual entrepreneurs.

▶ Environment:

- ▶ 1. Capacity building through SWM.
- ▶ 2. Exploring opportunities for service delivery/devolution models.

Current Service Delivery Transition Initiatives: Income Assistance

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- ▶ Since 2016-2017 the Department has worked with First Nations in the Maritimes to develop a culturally appropriate On-Reserve Income Assistance Program.

- ▶ **Nova Scotia:**
 - ▶ Work continues on the Mi'kmaq Social Governance Initiative with the Ta'n Etli-tpi'tmk Association to finalize, implement and test the Common Enhanced Mi'kmaq Social Policy, rate structure and the Mi'kmaq Social Governance Application; and to explore self-governance options.
 - ▶ Discussions with Indigenous Services Canada and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs are ongoing to support governance discussions and to determine a way forward to deliver the On-reserve Income Assistance Program in Nova Scotia.

- ▶ **New Brunswick**
 - ▶ Work continues with Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Inc to develop a culturally appropriate On-Reserve Income Assistance program for Mi'gmaq and Wolastoqiyik communities in New Brunswick. Deliverables include finalizing and implementing the Mi'gmaq & Wolastoqiyik Social Development Policy and rate structure; and creating and implementing a central body to support communities to deliver the Income Assistance Program. A new software system is also being implemented and will support delivery of the Income Assistance program.
 - ▶ The next phase of the work includes exploring options for a 10-Year Grant and self-governance discussions. Funding and program changes must occur first to ensure the program is adequate prior to self-government discussions with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs.

Current Service Delivery Transition Initiatives: Income Assistance (Cont)

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▶ Prince Edward Island

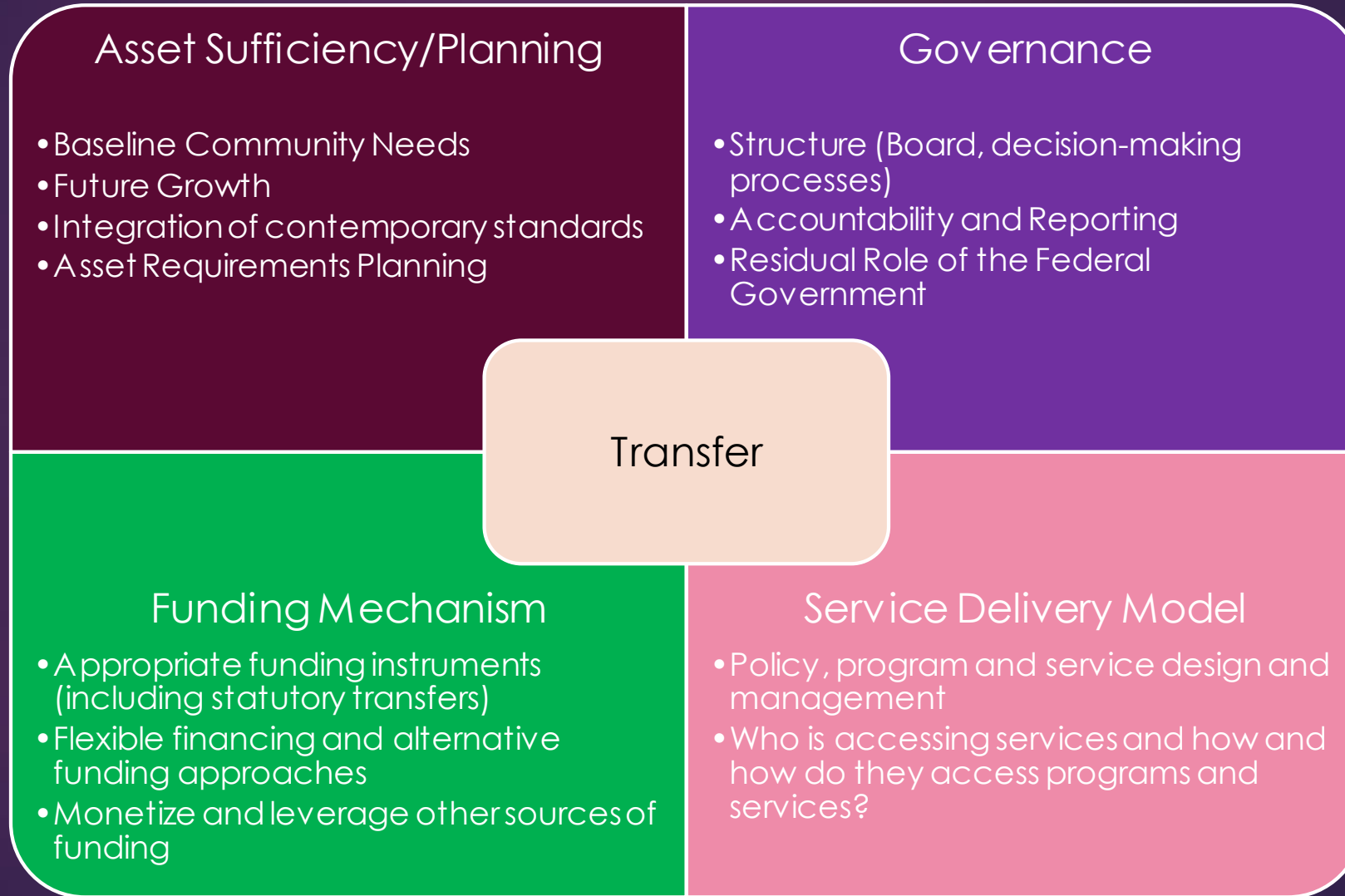
- ▶ As a result of the work with the two Prince Edward Island First Nation communities, community specific Income Assistance policies and procedures and rates structures were implemented in April 2019 along with a new software system.
- ▶ In addition, the communities received an increase in their funding allocations under the Income Assistance Program to support the implementation of their new social polices. The additional funding is committed for five years with a 3% increase each year subject to the appropriation of funds by the Government of Canada. A review of the funding will be completed in year four to ensure that it is adequate to meet the needs of the community.

Current Service Delivery Transition Initiatives: Infrastructure (CI and IRP Directorates):

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- ▶ Atlantic First Nation Water Authority (AFNWA) : Water & Wastewater Utility
- ▶ Confederacy of the Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM): Housing and Infrastructure Due Diligence Phase
- ▶ North Shore Mi'kmaq District Council (NSMDC): Samquan Services/Water and Wastewater Hub
- ▶ Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq: Research and Capacity Building (potentially housing and infrastructure)

Service delivery Transition Pillars



Current Service Delivery Transition Initiatives: Atlantic First Nation Water Authority (AFNWA)

- ▶ AFNWA was established in 2019 as an apolitical, utility to deliver water and wastewater services.
 - ▶ Project started with APC and required significant engagement to develop the decentralized utility model, based on the Halifax Regional Municipality
- ▶ Signed a framework agreement with ISC in 2020 and 14 communities have signed on to the initiative
 - ▶ Water and wastewater funding for the communities will be redirected to the AFNWA
 - ▶ Model is flexible and will be able to add new members
- ▶ ANFWA is currently building the organization, conducting asset assessments, and developing a 10-year capital investment plan
 - ▶ Key element is the professionalization of the operators and the asset management approach of the utility
- ▶ Organizational costing and the Asset management/capital investment plan to be the basis of the funding that will be transferred to the utility
- ▶ ISC and AFNWA are working closely to transfer the corporate knowledge for the Water and Wastewater assets, systems, and current projects
- ▶ Negotiations are ongoing and plan on final transfer sometime in FY22/23

Current Service Delivery Transition Initiatives: Housing and Infrastructure

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- ▶ Confederacy of the Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM): Housing and Infrastructure Due Diligence Phase
 - ▶ CMM has identified the scope of services and are working to define their service delivery model.
 - ▶ Focus will be on housing, other community infrastructure, community planning and establishing engineering/technical capacity
 - ▶ ISC is looking for an engineer to work with CMM on an interchange to help develop their capital program and provide technical support
- ▶ North Shore Mi'kmaq District Council (NSMDC): Samquan Services/Water and Wastewater Hub
 - ▶ Engaging member communities on the model for W/WW service delivery model
 - ▶ Recently hired an overall responsible operator to build W/WW capacity for NSMDC members
 - ▶ Scope of services would include W/WW operations, asset management and capital project delivery
- ▶ Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq: Research and Capacity Building (potentially housing and infrastructure)
 - ▶ Developing governance and asset management capacity through A CRS and other community planning initiatives.

Atlantic Region Service Delivery Transition Community of Practice CoP:

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- ▶ The CoP is intended to provide a single forum for stakeholders that are involved in the process for the transition and assumption of service delivery responsibility for the range of services that are available for such transition from the Government of Canada.
- ▶ Quarterly meetings with intention of two Face to Face and two Teleconference meetings annually, (Covid impacted)
- ▶ Controlled by First Nation participants
- ▶ Each meeting involves a learning component (e.g. presentation from BC First Nation Health Authority)
- ▶ Indigenous Participants to date include:
 - ▶ AFNWA
 - ▶ CMM
 - ▶ NSMDC
 - ▶ UNSM
 - ▶ Maliseet Conservation Council
 - ▶ Mi'kmaq Health and Wellness Authority
- ▶ Government Participants to date include:
 - ▶ ISC Atlantic Region CI, IRP and FNIHB
 - ▶ ISC Gatineau
 - ▶ Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation

Questions/Answers