

Land Use Planning in British Columbia: *Planning Principles*

These principles are intended to guide First Nations governments and the Province of British Columbia (hereinafter referred to collectively as 'the partners') in developing Land Use Planning (LUP) processes, structures, and products in partnership. These principles are meant to embody the overarching intent of the [LUP Program](#) and should be upheld to the greatest extent possible within the unique contexts of each partnership.

A Respectful Process: The planning processes should be centered on building lasting relationships and trust between the partners. The partners should explore funding arrangements, timelines, and interim measures that promote this principle.

Commitment to Reconciliation: Consistent with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the partners should seek to co-design planning processes that promote reconciliation and meaningful participation of First Nations peoples as holders of inherent and Aboriginal rights within their territories as recognized and affirmed by s.35 the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

Partnership and Shared Accountability: Planning related decisions should be made by the partners through government-to-government consensus seeking processes that respect, acknowledge, and uphold both Indigenous and Provincial law.

Inclusive Collaboration and Engagement: Engagement and collaboration should be used iteratively throughout the planning process to ensure the values, interests, and perspectives of all affected parties are fully understood and considered by the partners when seeking consensus.

Respecting Multiple Knowledge Systems: The partners should conduct planning in 'ethical space' where they continually seek to gain a deeper understanding of one another's worldview and knowledge systems. The partners should explore options for providing other affected parties with the knowledge and skill required to participate in ethical space dialogue alongside them during engagement.

Community Well-being: The partners should seek to increase human well-being by creating management direction that aims to promote healthy and resilient ecosystems (i.e., healthy lands equally healthy people).

Recognition of Shared Values, Costs and Benefits:

The partners should use the planning process as an opportunity to redefine the best balance between cultural, environmental, social, and economic values in a given plan area.

Scalable and Coordinated Projects: The scale of a planning process should match the scale of the issues and interests the process is attempting to address. Planning processes should seek to complement and carry forward the work of related programs and initiatives wherever possible.

Addressing Climate Change: Consideration of the effects of climate change should be integrated into all planning processes to address and mitigate its impacts, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and assist ecosystems and communities in adapting to future climate conditions.

Implementation Commitment: The partners should make efforts to ensure that management direction set out in a plan is implemented and monitored over time in a manner consistent with the intent agreed upon during the planning process or subsequent amendments. The partners should seek to employ a collaborative management approach to plan implementation and monitoring.

