



# Land Administration after Devolution

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Devolution will bring exciting changes to the GNWT and with these changes come new programs, responsibilities and opportunities.

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# A Changing GNWT

To accommodate these new programs and responsibilities, the GNWT must make changes to the structure of its departments.

- New programs and responsibilities will be added to the existing GNWT departments of **Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI)** and **Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)**
- A new **Department of Lands** will be established
- **MACA's** and **AANDC's** current land management functions will transfer to the Department of Lands

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# Business Today

How applications are being treated with devolution in mind:

- Land Use Permits
- Land Dispositions

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# Business Tomorrow

The GNWT recognizes that the management and administration of public land is a core public good

A new Department of Lands will be created to support, manage and administer the sustainable use of public land in the NWT

How Does this Impact You?

- Minimal Impact – Legislation is being mirrored
- Current authorizations remain in force
- Your first point of contact will be GNWT (but possibly previous AANDC staff)

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# Devolve then Evolve

Initially, two parallel land management regimes will exist. Longer term, land management systems will evolve to meet the needs of Northerners.

GNWT recognizes conditions for a positive investment climate include:

- Widest possible access to land for grassroots exploration
- Access to subsurface
- Security of tenure
- Transparency, certainty, predictability and timeliness in land management decisions

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# Existing Rights and Interests

## Existing Instruments

- Leases
- Quarrying Permits
- Land Use Permits
- Licence of Occupation  
(i.e. Winter Road)

## Continuation of Rights

Interests continued under same terms and conditions until lapsed or surrendered

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# Residual Federal Lands

Some Lands will be excluded from the transfer and kept under administration and control of the federal government.

Exclusions are listed in Schedule 4 to the Devolution Agreement and include:

- Lands set aside for AANDC's use and Indian Reserve Lands
- Some Waste Sites
- Some public lands that had been previously transferred to other government departments (wharfs, RCMP buildings, etc.)
- Established National Parks and Park Reserves

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# GNWT Legislative Framework

## Current GNWT Land Management Legislation

- *Commissioner's Lands Act*
- *Area Development Act*
- *Community Planning and Development Act*

Future GNWT Land Management legislation based on “mirrors” of existing federal legislation, such as

- *Territorial Lands Act* (Territorial Lands Regulations, Territorial Land Use Regulations, Quarrying Regulations)
- *Surface Rights Board Act*

## Delegated authorities under the MVRMA

- Inspections on Public Lands
- Coordination of project assessment

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# GNWT Policy Framework

The GNWT's policy framework for land management will be based on the:

- *NWT Devolution of Lands and Resources Agreement*
- *Land Use Sustainability Framework (LUSF)*
- Other policies and directives that shape how we manage public lands now and in the future

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# Day-to-Day Operations

Lands Offices responsibilities will include:

- Management of public lands that includes issuance of lands dispositions (leases, rights-of-way, licenses of occupation)
- Issuance of Land Use Permits (Inuvialuit Settlement Region only)
- Inspections, Compliance and Enforcement
- Issuance of Quarrying Permits
- MVRMA functions related to Land Use Planning, Project Assessment (EA)
- Coordination of securities management

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# The Department of Lands



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# Mandate and Principles

The proposed mandate of the Department of Lands is:

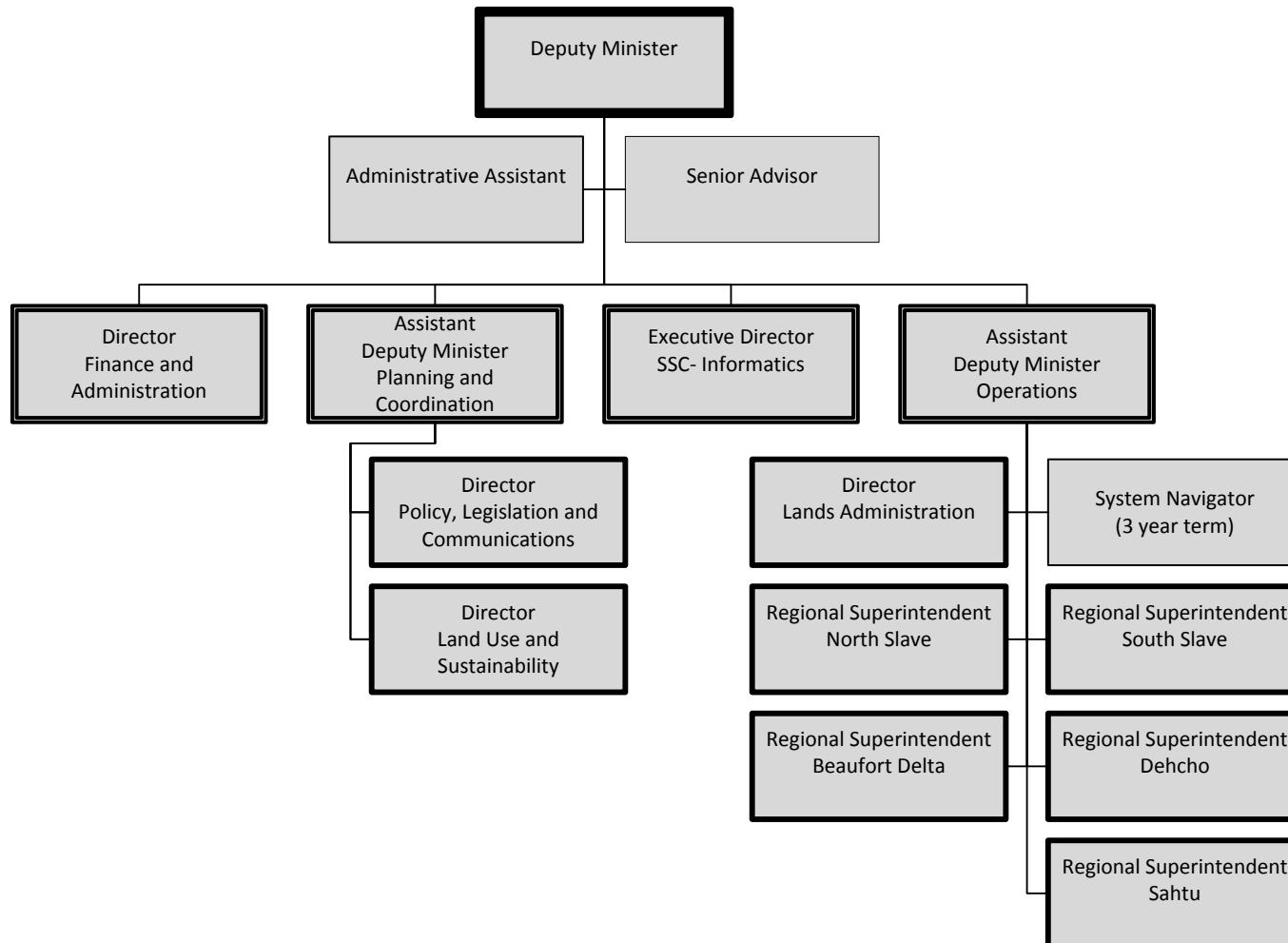
***To support, manage and administer the sustainable use of public land in the NWT***

- Land provides for ecological, spiritual, cultural, recreational and economic goods and services
- Land management and administration is a core public good and critical asset that needs to be effectively and efficiently managed
- Land management should be consistent with principles of the *Land Use and Sustainability Framework* (LUSF)

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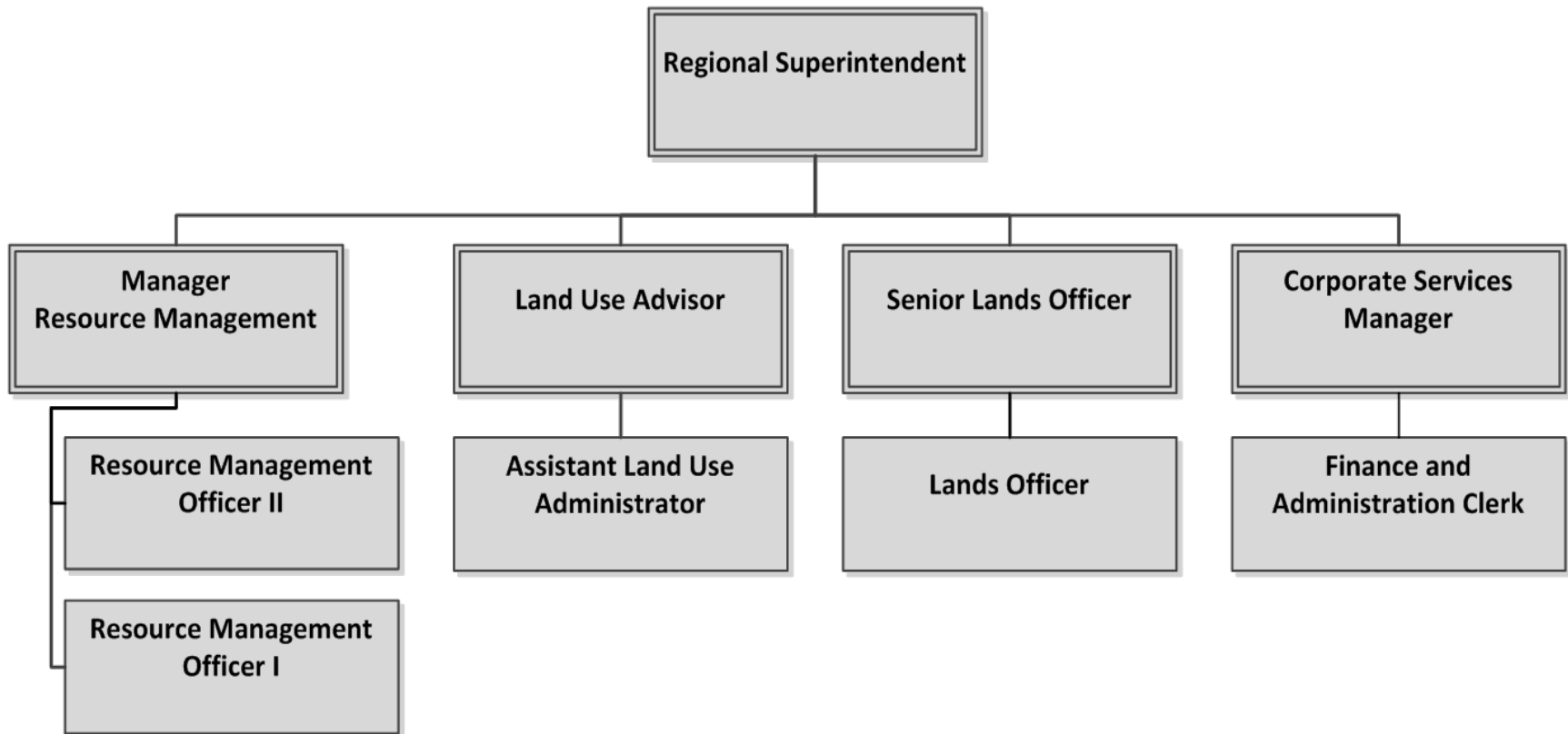
# Lands



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# Lands – Beaufort Delta



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Aboriginal Affairs and  
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# Questions?

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