



Ministry of
Water, Land and
Resource Stewardship

Reconciliation and the Natural Resource Sector

June 2023

Context

- It starts with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
 - The Province's Action Plan themed around: self-determination and self-government; Title and Rights; ending racism and discrimination; and social, cultural and economic well-being
- Government mandates add focus
 - "...transform the management and stewardship of our waters, lands and resources with First Nations..."
 - "...work toward modern land use plans and permitting processes rooted in science and Indigenous knowledge..."
 - "...develop a path forward with First Nations to build a co-managed land and resource regime..."



The current state



- When building something new, it's important to know where you are going *and* where you are starting from
- Understanding the existing system helps identify gaps and opportunities
 - Partnerships in planning processes
 - Collaborative forums for stewardship, data collection, monitoring
 - Joint compliance and enforcement, and support for First Nations Guardians
 - Space for different methods of Shared Decision-Making

Where to from here

- Enabling approaches built on a foundation that recognizes First Nation rights
- Renewed focus on strategic relationship with First Nations
 - Support for self-government and comprehensive reconciliation
 - Joint Land Use Planning
 - Work to develop a new fiscal framework
- Durable, predictable relationships resulting from a solid foundation → enhanced, sustainable economic opportunity, environmental resiliency and community well-being

