

# MINERAL TENURE ACT REFORM

Pre-engagement Information Sessions





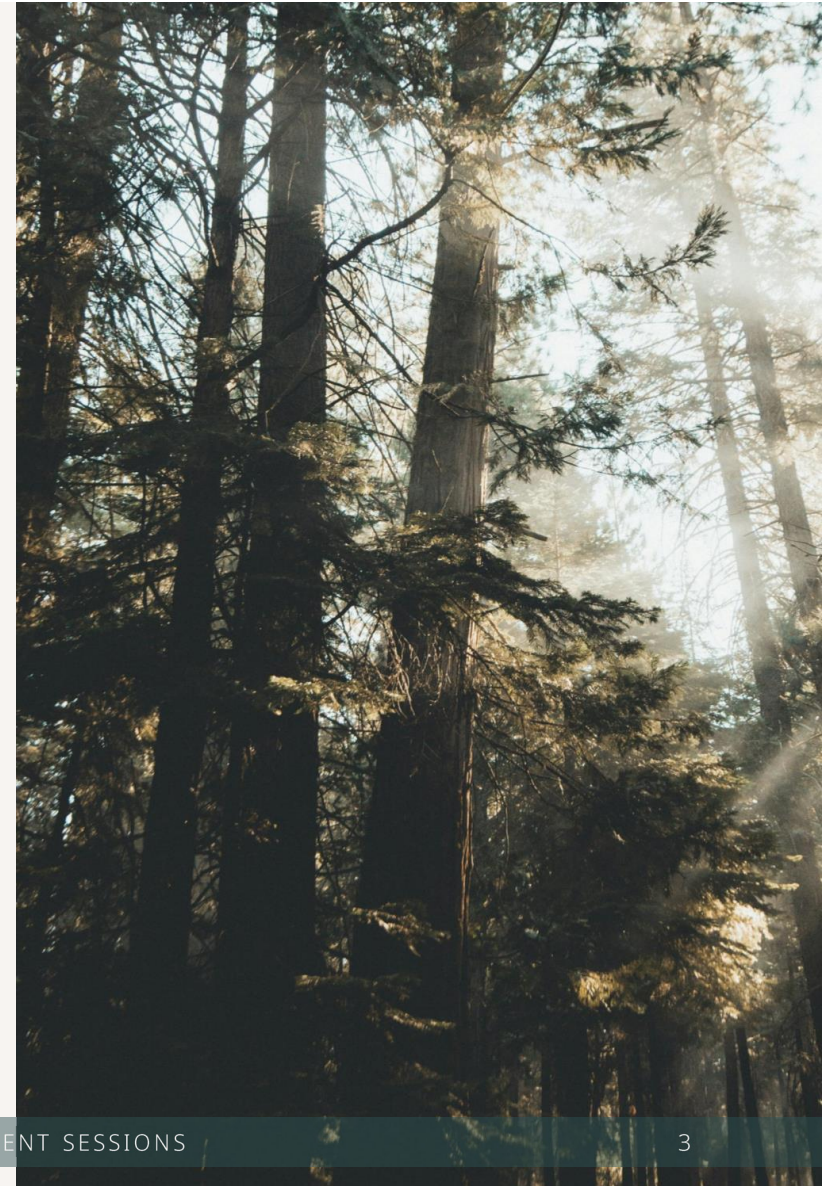
# WELCOME, OPENING AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Opening Prayer
- Land acknowledgement
- Introductions



# HOUSEKEEPING

- Q&A
- How to submit your questions
  - via Zoom Chat
  - by email to [MTA@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MTA@gov.bc.ca)





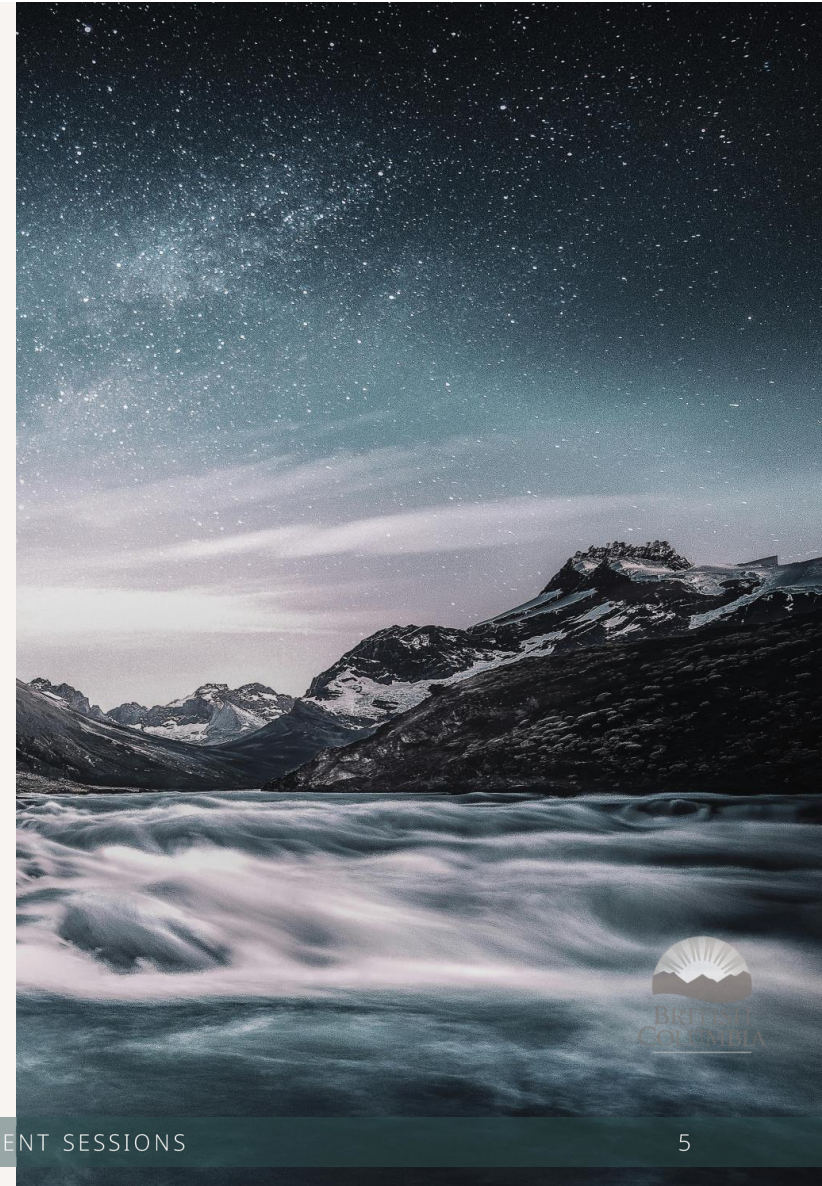
## AGENDA OVERVIEW

- Part 1: Introduction to MTA Reform
- Part 2: MTA Engagement
- Part 3: Timeline
- Next Steps, Q&A and wrap up



# Introduction and Opening Comments

- BRYAN WILLIAMS,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
ENGAGEMENT &  
COMMUNICATIONS



# MEETING OBJECTIVES TODAY

Today's session will provide:

A background  
on MTA  
reform

The path to  
legislation

An outline of  
future  
opportunities to  
collaborate,  
engage and  
provide input on  
MTA reform.



PART 1:  
INTRODUCTION  
TO MTA REFORM

# MINERAL TENURE ACT AND MINES ACT

## Mineral Tenure Act:

Authorizes the  
registration of mineral  
and placer claims

## Mines Act:

Addresses the  
health, safety, and  
environmental risks



# BC Mineral Tenure System Stages and Authorizations



## FREE MINER CERTIFICATE

- Registration required
- Age and residency requirements
- Individual and corporate application fees



## CLAIMS

- “Staked” on Mineral Titles Online (MTO)
- Exclusive 'right' to explore and develop a mineral resource
- Enables initial exploration activities to use, entry, and occupancy



## LEASES

- Increases production limits
- Interest in the land
- Longer term (up to 30 years)
- Consultation requirements

### **Permitting for Advanced Exploration and Development**

- Mechanized exploration and mining development require a permit under the Mines Act (based on definition of a “mine”)
- BC consults with First Nations during permitting

# STATUTORY POWER AND DECISION MAKERS

## CHIEF AND DEPUTY GOLD COMMISSIONER

ESTABLISHES AND  
MAINTAINS  
REGISTRY

ISSUES  
LEASES

COMPLIANCE  
AND  
ENFORCEMENT

COMPLAINT  
AND DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION

## MTA REFORM - FOCUS AND SCOPE



Commitment to "modernize the Mineral Tenure Act (MTA) in consultation and cooperation with First Nations and First Nations organizations"



Declaration Act Section 3 - in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples, bring provincial laws in alignment with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples



Broader transformation - may include mining laws, policies, and practices



Support social, environmental, and economic priorities of First Nations and the Province

# Past Engagement Sessions with First Nations

2019

TWO REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT FORUMS

2019

ONE PROVINCIAL ENGAGEMENT FORUMS

## LIVING THEMES FROM PAST ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS WITH FIRST NATIONS

Ability for First Nations to establish 'no-go' zones

Need to increase capacity for First Nations

Early engagement needed between First Nations and the Ministry of Energy Mines and Petroleum Resources (now **Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation**)

Early engagement needed between First Nations and proponents

Education and training for proponents

Concerns about the current Mineral Titles Online system

# PROVINCIAL POLICY AND LEGISLATION PROCESS

## ONE

### POLICY / LEGISLATION INITIATION

- Policy research and analysis
- Policy drafting
- Engagement with Indigenous Peoples

## TWO

### REQUEST FOR DECISION (RFD)

- Policy approach and outline
- Mandate from Cabinet
- Continued engagement with Indigenous Peoples

## THREE

### REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION (RFL)

- Drafting instructions for legislation
- Cabinet approval
- Expanded direction
- Continued engagement with Indigenous Peoples

## FOUR

### LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING

- Draft legislation
- Inclusion in Bill
- Continued engagement with Indigenous Peoples

## FIVE

### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

- Bill introduced into the Legislative Assembly

Alignment with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

A low-angle photograph of a forest canopy, looking up at the dense green leaves and dark tree trunks. Sunlight filters through the foliage, creating a bright, hazy glow in the upper center. The image is used as a background for the title text.

# PART 2: MTA ENGAGEMENT



# WHO'S INVOLVED

## All BC First Nations

- All BC First Nations

## BC-FNLC MTA Working Group

- First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC)
- First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC)
- EMLI MTA Modernization Office
- Declaration Act Secretariat (DAS)
- Ministry of Attorney General (MAG)

## First Nations Technical Advisory Group

- Technical expert advisory group
- Nations with substantial mineral activity
- Open for Nations to participate

## Interested Groups

- Association of Mineral Explorers (AME)
- Mining Association of BC (MABC)
- Organizing for Change
- Union of BC Municipalities
- General Public

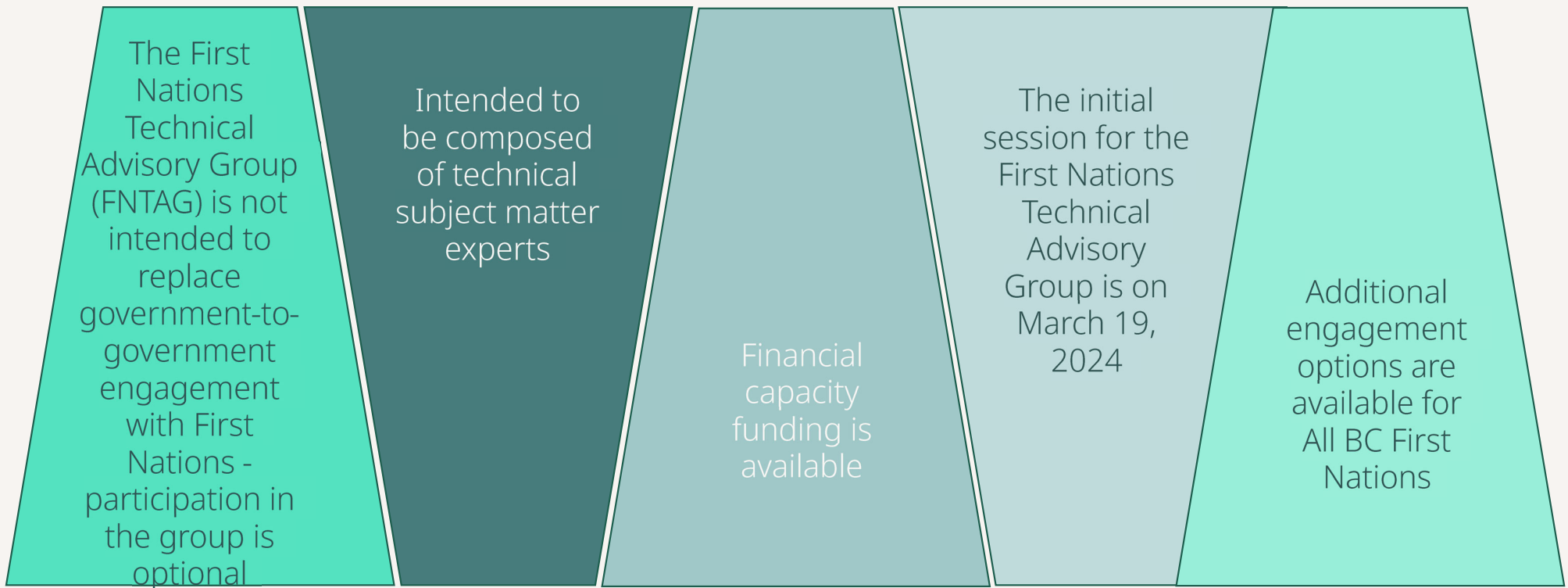



## Consultation & Cooperation

- The Consultation and cooperation effort is intended to ensure that First Nations perspectives, worldviews, title, rights, and interests, including as expressed in the UN Declaration, are integrated within policy concepts and options for MTA reform.
- Key priorities:
  - Transparency
  - Accessibility
  - Iterative, innovative and flexible
  - Undertaken in good faith and will uphold the honour of the Crown
  - [Distinctions-based approach](#)



# FIRST NATIONS TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP





PART 3:  
MTA REFORM  
TIMELINE



**MTA REFORM TIMELINE** 

ALL FIRST NATIONS

**ONGOING BI-LATERAL MEETINGS**  
Duration of Engagement

**PRE-ENGAGEMENT**  
Mar 2024

**VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENTS**  
Mar - Jul 2024

BC-FNLN MTA WORKING GROUP

**ONGOING MEETINGS**  
Duration of Engagement

FIRST NATIONS TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

**INTENSIVE SESSIONS**  
Duration of Engagement

**GROUP MEETINGS**  
Duration of Engagement

**ESTABLISH FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY GROUP**  
Mar 2024

Nov 2023

Dec

Jan 2024

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

INTERESTED GROUPS  
(Industry, ENGOs, Local Government, Public)

**PRE-ENGAGEMENT**  
Mar 2024

**VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENTS**  
Mar - Jun 2024

MILESTONE - REQUEST FOR DECISION (RFD) DEVELOPED

**ELECTION**  
October 19, 2024

**INTERREGNUM PERIOD**  
Sep - Nov 2024

MILESTONE - REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION (REL) DEVELOPED

**VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENTS**  
Jan 2025

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Jan 2025

**VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENTS**  
Jan 2025

MILESTONE - LEGISLATION

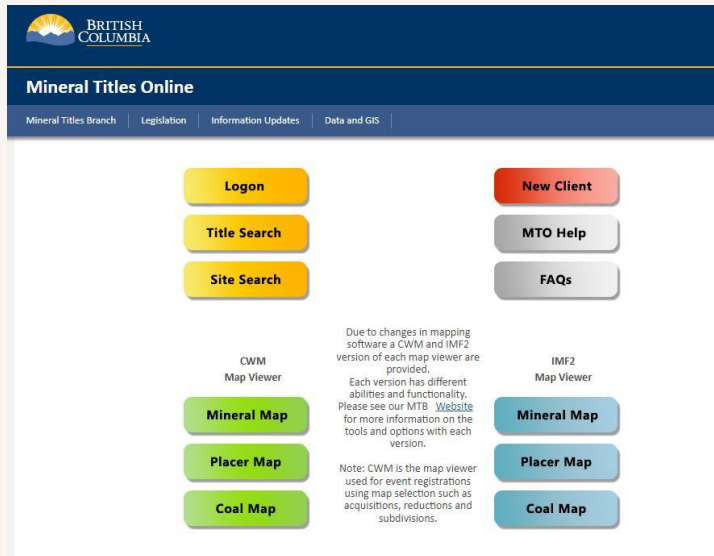
# NEXT STEPS

## Engagement schedule and upcoming sessions

Pre-engagement information session for All BC First Nations (virtual)	March 6, 2024
Pre-engagement information sessions for all Interested Groups (virtual)	March 12 - 13, 2024
First Nations Technical Advisory Group – Initial session (virtual)	March 19, 2024
Virtual Sessions for All BC First Nations	April 2024
Virtual Sessions for All BC First Nations	May 2024
Virtual Sessions for All BC First Nations	June 2024
Bi-lateral meetings with Nations (virtual/roundtables)	Ongoing
Self-serve information through website	Ongoing

# RELATED INITIATIVES

- Mineral Titles Online



- Developing new system
- Where to go for more info:  
[Mineral Titles News, Notices and Announcements - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](http://gov.bc.ca)

## Q&A Wrap Up

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON ON THE  
ENGAGEMENT PLAN AND WAYS TO  
PARTICIPATE

WEBSITE: [ENGAGE.GOV.BC.CA/MTAREFORM](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/mtareform)

EMAIL US AT: [MTA@GOV.BC.CA](mailto:MTA@GOV.BC.CA)

## Takeaway Question

HOW CAN WE FURTHER SUPPORT A  
MEANINGFUL AND PRODUCTIVE  
ENGAGEMENT EXPERIENCE?

TELL US MORE BY EMAILING US AT:  
[MTA@GOV.BC.CA](mailto:MTA@GOV.BC.CA)

