New Initiatives to Support Clarification of Land Ownership

September 2017

**New funding:** Approximately $2.7 million over two years to assist with legal and other fees, and costs associated with clarifying ownership of land.

**Expanded scope:** Adds two new areas of focus — Lincolnville and Sunnyville — to the existing focus on Land Titles Clarification areas of East Preston, Cherry Brook, and North Preston.

**Added support** for clarifying ownership of land through the Land Titles Clarifications Act, estate administration (Probate Act and Intestate Succession Act), and migration under the Land Registration Act:

- The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs will hire two community liaison officers this year to help residents in the five identified areas through the process to get clear title.
- Department of Natural Resources will hire one surveyor and two survey technicians this year to complete surveys and/or compiled plans in support of Land Titles Clarification Act applications.
- Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission will partner with the Department of Justice to help with legal services.

**Future initiatives:** Amendments to legislation will be considered that will benefit all 13 land title clarification areas.

**Ways to obtain clear title for land in Nova Scotia:**

- issuance of a Certificate of Title under the Land Titles Clarification Act (which requires migration after issuance of the certificate): https://novascotia.ca/natr/titles-clarification/
- migration under the Land Registration Act
- proceeding under the Quieting Titles Act
- court ordered declarations and negotiation between private parties

**For more information**
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