



Aseniwuche Winewak Nation of Canada

Guide to TLU Studies ©

Procedure:

Aseniwuche Winewak Nation (AWN) will organize and facilitate the sub-contracting of a Traditional Land Use (TLU) study company to complete our Traditional Land Use Studies. Format, roles and responsibilities of AWN, the sub-contracting company and individual personnel will change according to specific projects.

AWN will handle initial contact with company, create, agree upon, budget and address the scope of the project. Once this has occurred, the sub-contracting company will be notified of the project. The sub-contractor will be responsible for selecting and organizing personnel members with direction from AWN. Both the sub-contractor and AWN will be present at map review sessions prior to the commencement of the field portion of the TLU Study. The sub-contractor will handle the field portion of the TLU, with direction and presence of AWN as needed.

Upon completion of field portion, the sub-contractor will be responsible for creating the written TLU document, again with direction from AWN. AWN will then be responsible for delivering final product and any correspondence with the proponent. The sub-contractor will invoice AWN for provided services, and then AWN will submit the final invoice to proponent.

Personnel:

- 2 Elders in the community who are familiar with the particular area
- 1 Traditional Knowledge Holder (ie. Elder in training, younger community member who is active on the land)
- Translator – must be fluent in Cree and comfortable translating all discussion for the note taker
- 1 Facilitator – will act as a note taker and later establish the written report as a result of the field study
- 1 AWN Land and Resource Department representative as needed





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Study Questions:

It is important to remember that during the following questions, we not only get direct answers translated, but that the implied meanings of the Cree language are also communicated to the best of the translator's ability. We need to provide the overall SIGNIFICANCE of the information provided for our TLU report. It is important the facilitator/note taker and translator do not interrogate the subjects, but simply prompt conversation about their memories, lifestyles and stories.

Places of significance were often named for what people did in the area (ie. place where we pick berries, place where the trails meet). It is important for the translator to pay attention to these types of references during conversations.

It is important to not just focus on the physical aspects of the presence on the land. We also need to understand the spiritual occupancy of the land. When a group of people continuously use the land over a long period of time, they leave both a physical and cultural presence. It is critical we understand this presence when the information is being translated and recorded.

It is critical that not only are the historical uses of the land recorded, but what are the current uses? What are the hopes for the state of the land for our children and grandchildren? How do we hope to use the land in the present time and in the future?

When completing a TLU, it is crucial to understand the point. When we are completing a TLU study for a resource company (ie. TERA Environmental), the purpose of the study is to determine and communicate how that development is going to impact our Aboriginal Rights. In addition, we are also creating an inventory for the community's reference to protect significant traditional sites.

