LCAC Modern Treaty Implementation Research Project Overview

Strengthening Our Shared Future – November 2017

Project Overview

Modern Treaties Implementation Research:

Strengthening Our Shared Future

There are problems with Modern Treaty implementation. The impacts of these problems are significant and wide-ranging for Indigenous governments and Indigenous communities.

Since 2014, the LCAC Research Group has worked to determine an approach to gathering evidence that will assist policy makers in improving Modern Treaty implementation. During a conference in Ottawa in 2015, representatives of LCAC members; federal, territorial and provincial governments; and academics gathered to identify needs for implementation research. Five theme areas were identified: financing, law, intergovernmental relations, lands, and wellbeing.

This national, five-year, $2.5M project will fund high-quality scholarly research examining how Treaties are implemented in Canada. The project is guided by academics and Indigenous governments, who share co-leadership of research themes.

Carleton University is the academic host organization for the project. Dr. Stephanie Irlbacher-Fox is the Principal Investigator and Project Director.

About the Principal Investigator and Project Director

- Stephanie Irlbacher-Fox, PhD was raised in Inuvik, NT. She has spent the past two decades working with Indigenous governments in the NWT on self government negotiations and associated research and community development. She earned her PhD at Cambridge University. She works as a Governance Advisor to Indigenous Governments in the NWT.
- Stephanie is an Adjunct Professor at Carleton University, Ottawa. She lives in Yellowknife, NT.

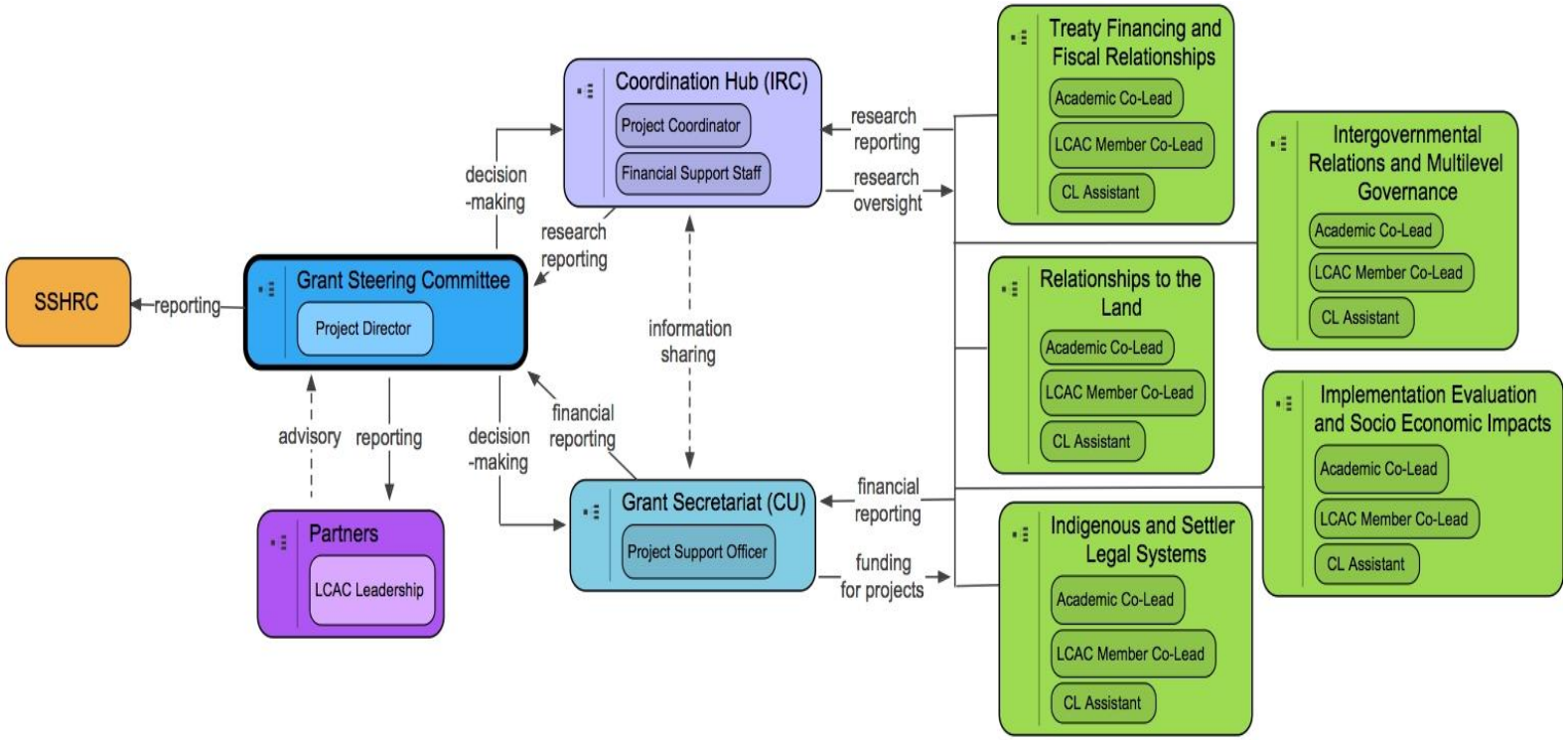
HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

- The 5-year Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Partnership Grant (PG) application is valued at $2.5M, with an additional 1/3 matching contributions from partners.
- The PG provides funds for LCAC members to undertake land claim implementation research in partnership with academics. Results are intended to provide evidence that can be provided to policy makers to improve land claim implementation.
- This grant was the result of the LCAC hosting a workshop in Whitehorse in 2014 to discuss implementation research approaches, and a conference in Ottawa during December 2015 to assess the state of implementation research and research needs, and obtain commitments from academics and practitioners to develop a funding proposal.
- The grant was awarded by the SSHRC through Carleton University in April 2017.

PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURE

- The PG is focused on 5 main Modern Treaty implementation theme areas. Themes are co-led by academics and practitioners. They include: 1) Land Relationship (Dr. John B. Zoe, Tlicho Government and Hayden King, Ryerson University); 2) Intergovernmental Relations and Multilevel Governance (Mr. Ed Allen, Nisgaa Lisms Government; Dr. Martin Papillon, Universite de Montreal); 3) Fiscal Relationships (Matt Mehaffey, Mehaffey and Associates; Dr. Frances Abele, Carleton University); 3) Evaluation and Socioeconomic Issues (Mr. Alastair Campbell, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.; Dr. Thierry Rodon, Laval University); and, 5) Indigenous and Settler Law (Ms. Jessica Orkin, Grand Council of the Crees; Dr. Janna Promislow, Thompson Rivers University).
- Each theme is co-led by an academic and an LCAC member representative. Theme co-leads will select and support research projects in their areas.

GRANT GOVERNANCE



PARTICIPATION OF LCAC MEMBERS?

- LCAC Members who have research questions related to this theme in their implementation work can expect to:
  - Contact a Co-Lead to discuss your research interest;
  - Develop a research proposal to describe your project and how it relates to Treaty implementation;
  - Describe in-kind support that your organization could provide;
  - Describe what resources would be needed to undertake the project;
  - Be willing to work with an academic, students and possibly a community based researcher :
  - Be willing to apply for additional funding from other sources;
  - Be willing to share all or some results of the project publicly, including participating in workshops or conferences.

PARTICIPATION OF ACADEMICS AND STUDENTS?

- Academics and students interested in researching questions in this theme can expect to:
  - Contact a Co-Lead to discuss the question and project and/or respond to a call for proposals or studentships;
  - Develop a research proposal and how it relates to Treaty implementation;
  - Describe resources needed to undertake the project;
  - Must work with a community or Indigenous organization and a community based researcher;
  - Be willing to adjust research questions to meaningfully address priorities of the community or organization partner, and develop a research proposal in partnership with the community/organizaiton;
  - Be willing to apply for additional funding from other sources;
  - Be willing to share all or some results of the project publicly, including participating in workshops or conferences;
  - Ensure Indigenous community research protocols are followed and the project is governed by a research agreement with the partner organization.

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THE LAND CLAIM AGREEMENT COALITION (LCAC)

MODERN TREATY IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH PROJECT

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