

# Backgrounder

## TLE Transfer of Mineral Rights for Sturgeon Lake First Nation, April 2025

The Sturgeon Lake First Nation Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Settlement Agreement was signed on June 19, 2007, by the federal and provincial governments and the Sturgeon Lake First Nation. The agreement entitles the First Nation to acquire up to 15,771 hectares (38,971 acres) of new reserve land with a shortfall of 1,388 hectares (3,430 acres) that must include underlying mineral rights.

- Shortfall is the amount of land which the First Nation should have received from Canada when its reserve was first surveyed but did not receive. This is the minimum amount of land that First Nations must acquire and transfer to reserve status to satisfy Canada's Treaty obligation to land.

In accordance with the Sturgeon Lake First Nation TLE Agreement, all undisposed provincial Crown minerals underlying lands acquired by the First Nation are to be transferred at no cost to the Government of Canada for the purpose of reserve creation.

- Undisposed Crown minerals are defined as those not subject to a lease, license, claim or permit under The Crown Minerals Act.

In 1992, 25 First Nations, Saskatchewan and Canada signed the *Saskatchewan Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement*. Since then, 11 First Nations, Saskatchewan and Canada have signed separate TLE settlement agreements modelled on the framework. The Ministry of Government Relations represents the province in TLE negotiations and oversees the implementation of the TLE agreements.

### Achievements since 1992

- 36 TLE Agreements
- Approximately 790 Provincial Mineral Orders in Council have been passed which includes 608,200 Acres of Undisposed Crown Minerals