



Canadian Indigenous  
Verification Agency Inc.

**Registration Handbook  
Information Pamphlet  
2017  
Aboriginal People of Canada  
First Nation Inuit Metis**



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(1)



## — Introduction —

**Registration is, first and foremost, a key identification tool.**

**It can ensure that all Aboriginal People of Canada are recognized and affirmed.**

**It is important to understand that Section 35 *recognizes* aboriginal rights, but did not create them—aboriginal rights have existed before Section 35.**

**Section 35 of *the Constitution Act* states:**

**35. (1) The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed.**

**(2) In this Act, "aboriginal peoples of Canada" includes the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.**

**(3) For greater certainty, in subsection (1) "treaty rights" includes rights that now exist by way of land claims agreements or may be so acquired.**

**(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the aboriginal and treaty rights referred to in subsection (1) are guaranteed equally to male and female persons.**

**Section 35 of *The Constitution Act, 1982* recognizes and affirms existing aboriginal rights, but does not define them. What aboriginal rights include has been the topic of much debate and discussion, and they have been defined over time through Supreme Court cases such as *R. v. Calder* and *R. v. Sparrow*, *R. v. Powley*, *Daniels v. Canada*. Aboriginal rights have been interpreted to include a range of cultural, social, political, and economic rights including the right to land, as well as to fish, to hunt, to practice one's own culture, and to establish treaties.**

**Registration is also a primary source of information about the aboriginal people of Canada, who and where they are.**

**The problem we have in Canada is that recognition and registration by the Colonial Government of the aboriginal people has often fallen short.**

**Making available a comprehensive registration of the aboriginal people of Canada guarantees their identity, their dignity and their rights.**

(2)



## **Definition of Registration**

**For the purposes of this Handbook, registration is defined as follows:**

**Registration is the recording, verifying, and updating of information on the aboriginal people of Canada with the aim of ensuring the protection of their identity, dignity and rights.**

(3)



## **Confidentiality and Sharing Identity Information**

**In general, an individual's personal information should be kept strictly confidential and measures taken to prevent the unauthorized dissemination of the information.**

**International humanitarian law guarantees an individual's right to privacy. In principle, the consent of the individual is necessary before information can be shared with other parties.**

**When information is shared, effective measures must be taken to ensure that information concerning an individual does not reach third parties that might use the information for purposes incompatible with human rights law and principles.**

(4)



## **Registration Data**

- 1. Registration takes place in locations physically, economically, socially accessible to a majority of persons of concern.**
- 2. Provisions are made to accommodate the registration requirements and concerns of women, children and those with special needs.**
- 3. Arrangements are made to register those persons physically, economically, or socially unable to access registration, including those in hospitals and in detention.**
- 4. Registration should be done with due respect for safety and dignity.**
- 5. Registration should be done on an individual basis.**
- 6. Registration records are verified and updated continually.**

(5)



## **Verification of Registration Data**

- **Name** ● **Sex** ● **Date of Birth** ● **Current Address**
- **Marital Status** ● **Ethnic Origin (tribes/clans/sub clans)**
- **Biometric** ● **DNA** ● **Photograph** ● **Permission to Share Information**

**Verification is necessary to authenticate the registration process.**

**Verification involves checking everything from whether the registration record is correct, to whether it relates to the person it is supposed to relate to.**

**All registration records have a “validation status” concerning the accuracy and completeness of the record. When records have been comprehensively and recently updated, their validation status should be upgraded to reflect this.**



(6)



## **Population Management Data**

**The information collected during a registration process may have come from a variety of sources and may have been compiled in haste and with varying degrees of consistency by many different persons, at different times and for different purposes. Individuals may have been registered twice, individuals may be hard to find because their names are misspelled or entered in the database in the wrong order; important information about a person may be missing or incorrect; the information may be out-of-date or misleading.**

**Errors in the data are likely to translate into inefficiencies and as a result, injustices for beneficiaries. Registration must be accurately recorded and updated to eliminate these concerns. Information collected must be securely stored and handled.**

(7)



## **Conclusion**

**The Conclusion reaffirms the importance of registration as an identification tool.**

- **Registration should be a continuing process that records essential information.**
- **Registration processes should adhere to the fundamental principles of confidentiality.**
- **Registration should be easily accessible and take place in a safe and secure location.**
- **Registration should be conducted in a non-threatening and impartial manner, with respect for the safety and dignity of persons involved.**
- **Personnel conducting the registration should be adequately trained and registration teams should include an adequate number of female staff.**

**A National Registry for the Aboriginal People of Canada, Indian, Inuit and Metis is necessary to better guarantee the dignity and rights they deserve.**

**Throughout history, people in Canada with indigenous ancestry have been marginalized. This chaotic practice needs to be halted by putting in place a National Registry for all Canadian Citizens who self-identify as an indigenous person.**

### **Indigenous**

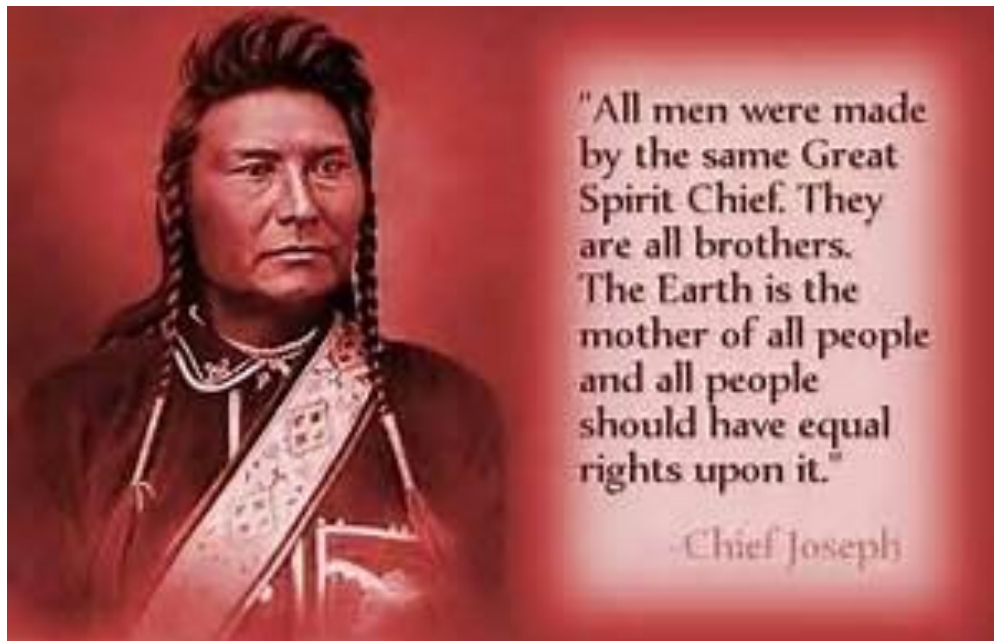
**Indigenous peoples, also known as first peoples, aboriginal peoples, native peoples, or autochthonous peoples, are ethnic groups who are descended from and identify with the original inhabitants of a given region, in contrast to groups that have settled, occupied or colonized the area more recently**

**The First Nations are the predominant aboriginal peoples of Canada south of the Arctic. Those in the Arctic are distinct and known as Inuit. The Métis, another distinct ethnicity, developed after European contact and relations primarily between First Nations people and Europeans.**

**Métis are persons of mixed blood – European / Aboriginal blood, someone who is distinct from Indian and Inuit who has genealogical ties to aboriginal ancestry.**

**DNA contains our unique genetic code and is hereditary, it contains the foundation and verifiable proof of who we are as Indigenous people.**

**A national registration of the aboriginal people of Canada will eliminate discrimination and restore dignity to those who have yet to be recognized.**



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