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Evaluation of Indian Moneys, Estates and Treaty Annuities

APPROVAL DATE: 04-25-2013			
PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION PLAN	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM RESPONSE
1. Explore the development of a workable alternative to Band Moneys that would provide First Nations access to funds in the CRF outside the constraints of the <i>Indian Act</i> and present proposed alternative to the Strategic Policy Committee.	After exploring options regarding Indian Moneys, RIA has drafted an optional policy allowing for the transfer of all of a First Nation's current and future capital moneys pursuant to section 64(1)(k) of the <i>Indian Act</i> . The policy will be finalized in 2013.	December 2013	Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: Policy drafted. Once approvals are provided, AANDC will be inviting First Nations to comment on the proposed policy through the Departmental website in Q1 of 2014-15 fiscal year. Implementation of the policy is targeted for 2014-15. AES: Sufficient progress made. Recommend to close.
2. Any changes to Band Moneys and alternatives, be designed to increase the transparency of Band moneys expenditures to members, better supports access to capital for economic development and promote greater self sufficiency.	The new 64(1)(k) policy will include requirements that trust arrangements provide for reporting to membership on the management of the trust.	December 2013	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: • The draft policy includes reporting requirements to membership. • Once approvals are provided, AANDC will be inviting First Nations to comment on the proposed policy through the Departmental website in Q1 of the 2014-15 fiscal year. • This online engagement approach aligns with

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		D	the Government of Canada's commitment to increase transparency. The input gathered during the online engagement period will be used to finalize the new policy. AES: Sufficient progress made. Recommend to close.
3. That AANDC revise the Manual for the Administration of Band Moneys to reflect current policy and modern practices.	The new 64(1)(k) policy will include a requirement that trust arrangements have guidelines on capital encroachment. IMETA will ensure that policies, directives and procedures are aligned with the <i>Indian Act</i> .	December 2013 December 2013	Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014:

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			reflects the program parameters as set out by the Indian Act. This update has been finalized and will be available on-line in Q1 of the 2014-15 fiscal year. AES: Good progress made. Return after Q1 implementation to close.
4. Facilitate a discussion with First Nations on how to report back to members in a clear and useful manner on Band Moneys expenditures.	The new 64(1)(k) policy will include requirements that trust arrangements include provisions regarding accountability and reporting to the membership for moneys expended out of the trust.	December 2013	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: • Draft policy includes accountability and reporting requirements. AES: Sufficient progress made. Recommend to close.
5. Develop policies and procedures for Living Estates to identify dependent adults and confirm AANDC jurisdiction.	The Manual for the Administration of Property Pursuant to Section 51 of the <i>Indian Act</i> was updated and circulated in August 2012. The new edition clarifies how to determine and confirm AADNC jurisdiction. RIA, in collaboration with regions,	Completed	

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	will pursue the development of information sharing agreements with provinces and territories with a view to clarifying jurisdictional issues and identifying dependent adults who are subject to the Minister's legislative authority.	March 2014	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014:
	The joint RIA-RO working group will establish a community of practice on living and decedent estates to identify implementation strategies to support the application of policies and procedures outlined in the manual on an ongoing basis. The community of practice will also be mandated to explore alternatives to the estates regime with a view to improve services to clients. Online options will be explored such as using GC Pedia, video conferencing and other available technologies.	March 2014	 Joint RO-RIA working group has been struck. Terms of reference and workplan have been established and agreed to by working group members. Regional practices and operations are being reviewed and compared nationally. Potential for information-sharing agreements with provinces is being explored. Community of practice will be established following the completion of the working group final report. AES: Good progress made. Follow-up report in Q3 2014-15.

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6. Examine the appropriateness of the "administrator of last resort" policy for Living Estates.	The new edition of the Manual for the Administration of Property Pursuant to Section 51 of the <i>Indian Act</i> provides clearer direction with respect to AANDC's responsibility to monitor the administration of property of a dependent adult when a non-departmental administrator is appointed. The joint RIA-RO working group will assess the effectiveness and appropriateness of the policy and develop implementation strategies to guide regional officers.		Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: • Joint RO-RIA working group has been struck and meets on a bi-weekly basis via teleconfernence. • Terms of reference and workplan have been established and agreed to by working group members. • Community of practice will be established following the completion of the working group final report.
	The working group will also review existing agreements between various regions		AES: Good progress made. Follow-up report in Q3 2014-15. Status: Underway

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	(Manitoba, British Columbia and Northwest Territories) and their respective Provincial Public Guardians and Trustees as well as other potential alternatives. It will also explore the costeffectiveness and feasibility of encouraging the development of similar agreements or alternatives nationally.	March 2014	Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: • Existing agreements are being reviewed and evaluated for the possible development of bilateral agreements between regions and provinces. AES: Good progress made. Follow-up report in Q3 2014-15.
7. Examine IMETA HQ's relationship with regions in order to provide more consistent and timely support for the administration of Living Estates.	Establish monthly training and information teleconferences between IMETA and regions focused on specific topics.	June 2013	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: (Insert Update Here)
Lamina and an array Later of	The joint RIA-RO working group will review the management systems and procedures in place in each region, identify best practices and draw upon this analysis to propose additional	March 2014	 First training session has been scheduled for April 2014 and subsequently will be held on a monthly basis. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report in Q3.
	strategies to resolve the communication gap between regions and IMETA. Timely and consistent communications will then be supported and		Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: Regional practices and operations are being

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8. Ensure a standard	maintained through the community of practice on living and decedent estates on an ongoing basis. IMETA is currently working with	Ongoing	reviewed and compared nationally by the joint RIA-RO working group. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report in Q3.
approach to data entry into the Estates Reporting System in order to generate more reliable data for program management.	the Indian Registration System (IRS) re-development team with a view to preparing the ERS for integration in the new IRS system. The joint RIA-RO working group will identify areas requiring enhancements to enable regional officers and AANDC managers to use the ERS as an effective case management, reporting and monitoring tool. The working group will mandate the community of practice on living and decedent estates to explore strategies to encourage a national standard approach to data entry.	March 2014	Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: IMETA is working with the Indian Registration System team on the IRS (redevelopment) to ensure a smooth integration of ERS into the new Indian Registration System. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report in Q3. Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: Development of guidelines for using the ERS as an effective case management, reporting and monitoring tool will be a focus of the joint RIA-RO working group in late 2014-15 fiscal year.

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			AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q4 2014-15.
9. Revisit the policy of securing assets in Decedent Estates to identify and mitigate risks such as addressing delays in the notification of death and possible policy conflicts with existing cultural practices.	The joint RIA-RO working group will develop strategies to mitigate the risks related to delays of notification of death and other impediments to securing assets.	March 2014	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: Development of strategies to mitigate the risks related to delays of notification of death and other impediments to securing assets will be a focus of the joint RIA-RO working group in mid 2014-15 fiscal year. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q4 2014-15.
10. Develop a strategic approach to capacity development to increase effectiveness and efficiency of Decedent Estates with appropriate measurements to monitor success.	The joint RIA-RO working group will draw upon current examples of capacity building initiatives, such as the MOU with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, and wills workshops, to explore the feasibility of developing a sustainable and accessible approach to capacity development for estates management in First Nations communities nationally.	December 2013	Status: Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: • Development of a strategic approach to capacity development to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of decedent estates will be a focus of the joint RIA-RO working group in mid 2014-15 fiscal year.

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			AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q4 2014-15.
11. Examine the appropriateness of the "administrator of last resort" policy in the administration of Decedent Estates.	The joint RIA-RO working group will engage with LED to assess the appropriateness of the "administrator of last resort policy" and mandate the community of practice on living and decedent estates to explore strategies to ensure the proper legal distribution of the reserve land assets of an estate.	March 2014	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: RIA is working closely with LED on the joint RIA-RO working group goals and targets and is developing tools to support regions in assessing and applying the "administrator of last resort" policy in light of regional experiences and practices.
			AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q3 2014-15
12. Explore the feasibility of adopting and implementing the British Columbia Minimum Value Policy for Decedent Estates on a national scale.	Finalize and implement the British Columbia Minimal Value Estates and Expedited Section 50 Sale policies for Decedent Estates on a national scale.	Completed	
	Other tools identified by and based on best regional practices are currently undergoing a risk analysis. The joint RIA-RO working group will review the	March 2014	Status: Underway Update/Rationale:

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	outcome of this analysis and recommend strategies for implementation.		 As of 31/03/2014: Regional practices and operations are being reviewed and compared nationally by the joint RIA-RO working group. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q3 2014-15 	
13. Revisit and revise as appropriate the Treaty Annuities Payment Experience to better serve regional needs.	Since they are better placed to recruit individuals to meet their needs, regional offices will be responsible for managing the Treaty Annuity Payment Experience. A letter to the Regional Directors General was sent on October 19, 2012 to advise the regions that RIA will no longer be involved in the TAPE.	Completed	CLOSED	
14. Explore options for dealing with resource shortages during the treaty payment season including making participation in treaty events mandatory to regular duties of all Individual	A workshop with regions and other sectors was held in January 2012 to identify current issues with respect to the effective delivery of treaty annuities to First Nations individuals.	March 2014	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: Development of a Community of Practice is	

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Affairs staff.	The joint RIA-RO working group will establish a treaty annuity payment community of practice that will review and confirm key issues identified and recommend sustainable solutions as well as explore alternatives to the current service delivery model.		underway and is planned to be initiated in Q1 of the 2014-15 fiscal year before the treaty annuity events begin in late April 2014. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q3 2014-15
15. Refine the Treaty Payment System (TPS) data collection in order to facilitate more effective program management and synchronize the TPS with the Estates Reporting System in order to improve the reliability of the data overall.	IMETA has begun engaging the IRS re-development team with a view to preparing the TPS for integration in the new IRS integrated platform. The joint RIA-RO working group will identify necessary improvements to better support service delivery in the regions and support management in their reporting requirements.	Ongoing March 2014	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: • IMETA is working with the Indian Registration System team on the IRS (redevelopment) to ensure a smooth integration of TPS into the new Indian Registration System. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q3 2014-15 Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: • Development of guidelines for using the TPS effectively to better support service delivery

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			in the regions will be addressed by the joint RIA-RO working group in late 2014-15 fiscal year. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q4 2014-15.
16. Coordinate regular forums among Indian Moneys, Estates and Treaty Annuities regional and headquarters staff to provide opportunities for information exchange, sharing of best practices and lessons learned.	The joint RIA-RO working group will recommend approaches to improve the communications between IMETA and the regions. The community of practice on treaty annuity payments will be mandated to foster and maintain sustainable, timely and consistent communications. It will also promote the sharing of best practices with a view to developing standardized approaches to the administration of treaty annuity payments.	March 2014	 Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2014: Development of improved communications between IMETA and the regions will be the addressed by the working group throughout its mandate. Development of a Community of Practice is underway and is planned to be initiated in Q1 of the 2014-15 fiscal year before the treaty annuity events begin in late April 2014. AES: Good progress to date. Follow-up report due in Q3 2014-15