

Comparative Analysis of Land Tenure Systems in Canada

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SUMMARY

Land administration systems (cadastres and land registers) are at the heart of land management and the functioning of society. In fact, no land management or planning is possible without knowing who owns what right and where. With the increased use of geolocation throughout the workings of society, accurate and accessible land information is essential.

Canada has strong and diverse expertise in land management, particularly in securing land rights. Every province, every territory, the federal government and Aboriginal governments have implemented efficient and secure land registration systems. However, knowledge of these land administration systems in operation in Canada's various jurisdictions is quite low. In order to remedy to this situation, the Canadian Council on Geomatics – Cadastral Forum (CCOG-CF) and the Surveyor General Branch sponsored a comparative analysis of land administration systems in Canada. The purpose of this mandate is to build a knowledge base that can be expanded upon through subsequent exchanges between the representatives of the various jurisdictions. In fact, they were the main providers of information for this analysis.

Deed, title and Torrens systems are all used in Canada in various declinations and governance models, including PPP's.

The outcomes of the analysis will contribute to improve knowledge of Canadian land administration systems worldwide and eventually feed a next version of the Cadastral Template.