

TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS



First Nations
**FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT
BOARD**



KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES



Why is it important to manage capital assets?



How can my Nation manage its capital assets?



**WHY SHOULD A
NATION MANAGE
ITS CAPITAL
ASSETS?**

WHAT IS A CAPITAL ASSET?

Offices, community gathering places, water treatment plants, clinics, schools, roads and houses are all important parts of safe and healthy community living.

Assets are things that the Nation owns.

Capital assets are items like property, buildings, land, or major equipment that a Nation will own for a long time.

What are some of the capital assets that your Nation owns?

Why are they important?

Nothing lasts forever.

Can a community thrive without equipment and buildings?



WHY SHOULD A NATION MANAGE ITS CAPITAL ASSETS?



Capital assets are expensive.

We all know there is never enough money to build, repair, or replace all of a Nation's equipment and buildings.

Planning ahead means a Nation can most likely predict some of these costs before it's too late.

MANAGING CAPITAL ASSETS

PLANNING

- Capital Assets Register
- Life-Cycle Management Plan
- Capital Project Plan

SAVING

- A reserve fund for building, replacing, repairing, and buying capital assets.

Regular maintenance can increase the lifespan of your buildings and equipment.

Planning can support your Nation in prioritizing and budgeting for the replacement of your buildings and equipment ahead of time.

A red circular sign with a teal center is mounted on a wall. The sign contains the text "HOW CAN A NATION MANAGE ITS CAPITAL ASSETS?". The wall features Indigenous art, including a large red and white circular sign with a teal center, and a white horizontal band with black and red stylized figures. The background is dark wood.

**HOW CAN A
NATION MANAGE
ITS CAPITAL
ASSETS?**



A tangible capital asset register is a detailed list of a Nation's capital assets.

TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSET REGISTER



What large and small assets are part of the register?






What is the expected lifespan of each capital asset?



HOW TO BUILD A CAPITAL ASSET REGISTER

Where should the information come from?

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

-  Inspection report (for example: ACRS, although not always accurate)
-  Depreciation Schedule from the annual audit
-  Listing from Nation's insurance



The life-cycle management plan is a yearly plan and budget for maintaining and replacing important community assets.

LIFE-CYCLE MANAGEMENT PLAN



How long will our assets last?
When will we have to repair or
replace them?



When will we have to pay to
maintain our assets? How
much money should we save
in our reserve fund?



ANNUAL INSPECTION OF ASSETS

A Nation should inspect its assets on a yearly basis. The inspection should report on:



How the asset is being used and if it is insured



The condition of the asset and how much longer it will last



How much the asset would cost to replace compared to the cost of maintenance over the last five years

SCHEDULE AND BUDGET

The life-cycle management plan includes an annual maintenance schedule for the Nation's assets.

This plan also shows how much maintenance and replacement will cost over the next several years.

These estimates become part of an annual budget for maintaining, replacing, or acquiring assets.





A capital project is the construction, repair, or replacement of a capital asset.



What triggers a capital project process?
What are the rules for building, buying,
or repairing capital assets?



Does your capital project
have a business case? Is
this project realistic?

CAPITAL PROJECTS

PROCESSES FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

It is important to have processes for how the Nation will manage capital projects.

- How will the Nation manage the design, engineering, and environmental requirements?
- What guides contractor bidding and tendering?
- What is the process for making purchases?
- What needs to be insured?
- Will there be project guarantees?
- Who has authority?
- How expensive can a project be before a capital project plan is required?



CAPITAL PROJECT PLANS

A capital project plan is like a business plan. It shows if the project is feasible and how the Nation will achieve it.

Priorities for capital projects, especially major projects, should flow from the strategic plan.



WHAT IS IN A CAPITAL PROJECT PLAN?

A capital project plan should include all the information needed to make informed decisions about the project.

Financial viability: is this project affordable and can we maintain it?

Project operating requirements: how will this project get done?

Risk assessment: what could go wrong with this project?

A glowing teepee in a snowy landscape under a starry night sky with a green aurora borealis.

QUESTIONS? Let's chat.

First Nations Financial Management Board

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