

Information Sheet: Circulation of Surplus Government Property to Eligible Indigenous Communities



December 4, 2018

Ontario sometimes has property that is surplus to the needs of the provincial government.

The government has a [policy](#) which sets out that information about surplus property is to be provided to certain entities outside the provincial government, including eligible Indigenous communities, to determine if they have an interest in acquiring the property at fair value, prior to it being offered for sale on the open market.

You are receiving this information because your community has been identified as an eligible Indigenous community to receive information about surplus Ontario property. This information sheet will help you get started.

Circulation of surplus Ontario property to certain entities outside government

Property will only be made available for sale to entities outside of government once it has been determined that no provincial ministry or agency has a need for the property.

In addition to eligible Indigenous communities, the federal government, municipalities, school boards, public colleges and universities, eligible not-for-profit corporations and any other entities identified by the government also receive information about surplus property. All of these groups will have an opportunity to indicate an interest in acquiring the surplus property at fair value before it is offered for sale on the open market.

Accessing information about surplus Ontario government property

You have been given access to the **Realty Circulation Portal** managed by Infrastructure Ontario. This web portal allows the contact person to:

- View information about surplus Ontario property which is available for sale to certain entities outside of government, including your community, at fair value.
- Receive email updates when new properties are listed to the website.
- Express interest in acquiring a property.

The contact person will receive two set-up emails from Infrastructure Ontario containing a username and password required to access to the Realty Circulation Portal. After logging in the contact person can be changed through the Portal, if needed.

Specifying a contact person to receive information about surplus property

Your community's contact email address will be used by Infrastructure Ontario to send out regular emails about properties available for sale. **It is best to provide an email address that will not change often and will be checked every few days.**

Information on how to change your community's contact email address can be found on the homepage of the Realty Circulation Portal Website.

In all cases, contact information will be kept confidential.

Properties not listed on the Realty Circulation Portal

Not all provincial ministries and agencies use Infrastructure Ontario's Realty Circulation Portal. From time to time your community may receive email notifications directly from ministries or agencies informing you about surplus Ontario property that is not listed on the Realty Circulation Portal.

Provincial staff will make every effort to ensure that the contact specified for your community within the Realty Circulation Portal is also the person who receives emails from Ontario ministries or agencies about surplus property not listed on the Realty Circulation Portal. In some cases, there may be a time lag before updated contact information in the Realty Circulation Portal reaches ministries and agencies.

Relationship to Ontario's duty to consult activities

The Province takes its duty to consult obligations very seriously.

The Province is committed to meeting any duty to consult that may arise in offering surplus government property for sale.

As part of the duty to consult process, in some cases Indigenous communities may express a rights-based or treaty-based interest in a property. The Province will work with communities to address any such identified interests, as appropriate, prior to offering the property for sale outside government.

It is important to note that, while your community may have become aware of a property through the Province's duty to consult process, this does not necessarily mean that the property will be made available for sale. This is because in some cases, the duty to consult may be triggered by a proposed government use.