

ABSTRACT

This master's thesis examines the extent to which collaborative planning and sustainable development theories and practices exist in First Nations' Community-Based Land Use Plans in Canada. Collaborative planning has been developed from a westernized worldview. Despite its best intentions, collaborative planning has not always incorporated a First Nations' perspective into its approach, which continues to reinforce a dichotomy between First Nations' governments and Canadian federal and provincial governments (Porter, 2006). The dichotomy potentially exists due to the lack of grounds for successful collaborative planning between the various types of government bodies. It is important to examine, collaborative planning, and sustainable development in First Nations' Community-Based Land Use Plans for theoretical/conceptual, practical, and ethical applications to Canadian planning.

This thesis' research was conducted using the following methodological processes: A literature review, thematic review and content analysis. The thematic review was of 14 First Nations' Community-Based Land Use Plans throughout Canada. The thematic review resulted in a similarities, differences, and gap analysis. The content analysis was of three of the original 14 First Nations' Community-Based Land Use Plans and used William C. Baer's *General Plan Evaluation Criteria* (1997) adapted with collaborative planning and sustainable development elements to evaluate the three selected plans. The results from this research produced theoretical/conceptual, practical, and ethical contributions to the planning profession.