

Abstract:

Measuring and Accounting for Remoteness In Funding to First Nations

Significant disparities exist between the socio-economic outcomes of First Nations communities and the rest of the country. Proximity is widely recognized as an important factor affecting the socio-economic opportunities of communities. As part of Canada's New Fiscal Relationship with First Nations, Indigenous Services Canada and the Assembly of First Nations have reviewed the concept of remoteness and its impact on costs in remote communities. The presentation will focus on the concept of remoteness as a cost factor for First Nations communities; it will further provide an overview of different measures used to assess remoteness and present a new remoteness index developed jointly by Statistics Canada and Indigenous Services Canada and a corresponding cost scaling factor for a more equitable allocation of funding.

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