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**FRAMEWORK FOR ASSEMBLING KNOWLEDGE
ABOUT PLANNING FOR THE CROWN-SETTLEMENT INTERFACE LANDS
(RESEARCH QUESTIONS)**

1. What does the research literature have to say about Interface or Interface-like planning?
2. What is the Interface? – Terminology, concepts, and history, in B.C., in Alberta, elsewhere.
3. What do planning professionals, academic planning researchers, and members of the public see as the special planning opportunities and problems of the Interface? What rationales are offered for special planning arrangements for the Interface?
4. In different provinces (or corresponding orders of government in foreign countries), which government ministries and agencies and kinds of local government have responsibilities for Interface planning, and secondly, what are their respective responsibilities?
5. What planning theories explain the way provincial governments currently plan for the Interface ((i) *nomothetic theories*, such as Incrementalism, and (ii) normative theories, such as *Rational-Comprehensive Planning* or *Communicative Planning*).
6. What special (i) legislation, (ii) policies, and (ii) processes do governments and local governments currently deploy in planning for the Interface?
7. What are the gaps in current government and local government planning legislation, policies, and processes for the Interface?



Interface2010

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8. How do the ministries and agencies and local governments concerned with Interface planning cooperate with each other to develop Interface plans?
9. How does the provincial government avoid “silo” planning by individual ministries or agencies and local governments? (Here in northern B.C., at least, there is the Integrated Land Management Bureau, but it appears to have no capacity to conduct settlement planning. In B.C. there is also the *referral system*; but it apparently is dysfunctional, on account of lack of adequate staff time, the shutting out of some critical ministries, dominance by professionals trained in the natural sciences and not in the social or management sciences, and so on.)
10. Does any particular ministry conduct *strategic* planning for defined Interface landscapes – for example, hundred-year plans, overall settlement plans? In British Columbia there has been or may be strategic planning for resort community landscapes (such as the Whistler area) and the Crown lands surrounding new mining communities (such as Tumbler Ridge), and in Alberta the same has been or is probably the case for the Kananaskis, Grand Cache, or Wood Buffalo districts, but which body has had responsibility for the strategic planning of these landscapes?
11. What is the nature of public participation in government-led (top-down) planning processes for the Interface?
12. What are the ways in which Interface *residents* are driving Interface planning from the bottom up, what kinds of processes are they using, and in particular, how are they using the new Internet-based and geomatics technologies to organize their own processes and mobilize public involvement?
13. What are the current *best practices* in planning for the Interface?
14. What are the *variables* in cases of Interface planning (variables such as categories of planning bodies or entities, sorts of processes, spatial scale of landscapes, temporal scale, resources of area planned for, population size of local and regional communities, planning culture of local and regional communities, planning history of the area, and so on)?