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**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names****2021 session**

Virtual, 3–7 May 2021

Item 12 of the provisional agenda*

**Geographical names as culture, heritage and identity,
including indigenous, minority and regional languages and
multilingual issues****Indigenous geographical names environmental scan****Summary****

Natural Resources Canada has initiated a national environmental scan of the current state of indigenous geographical naming activities at the community level in Canada. The aim of this project is to provide a status report to the members of the Geographical Names Board of Canada, the national coordinating body for place names.

This research project will entail a thorough national scan of ongoing and recently completed place-naming activities undertaken by indigenous communities, organizations and governments, as well as other organizations that are working in partnership with indigenous peoples with respect to place names.

The outcome of the study will be a report that contains a summary of the findings and conclusions on the state of indigenous geographical naming initiatives throughout Canada. These findings will be used in conjunction with the Board's previous international indigenous naming scan to create a national indigenous geographical naming guideline for Canada.

* [GEGN.2/2021/1](#).

** The full report was prepared by Kristina Kwiatkowski, Geographical Names Board of Canada secretariat, Natural Resources Canada. It will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2021/62/CRP.62, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/2nd_session_2021/.

