

# ÎLE-À-LA-CROSSE SCHOOL CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT

## NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION AND SETTLEMENT APPROVAL

**If you or one of your family members attended the Île-à-la-Crosse Boarding/Mission School, please read this information carefully because it affects your legal rights.**

**Pour français, poor en Michif, ohci nehiyawewin, Denesųłıne yatı ʔa: [info@ILEXSettlement.ca](mailto:info@ILEXSettlement.ca) | 1-833-700-7458**

The Court has approved two Settlement Agreements in a class action lawsuit about the Île-à-la-Crosse Boarding School (also sometimes called the Île-à-la-Crosse Mission School, the Île-à-la-Crosse residential school, or just the “Île-à-la-Crosse School”).

The Settlements provide compensation for Survivors from the Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, as well as other benefits such as a Legacy Fund, which will benefit Survivors, their family members, and their communities.

**The deadline to apply for an Experience Payment is June 1, 2027.**

**The deadline to apply for Abuse Compensation is June 1, 2028.**

The rest of this notice explains:

- more about the class action lawsuit
- what is in the Settlements
- the application process, including timelines
- how to opt out of the class action lawsuit if you do not want to be a part of it.

There is also a longer version of this notice that has more details. You can read it online [here](#) or email [info@ILEXSettlement.ca](mailto:info@ILEXSettlement.ca) or call 1-833-700-7458 for a paper copy.

### WHAT IS THIS LAWSUIT ABOUT?

This lawsuit alleged that Canada and Saskatchewan were involved in operating the Île-à-la-Crosse School, and that they breached their duties to care for students and protect them from harm. The lawsuit asked Canada and Saskatchewan to pay compensation. These allegations have not been proven in court. Instead, the parties agreed to the Settlements.

Two groups of people are included in the lawsuit:

- **Survivor Class:** a person who was alive on December 9, 2003, and who attended the Île-à-la-Crosse School as a student or for educational purposes during the class period, including their estates, heirs, executors, administrators, personal representatives and/or trustees. This includes day students or “day schoolers”; and
- **Family Class:** spouses, parents, children, grandchildren, or siblings of a Survivor Class member.

This lawsuit only covers things that happened at, or because of, the Île-à-la-Crosse School and residence that was operational from around 1860 until 1976. It does not include anything that happened at the Rossignol School which opened in mid-1975 (and is run by the Île-à-la-Crosse School Board).

### WHAT ARE THE SETTLEMENTS?

Both settlements include compensation for Survivors. The Settlement with the Government of Canada includes compensation for all Survivors who attended the Île-à-la-Crosse School.

The Settlement with the Government of Saskatchewan, in accordance with the Plaintiff’s determination of the best interest of the Survivors, will be allocated to include compensation for Survivors who experienced serious physical abuse or sexual abuse while at the Île-à-la-Crosse School. It may also provide additional compensation for Survivors who stayed in residence at the Île-à-la-Crosse School, if there is sufficient money left after the abuse claims are paid out.

For Survivors who were alive on December 9, 2003, but have died since, their estate or heirs, such as their spouses, children or siblings, may make the claim on behalf of the deceased Survivor.

You can read a full copy of both Settlement Agreements online [here](#) or [info@ILEXSettlement.ca](mailto:info@ILEXSettlement.ca) or call 1-833-700-7458 for paper copies.

**Canada** will pay a total of \$27.335 million for Experience Payments. Each Survivor (or estate representative or heir) who submits an application that is approved will get an Experience Payment of:

- Up to \$10,000 for a Survivor who attended the School for four or fewer school years; or
- Up to \$15,000 for a Survivor who attended the School for five or more school years.

“School year” includes any part of a school year, even one day.

If there isn’t enough money to pay all the Experience Payments, each Experience Payment will be reduced proportionately. If there’s money left over, the rest of the \$27.335 million will be added to the Legacy Fund.

Canada will pay \$10 million into the Legacy Fund. The Legacy Fund will be used for projects that promote healing, wellness, reconciliation, education, Indigenous

language preservation, and/or commemoration for Survivors, their families and communities.

Canada will also pay up to \$5 million for the costs of notice and settlement administration.

The Court approved \$9,605,000 in legal fees to be paid by Canada, which are separate from the Experience Payments and the Legacy Fund.

**Saskatchewan** has agreed to pay \$40.2 million to settle all aspects of the lawsuit against it. This settlement money is intended to resolve the following “four pillars” of the Survivor’s claims, being: common experience; individual abuse; legacy healing, wellness, education, language, culture and commemoration; and legal fees and settlement administration costs. In accordance with the Plaintiffs’ determination of the best interests of the Survivors, the settlement money will be used to pay:

- for compensation to students who experienced serious physical abuse or sexual abuse at the Île-à-la-Croix School, ranging from up to \$50,000 to \$235,000 depending on the severity of the abuse and its effects on the Survivor; and
- then, to top up Experience Payments only for Survivors who stayed overnight in the School residence.

The amount of the Experience Payment top-up, if any, will depend on how much is paid out in abuse compensation and settlement administration costs.

It’s estimated that \$1-2 million will be needed for the costs of administering this settlement, which will be paid from the Saskatchewan settlement money.

The Court approved \$8,500,000 in legal fees, which will also be deducted from the Saskatchewan settlement money, because this settlement is “all-inclusive” (unlike the settlement with Canada).

### **HOW DO I MAKE A CLAIM?**

To receive an Experience Payment and/or Abuse Compensation, the people who can get compensation (Survivors, their estate representatives, or their heirs) may submit an application. An application consists of a Claim Form, plus any supporting documentation. It may be submitted by email, fax, or mail. An online version of the claim form is not yet available, but will be posted online at <https://ilexsettlement.ca/> when it launches.

Claimants may contact the Claims Administrator, Deloitte LLP, to request a paper copy of the Claim Form.

Detailed instructions on how to submit a complete application are included within the Claim Form.

**The deadline to apply for an Experience Payment is June 1, 2027.**

**The deadline to apply for Abuse Compensation is June 1, 2028.**

### **OPTING OUT**

If you fall in the definition for the Survivor Class or the Family Class on the first page of this notice, and you don’t want to be part of the class action lawsuit at all (in other words, you want to “opt out” and be excluded), you must tell the Claims Administrator that you want to opt out before the opt-out deadline of August 30, 2026.

**If you opt out, you will not be able to apply for compensation from these Settlements. If you opt out, you can start your own lawsuit, but Class Counsel will not be your lawyers in that lawsuit.**

If you want to opt out, you must fill out an Opt-Out Form. You can find the Opt-Out Form (with instructions for how to fill it out and submit it) online [here](#) or email [info@ILEXSettlement.ca](mailto:info@ILEXSettlement.ca) or call 1-833-700-7458 for a paper copy.

If you opt out, you will have the right to bring your own lawsuit against Canada and Saskatchewan. However, a limitation period (statute of limitations) might prevent you from being able to bring your own lawsuit. You should check with a lawyer before deciding to opt out.

### **WILL I HAVE TO PAY LEGAL FEES?**

Survivor Class Members and Family Class Members won’t have to pay any legal fees to Class Counsel out-of-pocket for the class action settlements. The claims process is designed so that you don’t need any other lawyer to participate. Class Counsel and Castlemain (a company retained by the Claims Administrator) will be able to help you with your application.

The class action lawyers (called “Class Counsel”) have been working for reduced legal fees, or no fees, since the lawsuit was started, based on an agreement with the plaintiffs that they would receive a “contingency fee”, meaning a percentage of any financial success in the lawsuit for the Survivors. This is how most class action lawsuits work in Canada.

The Court approved Class Counsel’s legal fees request:

- \$9,605,000, to be paid by Canada separately from the Canada settlement money; and
- \$8,500,000, to be paid by Saskatchewan from the Saskatchewan settlement money.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about anything in this notice, visit the Claims Administrator's website [here](#) or email [info@ILEXSettlement.ca](mailto:info@ILEXSettlement.ca) or call 1-833-700-7458. If you'd like legal advice, contact Class Counsel using this information below. There's no cost for speaking with them about the class action, the settlements, applications for compensation, or opting out.

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