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March 6, 2024

Indian Hospitals Class Action

A proposed settlement has been reached in this action. On March 6, 2025, the proposed settlement was announced in Ottawa by the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, and Ann Cecile Hardy, the representative plaintiff in this action. The full news release can be viewed [here](#).

The following information about the proposed settlement refers to sensitive issues, including physical and sexual abuse, which individuals may find triggering and traumatic. If you or someone you are assisting experiences symptoms of trauma and/or needs to speak to someone, support is available:

- Hope for Wellness Helpline: 1-855-242-3310 or www.hopeforwellness.ca
- [Indian Residential Schools Resolution Health Support Program](#)
- [Federal Indian Day Schools Health and Cultural Support Program](#)
- [Mental health counselling benefits under the Non-Insured Health Benefits \(NIHB\) program](#)
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) Crisis Line: 1-844-413-6649
- Talk 4 Healing support for Indigenous women: 1-855-554-4325 or [Talk4Healing Website](#)
- [Find your local Friendship Centre](#)

Proposed Settlement

The proposed settlement provides compensation to eligible Class Members who suffered abuse at a Federal Indian Hospital, including psychological, verbal, physical and/or sexual abuse. Compensation will be awarded according to the [Compensation Grid](#) and will range from \$10,000 CAD to \$200,000 CAD based on the severity of abuse.

The proposed settlement also includes the establishment of a Foundation, which will administer:

- A Healing Fund that will provide \$150,000,000 CAD to support healing, wellness, reconciliation, protection of languages, education and commemoration activities; and

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- A Research and Commemoration Fund that will provide \$235,500,000 CAD to support research and education regarding Federal Indian Hospitals, the preservation of their history, and the location of burial sites associated with the Hospitals.

The proposed settlement will require that the Foundation which will administer \$385.5 million in total funds be guided by a plan developed through a structured process of engagement with Indigenous stakeholders, including Class Members and Indigenous communities. The Foundation's activities will reflect the actual interests and priorities of affected communities.

The settlement also provides for a \$150,000,000 CAD funding increase to Indigenous Services Canada, under existing programming, to support Class Members' health and wellness throughout the implementation of the Settlement Agreement.

The Federal Court will hold a hearing on **June 10 -11, 2025**, to decide whether to approve the proposed settlement and Class Counsel Fees. Further information about the proposed settlement and the benefits it provides to Class Members can be found in the [Long Form Notice](#). You can find a copy of the proposed Settlement Agreement and its Schedules under the Documents section below and on [the Federal Indian Hospitals Class Action website](#).

If you are a Class Member, these are your options:

1. **Do nothing** – If you agree with the proposed Settlement, you do not have to do anything right now.
2. **Object to the proposed settlement** – If you object to the proposed settlement or the legal fees requested by Class Counsel, and do not want the proposed Settlement or Class Counsel to be approved, you may complete an Objection Form and submit it to the Notice Administrator by **May 23, 2024**. You can find the Objection Form under the Documents section below, on [the Class Action website](#), or by contacting the Notice Administrator at 1-888-592-9101 or Info-IH@IHClassAction.ca, or by mail at 410-220 12 Avenue SW, Building C, Calgary, Alberta, T2R 0E9.
3. **Opt out of the class action** – If you do not want to receive compensation under the settlement and wish to retain your right to bring your own lawsuit regarding abuse at Federal Indian Hospitals, you may opt out of the class action. The Opt Out Deadline will be 60 days from the date on which the Court approves the Settlement. You can find the Opt Out Form under the Documents section below, on [the Class Action website](#) or by contacting the Notice Administrator at 1-888-592-9101 or Info-IH@IHClassAction.ca, or by mail at 410-220 12 Avenue SW, Building C, Calgary, Alberta, T2R 0E9.

For more information about your options and about the proposed settlement, visit the [Class Action website](#).

You may also contact the Notice Administrator at 1-888-592-9101 or Info-IH@IHClassAction.ca, or by mail at 410-220 12 Avenue SW, Building C, Calgary, Alberta, T2R 0E9.

You may also contact Class Counsel at the contact information listed under the Contacts section below. There is no cost for speaking with Class Counsel about the class action or the proposed Settlement.

Background

This class action was certified on January 22, 2020. A proposed settlement has now been reached.

Primary Class means all persons who were admitted to a Federal Indian Hospital while operated by the Federal Government during the Class Period (January 1, 1936 to December 31, 1981)

Family Class means all persons who are a spouse or former spouse, child, grandchild or sibling of a member of the Primary Class and the spouse of a child, grandchild or sibling of a member of the Primary Class.
("Class Members")

The Class Period means the period from and including the date on which Canada assumed management and control of any particular Federal Indian Hospital. The list of Federal Indian Hospitals and dates they were operated by the Federal Government can be found in the [Long Form Notice](#).

CONTACTS

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