

May 1, 2019

Attention, Gowling WLG, (Canada)

Robert Winogron, Jeremy Bouchard

Re; FOUNTAIN INDIAN DAY SCHOOL,

Xaxli'p, (previously known as Fountain Band), is in strong support of the proposed settlement for the *McLean* Indian Day School Class Action.

No amount of money will truly compensate for what was taken from us. Yet, we must still make efforts to bring recognition to this dark chapter in Canadian history. This settlement takes the first steps at bringing closure to the horrors experienced by the survivors, and the healing that needs to take place in our communities. It is the first and only opportunity to create this process for many of our people.

We have already lost many former students, some who will never see their entitlement, from Residential schools, or will never help their kids, or grandchildren for personal experiences in Indian Day schools, but are hopeful to see that measures may be taken to include claims on behalf of the estates of those who passed away who are deprived of any sort of entitlement/compensation. Although the deceased will not see their entitlements, their family members may still benefit from the compensation.

Xaxli'p appreciates the care taken by Class Counsel to answer questions and spend time with our survivors. In doing so, Class Counsel has heard their voices and stories they need to tell. The settlement is a reflection of what our survivors have called for – recognition, respect, and resources. Through individual payments to survivors and funding support for long-term healing, our people will finally see a glimmer of justice.

This settlement is a victory for all Day School survivors. It is time to take back our strength and begin to move forward.




