

# ONTARIO TRAINING SCHOOLS CLASS ACTION

## NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT APPROVAL

**Please read this notice carefully. Your legal rights may be affected.** You might prefer to wait until you are in a safe space before reading further or have someone else to read it for you, as the notice may bring back difficult memories and emotions. A mental health support line is available at 1-866-531-2600.

This notice is for all Class Members in the Ontario Training Schools class action. You may be able to claim money in a Settlement that was approved in a class action lawsuit against Ontario (the "Defendant"). **The deadline to make a claim is September 22, 2027.**

The lawsuit alleges the Defendant is liable for certain harms suffered by residents of Training Schools. The Defendant denies those allegations, and the Court did not decide who was right. The Parties have instead reached a voluntary Settlement, which was approved by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice on May 21, 2026.

The "**Class**" or "**Class Members**" includes all persons who were alive as of December 8, 2015 who resided at any of the following institutions during the time periods set out below (the "Training Schools"):

1. Pine Ridge School, Bowmanville (formerly The Ontario Training School for Boys) between January 1, 1953 and its closure in 1979;
2. Cold Springs Forestry Camp between January 1, 1963 and its closure in 1976;
3. Hillcrest School, Guelph (formerly known as Ontario Training School for Boys, Guelph) between January 1, 1953 and its closure in 1978;
4. Brookside School, Cobourg (formerly Ontario Training School for Boys, Galt, and Ontario Training School for Boys, Northumberland and Ontario Training School for Boys, Cobourg) between January 1, 1953 and April 2, 1984;
5. Trelawney House, Port Bolster (formerly known as Ontario Training School for Girls, Port Bolster Trelawney House) between August 1959 and its closure in 1973;
6. Kawartha Lakes School, Lindsay (formerly Ontario Training School for Girls, Lindsay) between 1962 and its closure in 1979;
7. Glendale School, Simcoe (formerly Ontario Training School for Boys, Simcoe) between 1962 and July 30, 1974;
8. White Oaks Village, Hagersville (formerly Ontario Training School for Boys, Hagersville (Junior School) between 1966 and its removal from the regulations under the training schools legislation in 1978;
9. Sprucedale School, Hagersville (formerly Ontario Training School for Boys, Hagersville (Senior School) between 1966 and April 2, 1984;
10. Cecil Facer School, Sudbury between 1971 and April 2, 1984;
11. Project DARE – Portage Lake between June 1971 and 1976;
12. Project DARE – Wendigo Lake, South River (formerly Project DARE Wendigo Lake) between 1972 and April 2, 1984;
13. Syl Apps Youth Centre (formerly Ontario Training School for Girls, Galt (Reception and Diagnostic Centre); Reception and Diagnostic Centre, Galt; Reception, Diagnostic Treatment Centre, Galt; and the Reception and Assessment Centre, Oakville) between 1958 and April 2, 1984.

The Class does **not** include persons who resided at: (1) Grandview Training School, (2) St. Joseph's Training School for Boys, (3), St. John's Training School, (4) Ontario Training School for Girls, Toronto; (5) Central Wardship Planning Unit; (6) Elmcrest School; and (7) Champlain School.

## SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

There is a settlement fund of up to \$60 million available to pay eligible Class Members as well as certain fees and expenses, including an honorarium for the representative plaintiff and Class Counsel's legal fees in the amounts approved by the Court. Class Members may be eligible for compensation from the Settlement if they submit a Claim Form before **September 22, 2027**.

The following compensation and benefits are available for eligible Class Members under the Settlement:

- Compensation of up to \$100,000 for Class Members who experienced certain harms, including physical and sexual assault, placement in solitary confinement, and psychological harm. Individual compensation will vary based on the type and severity of harm suffered.
- No need to provide supporting documentation to make a Claim, subject to certain exceptions.
- Reimbursement for support services incurred in making a Claim up to \$1,500.
- A public acknowledgment by Ontario of harm experienced by Class Members at the Training Schools, which can be found here: [Ontario Newsroom Link](#).
- A "fast-track" process to request your Training School records from Ontario.

## MORE INFORMATION

Please read the rest of this notice for more detailed information about the Settlement, including how to submit a Claim. If you still have questions after reading this notice, visit the Claims Administrator's website at <https://www.trainingschoolsclassaction.com> or contact the Claims Administrator:

[info@TrainingSchoolsClassAction.com](mailto:info@TrainingSchoolsClassAction.com) / 1-877-239-4879

Training Schools Class Action Administrator  
c/o Epiq Class Action Services Canada, Inc.  
PO Box 507 Stn B  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5P6

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## The Class Action

### 1. What is this lawsuit about?

The lawsuit alleges that Ontario is liable for certain harms suffered by residents of Training Schools. Ontario denies these allegations. The Court did not decide who was right. The Parties have instead reached a voluntary Settlement, which was approved by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice on May 21, 2026.

### 2. Who is a Class Member?

The "**Class**" or "**Class Members**" includes all persons who were alive as of December 8, 2015 who resided at any of the following institutions during the time periods set out below (the "Training Schools"):

1. Pine Ridge School, Bowmanville (formerly The Ontario Training School for Boys) between January 1, 1953 and its closure in 1979;
2. Cold Springs Forestry Camp between January 1, 1963 and its closure in 1976;
3. Hillcrest School, Guelph (formerly known as Ontario Training School for Boys, Guelph) between January 1, 1953 and its closure in 1978;
4. Brookside School, Cobourg (formerly Ontario Training School for Boys, Galt, and Ontario Training School for Boys, Northumberland and Ontario Training School for Boys, Cobourg) between January 1, 1953 and April 2, 1984;
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The Class does **not** include persons who resided at: (1) Grandview Training School, (2) St. Joseph's Training School for Boys, (3), St. John's Training School, (4) Ontario Training School for Girls, Toronto; (5) Central Wardship Planning Unit; (6) Elmcrest School; and (7) Champlain School.

## The Notice

### **3. What is the purpose of this notice?**

The purpose of this notice is to inform you that the Ontario Superior Court of Justice has approved the Settlement reached in a class action lawsuit against Ontario in relation to its management and operation of the Training Schools.

You might have already received notice that this lawsuit was certified as a class action, or notice about the May 1, 2026 Settlement Approval Hearing. However, this notice is to update you that the Settlement has now been approved by the Court and to let you know how to make a Claim and the deadline for doing so.

### **4. Was the Settlement approved by the Court?**

In a class action, all settlements must be approved by the Court. The Court reviewed the Settlement and determined that it is fair, reasonable and in the best interests of the Class. It approved the Settlement on May 21, 2026. The court's Reasons for Decision can be found at

<https://www.trainingschoolsclassaction.com>.

## The Settlement

### **5. What does the Settlement provide?**

Under the Settlement, the Defendant will pay up to \$60 million. This amount includes payments to compensate approved Claimants, as well as certain fees and expenses associated with the Settlement, including Class Counsel's legal fees in the amount approved by the Court, the Class Proceedings Fund Levy (the Class Proceedings Fund provided funding so that this litigation could be pursued), Administration Costs, and an Honorarium for the Representative Plaintiff as approved by the Court.

The Settlement also provides the following benefits for the Class, which are described in more detail below:

- Ontario issued a public acknowledgment of harm experienced by Class Members at the Training Schools (see **Question 7**).
- Reimbursement for support services incurred in making a Claim up to \$1,500 (see **Question 15**).
- A "fast-track" process to request your Training School records from Ontario (see **Question 16**).
- The right to opt out (remove yourself from the lawsuit) if you do not wish to participate in the Settlement and prefer to commence your own individual lawsuit. The opt out deadline is **March 22, 2027** (see **Question 19**).

## 6. How much money can I claim under the Settlement?

The Settlement provides the following types of compensation to Class Members who submit a Claim that is approved by the Claims Administrator. Claimants who qualify for Track 2 compensation may only receive the highest level of compensation for which their Claim qualifies. The maximum amount of compensation available under the Settlement is \$100,000.

Who is Eligible	Possible Award Amount <sup>1</sup>
<b>Track 1 – General Harm Payment</b>	
All Eligible Claimants who experienced harm at any of the Training Schools.	\$5,000
<b>Track 2 – Compensation for Physical and Sexual Harm, and Solitary Confinement<sup>2</sup></b>	
One or more physical assaults resulting in an observable injury such as a black eye, bruise or laceration; <b>or</b>  Placement in dissociation or solitary confinement for 24 or more consecutive hours, on more than one occasion within a 30-day period or for 48 or more hours on any one occasion.	\$7,500
One or more physical assaults causing a Serious Physical Injury. <sup>3</sup>	\$25,000
Non-consensual sexual touching by staff that is not a Serious Sexual Assault. <sup>4</sup>	\$15,000
Repeated non-consensual sexual touching of breasts, genitals or buttocks that is not a Serious Sexual Assault; <b>or</b>  A single non-consensual act of forceable sexual touching to attempt oral, vaginal or anal penetration that is not a Serious Sexual Assault.	\$50,000
One or more incidents of Serious Sexual Assault.	\$100,000

## 7. Did Ontario issue a public acknowledgment?

As part of the Settlement, Ontario issued a public acknowledgment of harm experienced by Class Members at the Training Schools. You can read the acknowledgment by visiting: [Ontario Newsroom Link](#).

<sup>1</sup> All awards will be subject to *pro rata* reductions, if necessary.

<sup>2</sup> Class members who only attended a Training School prior to September 1, 1963 may only seek compensation under Track 1.

<sup>3</sup> "Serious Physical Injury" means physical injury that led to (a) hospitalization; (b) permanent or demonstrated long-term physical injury, impairment or disfigurement; (c) broken bones; or (d) a serious but temporary incapacitation such that bed rest or infirmary care of four or more days' duration was required.

<sup>4</sup> "Serious Sexual Assault" means non-consensual oral, vaginal or anal penetration.

## **Participating in the Settlement**

Class Members can participate in the Settlement by making a Claim.

The period for making a Claim runs until September 22, 2027. During that period, you may make a Claim by filling out the Claim Form and submitting it to the Claims Administrator online, by mail, or by email, on or before September 22, 2027.

### **8. Am I eligible for compensation?**

If you are a Class Member, you must submit a fully completed Claim Form before [Claims Deadline]. The Claims Administrator will review your Claim Form and determine if you are eligible for compensation according to the procedures and criteria set out in the Settlement.

You will **not** be eligible for compensation if you previously commenced an individual claim against Ontario regarding your time at a Training School and/or executed a release of your claims against Ontario, **or** previously opted yourself out (excluded yourself) from this class action, **or** if you decide to opt out of this class action on or before March 22, 2027.

### **9. How do I make a Claim?**

To be eligible to receive money from the Settlement, you must make a Claim by following these steps:

- A. Get the Claim Form:** download a PDF copy from <https://www.trainingschoolsclassaction.com>, request a paper copy from the Claims Administrator, or complete the Claim Form online at [Claims Portal](#)
- B. Fully complete the Claim Form:** if you need help, you can contact the Claims Administrator or Class Counsel.
- C. If you are submitting a Claim Form for someone else:** get the required supporting documentation, including proof that you have legal authority to act on their behalf.
- D. Submit the Claim Form** (and supporting documentation, if applicable) to the Claims Administrator on or before September 22, 2027.

### **10. Do I need a lawyer to make a Claim?**

You do **not** need to hire a lawyer in order to make a Claim for compensation under the Settlement.

If you require assistance, the Claims Administrator and Class Counsel can answer any general questions you may have about the claims process and assist with your claim, at no charge. Their contact information is available under **Question 17** below.

### **11. What supporting documents do I need to prove my Claim?**

You do **not** need your Training School records or any supporting documentation "proving" that you experienced harm at the Training Schools to make a Claim.

The only exception is if you are making a Claim on behalf of someone else, including a Class Member who passed away on or after December 8, 2015, or a Class Member who is legally incapable of executing a Claim Form:

- (a) **If you are claiming on behalf of the estate of a Class Member who passed away on or after December 8, 2015**, you need to provide a copy of the Class Member's death certificate, along with documentation establishing you have legal authority to act on their behalf, including:
- i. Certificate of Appointment of Estate Trustee or Small Estate Certificate;
  - ii. A copy of the Class Member's will appointing you as estate trustee; or
  - iii. A declaration witnessed by one other person who knew the deceased Class Member personally, affirming that the deceased Class Member did not have a will and that no estate trustee has been appointed by a court, together with proof that you are either spouse or kin to the deceased Class Member.
- (b) **If you are claiming on behalf of a legally incapable Class Member**, you need to provide documentation establishing you are their legally recognized guardian.

## 12. Who will review my Claim?

A third-party Claims Administrator (Epiq) was appointed by the Court to administer the Settlement and Compensation Plan. The Claims Administrator will review and decide all Claims according to the Settlement and Compensation Plan.

## 13. What if I do not make a Claim?

If you do not make a Claim, you will not be able to get any money from the Settlement and you will be forever releasing any legal claims you may have had against Ontario in relation to its management and operation of the Training Schools.

Unless you previously opted out, or opt out on or before March 22, 2027, you will not be able to sue Ontario independently for your experiences in the Training Schools.

**Even if you previously provided information to Class Counsel or to another lawyer, you must still submit a fully completed Claim Form to the Claims Administrator, specifically for this Settlement, prior to the deadline, to be eligible to receive money.**

## 14. Can I submit a Claim on behalf of someone else?

Yes, if you have legal authority to do so.

If you are submitting a Claim on behalf of someone else, you must provide sufficient documentary proof that you have authority to act on their behalf. See **Question 11** for the types of documents required.

## 15. Can I get reimbursement for support costs?

Track 2 Claimants are eligible for reimbursement of up to \$1,500 to cover fees charged by a doctor, psychologist, social worker, counsellor, or therapist for the provision of support services provided in relation to the preparation and delivery of their Claim.

To get reimbursed, Track 2 Claimants must submit a Support Reimbursement Form to the Claims Administrator attaching all receipts or invoices. Visit <https://www.trainingschoolsclassaction.com> to download a copy of the Support Reimbursement Form or request a copy from the Claims Administrator.

#### **16. How do I request my Training School records?**

You do **not** need your Training School records or any supporting documentation "proving" that you experienced harm at the Training Schools to make a Claim.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of your Training School records for your own purposes, you can do so by submitting a Training School Record Request Form on or before October 22, 2026. All requests submitted by October 22, 2026 will be processed by Ontario on an expedited basis and produced no later than March 22, 2027.

Visit <https://www.trainingschoolsclassaction.com> to download a copy of the Training School Record Request Form or request a copy from the Claims Administrator.

#### **The Lawyers Representing the Class**

#### **17. Do I have a lawyer in this case?**

The Court has appointed Koskie Minsky LLP as Class Counsel. You may contact Class Counsel toll-free at 1-866-860-9364 or by email at [TrainingSchoolsClassAction@kmlaw.ca](mailto:TrainingSchoolsClassAction@kmlaw.ca).

You will not be charged for contacting these lawyers with questions about the Settlement. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

#### **18. How will the lawyers representing the Class be paid?**

Class Counsel worked on a contingency-fee basis, meaning that no fees were charged at any stage of the lawsuits until after the Settlement was approved. After the Court approved the Settlement, the Court approved Class Counsel's fees, which it determined were fair and reasonable. These fees were deducted from the Settlement Fund.

#### **Opting Out of the Class Action**

Class Members may opt out of the class action if they want to keep their right to sue Ontario about their experience at the Training Schools individually instead of making a Claim under the Settlement.

#### **19. How do I opt out?**

You may opt out (remove yourself from the lawsuit) by submitting a signed Opt-Out Form by March 22, 2027. You can contact the Claims Administrator using the details below to obtain an Opt-Out Form. If you opt out, you will not be able to make a claim for money under the Settlement.

#### **Getting More Information**

#### **20. Are there more details about the Settlement?**

This notice summarizes the Settlement and how to make a Claim. More details are in the Settlement Agreement and its schedules, which you can download from <https://www.trainingschoolsclassaction.com>.

The court offices are unable to answer any questions about the matters in this notice. If you have any questions regarding the Settlement or about the class action lawsuits in general, more information is available at <https://www.trainingschoolsclassaction.com> or by reaching out to the Administrator or Class Counsel directly at the contact information below. Please do not contact the court offices.

[info@TrainingSchoolsClassAction.com](mailto:info@TrainingSchoolsClassAction.com) / 1-877-239-4879

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