## Indian Day Schools in Canada

Federal Indian
Day School Class
Action
Settlement
(FIDSCAS)

Presented by:
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Jaden Bourque
Indigenous Community Legal
Clinic- Peter A. Allard School
of Law



Indian Day School in Hay River

## my grade two story...

"My little school mate friend, we were in the same class, we were walking together and she had a big smile on her face, and she asked me how I was doing? She liked to skip a little when she walked and talked as we went to class that day.

Later that night she died, at the Kamloops Catholic Indian Residential School, from a tic.

Some days later our class was marched down to the graveyard and we all had to stand there until she was buried; then we were marched back to the classroom.

In the classroom many classmates were crying. It was a very sad day, and other children died at that school."

Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun



## Outline

- History of Indian Day Schools
- Documents to read prior..
- What is Schedule "K"
- Taking a Client's Narrative
- Definition of Harms suffered
- Making an ATIP Request
- Additional information



## History of Indian Day Schools

- In 1920 there were 247 Indian Day schools in Canada with a total enrollment of 7,477 students. The Government of Canada established and operated 699 Indian Day Schools over the years.
- Total student numbers between 1920 and 2000 was close to 200,000 First Nations, Inuit, Métis and non-status **Indian** children.
- Certain abuses were committed against these students and harms were suffered by these students attending Indian Day Schools.
  - "You were always hit with something: straps, pieces of wood, rulers, yardsticks, chalk thrown at you, erasers thrown at you, you were pushed around," said Dennis Diabo, Kahnawake.

https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/kahnawakeindian-day-schools-1.5127502





"We weren't allowed to speak Haida, not even mention a word in Haida," Wilson said. "We weren't allowed to draw. We weren't allowed to sing and dance. We weren't allowed to talk about anything about Haida culture."

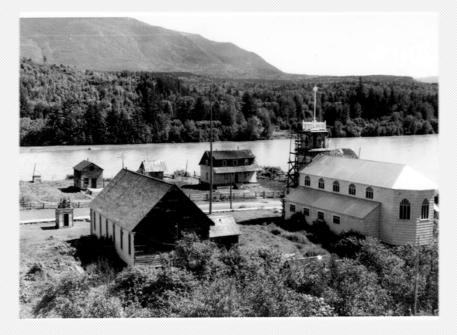
And if they disobeyed, Wilson said that they were "whipped across the face" and sometimes "whipped across the back". "This was happening throughout my kindergarten, Grade 1, 2, and 3," he recalled"

Andy Wilson, Haida Nation

## Federal Indian Day School Class Action Settlement (FIDSCAS)—Timeline

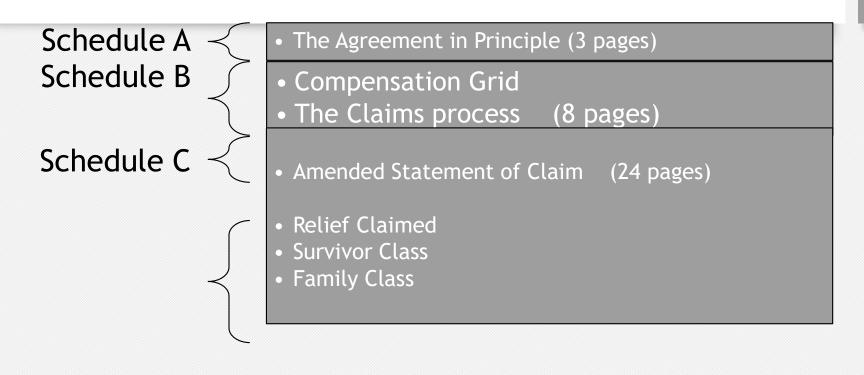
2009 - Gary McLean May 2016 November 2018

January 13, 2020 Application process begins for IDS Survivor Class Members



Old Aiyansh on the Nass River, 1950s, Anglican Church

## Documents to read prior to assisting Clients



## What is Schedule "K" www.indiandayschools.com

Prov.	Alberta	Arctic Quebec	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Northwest Territories	Nova Scotia	Nunavut	Ontario	PEI	Quebec	Saskatche wan	Yukon
Pages	4 pg	½ pg	9 ½ pg	9 pg	1 pg	3 pg	1 pg	2 pg	14 pg	½ pg	6 pg	9 pg	1 pg
# of schools	52	11	112	115	12	29	12	25	172	2	54	93	8
Den.			66 RC										

## Who is Eligible?



- A person who attended an Indian Day School listed in "Schedule K"
- A person who suffered a Level of Harm, as described in "Schedule C"
  - At the hand of a teacher, principle, other student, or other 3<sup>rd</sup> party
- A Survivor Class person who is deceased after July 31, 2007;
  - The executor can apply on behalf of the person who is deceased.
- A Family Class member this compensation is through the legacy fund

## Justice for Day Scholars

- If your client's school is not on "Schedule K," they may have attended a federally run and recognized Residential School as a Day Scholar
- An alternate method to receive compensation can be found at justicefordayscholars.com
- Contact:
  - dayscholars@waddellphillips.ca; or
  - jo-anne.gottfriedson@kib.ca



#### Call the Wellness Help Line: 1-855-242-3310

This phone is available 24/7 and a qualified counselor will be on the line to speak with you. This is a national phone number that is set up to help people from the Indian Day School class action, the Sixties Scoop, and Residential School survivors.

## Other resources

Link from the Indiandayschools.com site created by Gowlings: Indian Day Schools Class Action Settlement form:

Watch on Youtube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Y0Ty\_LttfU&feature=emb\_title

#### Claim Form Overview

#### **CLAIM FORM**

The Settlement provides for compensation to former Day School students who **both**:

- a) attended Federal Indian Day School(s) and Federal Day School(s) funded, managed and controlled by Canada
   AND
- b) suffered abuse or harm from teaching staff, officials, students and other third parties at the school.

To be eligible for compensation, students must not have already received a settlement from Canada for the same or related incident(s) at a Federal Indian Day School or Federal Day School as identified in this Claim Form.

Former Day School students are collectively identified as Survivor Class Members.

If you believe you are a Member of the Class, please complete this Claim Form to the best of your ability.

Part 1	Your name, contact details and date of birth	page 3
Part 2	Day School(s) and the years you attended	page 4
Part 3	Consent and Signature Page	page 5
Part 4	IF claiming Level 1 Verbal / Physical Harm	page 6
Part 5	IF claiming Level 2, 3, 4, or 5 Sexual / Physical Harm	pages 7-1
Part 6	Complete only if you are missing required document(s)*	page 1
	Complete only if you are a legal representative of a Claimant	page *

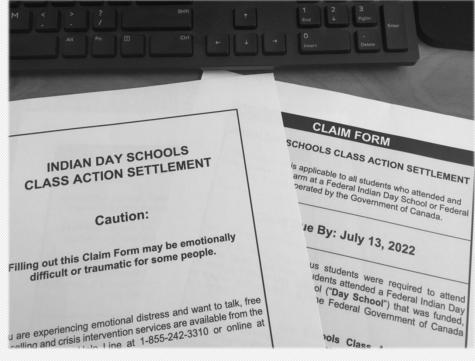
Before sending, please review the Retention Polic and Submission Process on pages 14 and 15

Please make sure to keep a copy of your Claim Form and any attached documents for your personal records

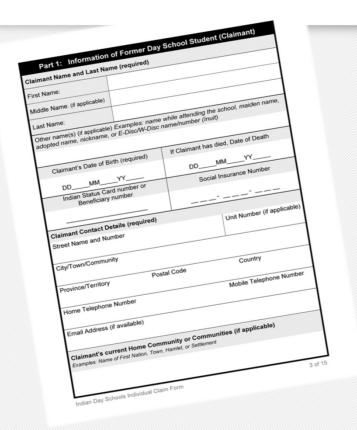
and original photographs, identification or record

## Lets start at the beginning:

- Cover Page A "Caution"; a Wellness Help line, and a number for legal assistance;
- Claim Form Page 1
  - The Due Date: July 13, 2022
  - A General Statement about Indian Day Schools;
  - Where to find Schedule K
  - Available Legal Advice



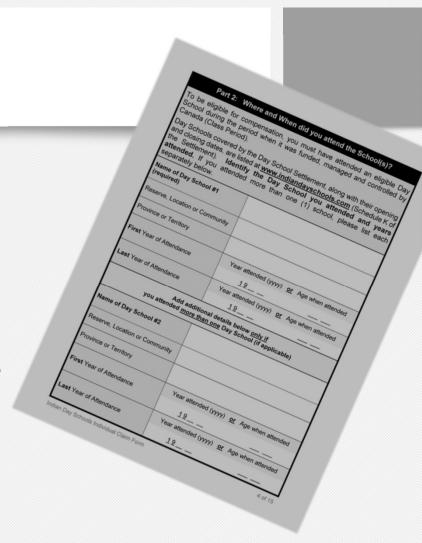
## PART 1: INFORMATION OF CLAIMANT

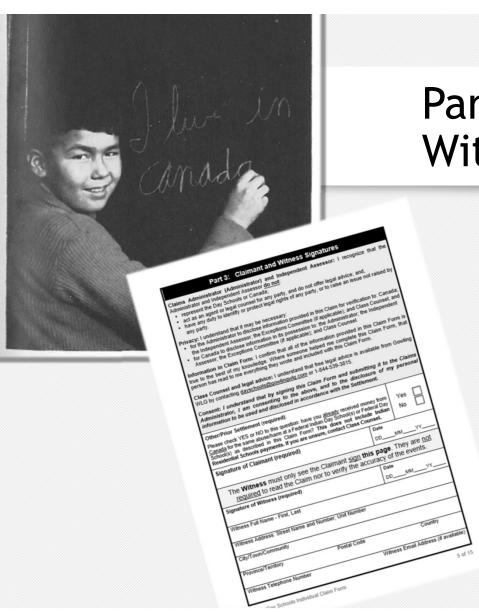


Part 2: School attended:

Where? This can be more than one school;

When?





# Part 3: Claimant and Witness Signatures

- Claims Administrator
  - · is the one who gets claim forms
  - Reviews the claim forms
  - Makes sure harm level selected goes with the information you have provided
  - Is the one who gives claimants compensation if they qualify
- Independent Assessor
  - · Can review the decision of Claims Administrator
  - Can overturn a decision by Admin to approve your claim
  - In some extraordinary circumstances, Assessor may send an issue to the exceptions committee
- By Signing this part of the form you are confirming it is true to the best of your knowledge and that some of your information may be disclosed

#### **Narrative**



I went to the Indian Day school in Anahim Lake from the time I started Kindergarten in 1958. At the time it was called Chilcotin Indian Day school. The hospital burned down and they built a Day School on the site of the hospital. There were four big classrooms and that's where we went to school. Each classroom was for a different grade: Kindergarten, Grades 1-3; 4-7; and 8-12. My parents forced me to go to school. After school I would go home, but sometimes during the year I would live with the nuns because my parents were "haying" or doing other harvesting work. The kids who did stay with the nuns overnights were in the old "morgue". The idea of that was very shocking to me when I found that out. I felt lonely there, and didn't like being there alone. At times my cousin Maureen, and her brother Patrick would stay with me when I was there.

Kindergarten:

My first experience they put us in uniforms, blue and white. They put us in a classroom, and my teacher was Sister Assumption. One of my first memories is that they cut our hair. It used to be down to my waist, but they kept on cutting it until I had short bangs and shoulder length in the back. At the time I did not understand English when I started school. It was hard to learn English. They taught me to read more than they taught me to speak good English and even as a teenager I struggled with the English language. People that I met when I travelled would correct my English and teach me the proper way to say things.

Each year I was waiting to pass on to the next grade, but it never happened. Sister Assumption kept on keeping me in the class year after year. All the other kids were promoted to the next grade but I was kept there. I remember they told me that I was not listening, and that I was cheating. I was picked on in school, there was always a fight. But it was the other students who were cheating and copying my work, I was smart. I was looking forward to moving on to St. Josephs Mission, which was the high school, but I never made it. I did eventually make it to grade six.

Sister assumption used to discipline all the students with a hard wooden ruler, she had a long one and a short one. She would whip me on the hands with the ruler, both on the palms of my hands and on the back part of my hands. I still have scars on my hands today because of that. Another and on the back part of my hands. I still have scars on my hands today because of that.

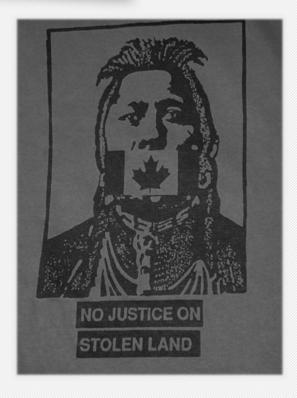


## The Significance of the Narrative

- Drafting a narrative should not be bypassed, even when helping a level 1 claimant. Why?
  - You will need to hear as much of their experience as they are willing to divulge to ensure that they will be submitting an appropriate claim
  - On some occasions an individual may not even realize that their claim rises above a level 1 harm
  - There cannot be justice without truth







## Indigenizing a Colonial Process

- The narrative component of the Claim Form is an opportunity to engage in truth telling and truth gathering—both of which are vital to healing and reconciliation.
- Even if they are a level 1 claimant, the harms they have suffered have likely left a lifelong impact upon them, and in many cases, they have not relayed their experiences to their own families. Therefore, clients may wish to use the narrative to share their experiences with their families to facilitate the healing process.



From The Outside Circle, by Patti LaBoucane-Benson

#### **Prescribed Process**

- Re-victimization cannot be avoided in assisting survivors with the narrative process
- Bearing this in mind, navigating this portion of the claim form takes considerable skill, patience, and sensitivity
- Prescribed process:
  - 1. Take the time to establish a rapport with the survivor
  - 2. Discuss the availability of therapeutic resources
  - 3. Advise your client that they have significant control over the process and can take breaks as needed
  - 4. Send drafts of your narrative to your client so you can clarify and make revisions throughout the process
  - 5. Advise your client to keep a pen and pad with them to write down their memories—this process will bring up suppressed memories
  - 6. Although the focus of the assessor is on harms incurred at Day School, expand your narrative to include a greater history of the survivor
  - 7. Humanize the survivor in your narrative
  - 8. End your meetings on a light note



## **Defining Harms**

- The level of harms chart on the FIDSCAS claim form can be confusing, and may not provide a comprehensive guide for the purposes of informing the narrative component of the form
- The ICLC has found great utility in s. 44 of "Schedule C" in the Consolidated Settlement Agreement which can be found here:

https://indiandayschools.com/en/ wp-content/uploads/consolidatedsettlement-agreement.pdf



The Scream by Kent Monkman

#### "Schedule C" s. 44

#### **SURVIVOR CLASS**

44. As a consequence of the negligence and/or breach of fiduciary, constitutional, statutory and common law duties, and the breaches of Aboriginal Rights by Canada and its agents, for whom Canada is vicariously liable, the Survivor Class members, including the Representative Plaintiffs, suffered injury and damages including:

## "Schedule C" s. 44 (Cont'd)

- a) assault and battery;
- b) sexual abuse;
- c) severe emotional, psychological pain and suffering;
- d) loss of language, culture, spirituality, and Aboriginal identity;
- e) isolation form their family, community and Nation;
- f) an impairment of mental and emotional health, in some cases amounting to a permanent disability;
- g) an impaired ability to trust other people, to form or sustain intimate relationships, to participate in normal family life, or to control anger;
- h) a propensity to addiction;
- i) alienation from community, family, spouses and children;
- j) an impaired ability to enjoy and participate in recreational, social, cultural, athletic and employment activities;
- k) an impairment of the capacity to function in the work place and a permanent impairment in the capacity to earn income;

- l) deprivation of an education, including basic literacy and skills necessary to obtain gainful employment;
- m) sexual dysfunction, confusion and disorientation;
- n) depression, anxiety and emotional dysfunction;
- o) suicidal tendencies and ideation;
- p) loss of self-esteem and feelings of degradation, shame, fear and loneliness;
- q) nightmares, flashbacks and sleeping problems;
- r) fear, humiliation and embarrassment as a child and adult;
- s) impaired ability to express emotions in a normal and healthy manner;
- t) loss of ability to participate in, or fulfill, cultural practices and duties;
- u) loss of ability to live in their community and Nation;
   and
- v) cultural, economic, and social devastation

## **Determining Harm**

- The chosen level of harm should reflect the most serious instance of harm or abuse the survivor has sustained
  - If choosing between two levels, err on the side of caution and choose the higher level of harm
- Perpetrators of harm include:
  - Teachers
  - Students
  - Officials
  - Other 3<sup>rd</sup> parties
- Supplement the harms chart on pg. 7 of the claim form with the harms noted in s. 44 of "Schedule C"

#### Part 5: Claims Process for Levels 2, 3, 4, or 5 STEP 1: Identify the ABUSE or HARM you suffered from teachers, officials, students, and/or other third parties. Abuse / Harm LEVEL 2 LEVEL 3 LEVEL 4 LEVEL 5 Repeated sexual At least one sexual incident of any one of: incidents of any one of: touching of penetration; masturbation; masturbation; genitals or penetration oral intercourse; • oral private parts; Sexual with an object intercourse; penetration; Abuse/Harm adult(s) attempted penetration with exposing penetration an object themselves; fondling/kissing; nude photos taken OR At least one At least one Repeated (at During an incident Physical incident of least two) of any one sexual incident of Abuse physical abuse / physical abuse / incidents abuse / assault assault, causing: assault, of physical described above at abuse / assault, least one incident causing: of physical abuse / causing: assault, causing: CAUSING: serious but permanent or long-term harm: Harm temporary harm: · injury; or injury requiring impairment (e.g., physical or mental); or bed rest or disfigurement infirmary stay (e.g., in school medical room or hospital); loss of consciousness: broken bone(s) STEP 2: Select your Claim Level, by placing a mark in one box below, for the Level of abuse / harm you suffered as identified above. Place a MARK In ONE box:

#### **Sworn Declaration**

- Gowling WLG has emphasized that the sworn declaration is afforded considerable weight by the assessor
- Anything beyond level 3 requires witness narratives, medical, dental, therapy records, or a sworn declaration if witness narratives and the aforementioned records are not possible.
- Names/positions are required for perpetrators with respect to higher level harms—if they are not available, a sworn declaration is required
- NB: Only one sworn declaration is required for the entire claim form



## Making an ATIP Request



- Visit the following webpage: <u>https://atip-aiprp.tbs-sct.gc.ca/en/Home/Welcome</u>
- Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Request Personal Information"

## Making and ATIP Request (Cont'd)



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

**Access to Information and Personal Information Request Service** 

Welcome → Subject of Request

#### Subject of personal information request

Specify whose personal information you are requesting.

Note: If you are requesting information about someone else, you will be asked to provide supporting documentation:

- · Proof of consent (for living individuals),
- · Proof of executorship (for individuals deceased fewer than 20 years), or
- · Proof of death (for individuals deceased 20 years or more).
- \* You would like information about: (required)
- O Yourself
- O Someone else who is living, and you have their consent
- O Someone else who has been deceased fewer than 20 years, and you are the executor of their estate
- O Someone else who has been deceased for 20 years or more



Version: 2.1.0.0

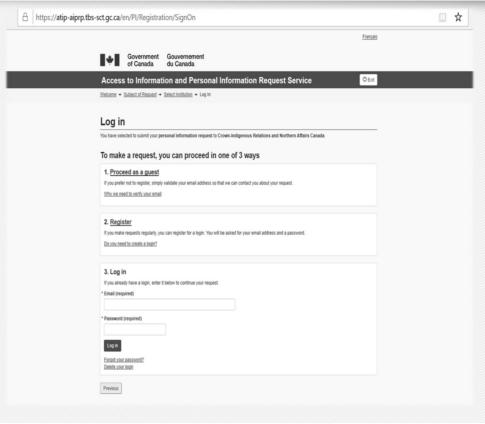
- Under "You would like information about," click "Someone else who is living, and you have their consent"
- NB: You will be provided the opportunity to submit a scan of an authorization to release information form

## Making an ATIP Request (Cont'd)

#### Before your start You have selected to make an access to information request. Do research for your request Step 1. Indicate the type of information you are looking for Step 2. Find out if the information you are looking for is already available Step 3. Pick the right institution Already know which institution you want? You can skip these steps and begin your request by selecting an institution. Select an institution Step 1. Indicate the type of information you are looking for ▶ How to use this search Q Find Enter your search term Step 2. Find out if the information you are looking for is already available There are currently no search results. You must enter a search term or keyword in the search field above and click the find button to view search Step 3. Pick the right institution There are currently no search results. You must enter a search term or keyword in the search field above and click the find button to view search results. Already know which institution you want?

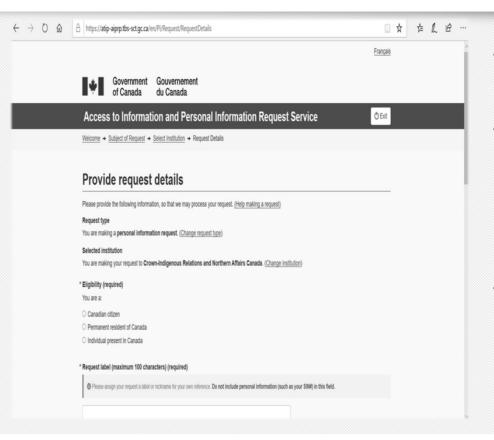
- For Federal Indian Day School Records, click on "Select an Institution" and search for "Indigenous Services Canada" and click on it
- If you are searching for something different, utilize Steps 1-3

## Making and ATIP Request (Cont'd)



- Next, when prompted, proceed as "guest"
- When you receive a verification email, click on "verify email"
- If you will be doing this frequently, it may be advisable to register (under option 2.)

## Making and ATIP Request (Cont'd)



- Fill out your request for "All Day School Records" including how you would like to receive the information
- Provide as much detail as you can, including any other names your client may be registered under—the more specifics you are able to provide, the better your chances are for obtaining the information you wish to acquire
- The next page will provide you with the opportunity to upload any pertinent documents

## Making an ATIP Request (Cont'd)

- Subsequent to uploading documents, you will be brought to the "Provide Contact Information" page
- Enter in all the required fields
- Next, confirm the details of your request under "Confirm Request Details" and click on "FINISH"
- There may be a fee associated with your request (\$5.00) which is payable via credit card
- NB: Requests are also possible via mail to a particular

WE PLAY THE WAITING GAME

department

# Part 7: Are you applying as a representative for a claimant?

- · You can apply on behalf of someone if:
  - You are appointed by a court to make decisions concerning the affairs of a person under disability
  - You are the Estate Executor or Administrator appointed on behalf of a claimant who is deceased on or AFTER JULY 31, 2007
- If the deceased lived on reserve and you wish to become a representative call CIRNAC
- If you are an executor/ administrator or are appointed to make decisions on behalf of someone you will be asked to provide evidence of that appointment. Choose from the list of required documentation and list the documentation.

If applicable, a Personal Repre	esentati	ive must be either:				
Appointed by a Court to manage or make reasonable judgments or decisions in respect of the affairs of the person under disability	OP	The Estate Executor or Administrator, appointed by a Court or the Crown-Indigenous Relations and				
To become appointed as a Persoreserve, please contact INAC/CIRN by the local Province or Territory.						
If you are applying as a Representa	ative, on	behalf of a Claimant,	Yes 🗌			
If you selected Yes, Represen	tative to	provide details be	elow			
Representative Full Name - Firs	t, Last					
Representative Address: Street	Name a	nd Number: Unit Nu	mber			
Representative Address: Street	Name a	nd Number; Unit Nu	mber			
Representative Address: Street  City/Town/Community	Name a	nd Number; Unit Nu	mber			
•	Name a	nd Number; Unit Nu Postal Code				
City/Town/Community	Name a	Postal Code	Country			
City/Town/Community Province/Territory	Name a	Postal Code	Country			
City/Town/Community Province/Territory	Name a	Postal Code	Country			
City/Town/Community Province/Territory Telephone Number	Name a	Postal Code	Country			
City/Town/Community Province/Territory Telephone Number Relationship to the Claimant:		Postal Code	Country Email Address (if available			
City/Town/Community  Province/Territory  Telephone Number  Relationship to the Claimant:  Documentation Required	you the	Postal Code  xecutors / Adminis  Death Certificate and Revenue Québec Esi Order or Grant of Adr	Country Email Address (if available trators a Will; ate Form; or			
City/Town/Community  Province/Territory  Telephone Number  Relationship to the Claimant:  Documentation Required  Powers of Attorney  Court Order; or  Documentation that shows have Power of Attorney over	you the	Postal Code  xecutors / Adminis  Death Certificate and Revenue Québec Est Order or Grant of Adi Letters of Administra	Country Email Address (if available trators a Will; tatle Form; or ninistration from a Court; or			
City/Town/Community  Province/Territory  Telephone Number  Relationship to the Claimant:  Documentation Required  Powers of Attorney  Court Order; or  Documentation that shows have Power of Attorney over Claimant's finances.	you the	Postal Code  xecutors / Adminis  Death Certificate and Revenue Québec Est Order or Grant of Adi Letters of Administra	Country Email Address (if available trators a Wili; tatle Form; or ministration from a Court; or			

Indian Day Schools Individual Claim Form

13 of 15

## Retention of Claim Form and Documents

- On this page they want to know what you as the applicant want the claim Administrator to do with your claim form and documents
- Check the first box if you want everything destroyed
- Check the second box if you want your documents and claim form returned to you
- Check the third box if you want it to go to the Legacy Fund
  - The McLean Day School Settlement Corporation will take forms and documents delivered to the Legacy fund will use the documents for projects devoted to commemoration, healing/wellness, and to promote indigenous Language and Culture.

attached to th	se to have your Claim Form and supporting one form:	ocuments	
	Pleas	e check one:	
A) Sec	urely Destroyed; Or		Destroy
B) Ret	urned to you; Or		Return
C) Del	vered to the Legacy Fund*		Legacy*
managed by D Advisory Com	I preservation of Indigenous languages and cultu- irectors (to be appointed by the Parties to the Agi mittee (representative of Indigenous survivors an fer to the Agreement and visit [www.indiandayscho	reement), with d their families	input from an
	THIS SPACE IS INTENTIONALLY LE	FT BLANK	

Indian Day Schools Individual Claim Form

14 of 15

## Submission Process: the Last page!

- Here on the last page we have a checklist
  - Make sure you have all the listed documents and all the appropriate pages filled out
- There are 3 ways to send your claim form
  - By Mail: PO BOX 1775, Toronto, ON, Canada, M5C 0A2
  - By Fax: 416-366-1102
  - By Email: indiandayschools@deloitte.ca

## Other questions

## Witness and Covid-19

- If you cannot have a witness watch you sign your forms in person you can do it through a video conference.
  - The witness must watch you sign and date your form
  - Once signed and dated, send forms to witness
  - Have witness send you the forms back to you, signed and dated by the witness
- Page 5 of 15 of the claim form asks for a witness to sign your form
- A witness must see you sign page 5 (part 3) and know who you are
- The point of the witness page is for an outside person to verify that the person who signed the form was you