

**ABBREVIATED NOTICE TO MEMBERS REGARDING THE AUTHORIZATION OF A
CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT ON BEHALF OF ALL FIRST NATIONS, INUIT, AND
MÉTIS PEOPLE IN CONNECTION WITH ABUSES COMMITTED IN YOUTH
CENTRES**

500-06-001265-236

TAKE NOTICE that on April 3, 2025, the Superior Court of Québec authorized a class action against the following defendants: the Government of Québec (represented by the Attorney General of Québec), Santé Québec, acting through sixteen (16) integrated (university) health and social services centres (also known as IUHSSC, IHSSC, CIUSSS and CISSS), the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, and the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay. The class includes the following persons:

Any First Nations, Inuit or Métis person, including those without status, save for an *excluded person*, who was placed, on or after October 1, 1950, in a *Centre*, when he or she was 17 years old or less and who was subject to *Measures*, *Discrimination*, sexual abuse or denied an education at a *Centre*.

SUBCLASS 1:

Member of the Class who was placed in a *Centre* under a *Youth Protection Law*:

1.1 ordinarily resident in Nunavik and registered or entitled to be registered as a beneficiary under the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement; or

1.2 ordinarily resident in Québec;

SUBCLASS 2:

Member of the Class who was placed in a *Centre* under a *Young Offenders Law*:

1.1 ordinarily resident in Nunavik and registered or entitled to be registered as a beneficiary under the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement; or

1.2 ordinarily resident in Québec.

The italicized words have the following meanings:

a) **“Centre”**: means an industrial school, a youth protection school, a charitable institution, a reception centre, a secured unit, a detention centre, a transition centre, a child and youth protection centre, a rehabilitation centre, a rehabilitation centre for young persons with adjustment problems, an intensive supervision unit, a youth centre, the Inukjuak Group Home, the Puvirnituq Group Home, and the Saturvik Group Home. It excludes a hospital centre, any other group home or a foster family.

b) **“Youth Protection Law”**: means the *Youth Protection Schools Act*, the *Youth Protection Act*, the *Act Respecting Health Services and Social Services*, the *Act Respecting Health Services and Social Services for Cree Native Persons*.

“Young Offenders Law”: means the *Juvenile Delinquents Act*, the *Young Offenders Act* and the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, the *Act Respecting Health Services and Social Services*, the *Act Respecting Health Services and Social Services for Cree Native Persons*.

c) **“Measures”**: means being placed in solitary confinement, confined in a common area, being locked up in a room or in a cell, being subject to the use of force, including by

mechanical means or chemicals.

- d) **“Discrimination”**: means being punished for speaking one’s Indigenous language, practising one’s Indigenous culture, being subjected to derogatory or degrading treatment or comments by staff members regarding one’s Indigenous identity, or being subject to differential treatment without justification on the basis of one’s race, ethnicity or nationality.

- e) **“Excluded person”**:

Any person who is a member of the class on behalf of which a class action was authorized in connection with Mont d’Youville reception centre (200-06-000221-187), but this exclusion does not apply to any such person who was also admitted to reception centres other than Mont d’Youville.

Any person who received financial assistance and signed a release pursuant to the National Program of Reconciliation with the Duplessis Orphans or the National Reconciliation Program for Duplessis Orphans Who Were Residents of Certain Institutions (collectively, the “NPRDO”). This exclusion does not apply to any such persons if, beyond having been admitted to one of the institutions covered by the NPRDO between October 1, 1950, and December 31, 1964, (i) they were also admitted during this period to reception centres which are not covered by the NPRDO; or (ii) they were also admitted or readmitted, on or after January 1, 1965, to any reception centre.

Mr. Harry Dandy has been appointed as the representative plaintiff for the class action.

Mr. Dandy claims that the Government of Québec, Santé Québec, acting through the sixteen (16) defendant establishments, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, and the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay are liable for imposing Measures and for the Discrimination faced by First Nations, Inuit or Métis children admitted into a Centre. Mr. Dandy seeks to prove that children were, and continue to be, placed in solitary confinement, confined in common areas, locked up in rooms or cells, subjected to the use of force and unnecessary medication, medical or dental treatment, discriminated against, sexually abused and denied access to education.

The Superior Court will decide at a trial in the future whether the defendants were at fault. It will also decide whether class members are entitled to compensation.

The allegations of Mr. Dandy and any class member, as well as the alleged liability of the defendants, remain to be proven.

You are not required to do anything in order to become a member of this class action. You are automatically included if you fall within the definition of the class.

Any member of the class who has started an individual lawsuit based on the same facts as the present class action is deemed to opt out of this class action unless they discontinue their lawsuit prior to the deadline for opting out of the class.

If you **do not want** to be included in this class action and obtain payment if the class action is granted or settled, you may opt out of the class by notifying the clerk of the Superior Court of Québec in the judicial district of Montreal, ideally by registered or certified mail, prior to December 15, 2025, at 4:30 p.m., at the following address: Greffe civil de la Cour supérieure, Palais de justice de Montréal, 1 Notre-Dame Street East, Montréal (Québec) H2Y 1B6. Any class

member who has not opted out of the class action by the above-mentioned date will be bound by any judgment rendered in this class action.

This is an abbreviated notice. A more detailed notice is available in the Registry of class actions at the following address:

<https://www.registredesactionscollectives.quebec/en/Consulter/ApercuDemande?NoDossier=500-06-001265-236>

For more information concerning this class action, you can contact counsel for the class by the following means:

E-mail: hdca@alexeevco.com

Phone: 514 545-7080

Fax: 514 648-7700

Counsel for the representative plaintiff and the class members are:

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PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN ORDERED BY THE COURT.

