

**Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada  
Media Clips**



**Résolution des questions des pensionnats indiens Canada  
Manchettes**

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**Source: CBC Manitoba (online)**

**Date: 2005.12.22**

**Byline: CBC News**

### **NDP will protect native rights: Layton**

NDP leader Jack Layton is urging Canada's aboriginal people to vote for his party, saying he will work to protect their rights.

Speaking in Winnipeg Wednesday morning, Layton outlined his party's platform on aboriginal issues. He said New Democrats will work to ensure aboriginal rights are honoured both on and off reserves.

- FROM NOV. 25, 2005: [Aboriginal Canadians](#)

"Winnipeg is the home of the largest urban concentration of First Nations, Métis and Inuit people in Canada," Layton noted.

"I have this to say: your identity does not change with your location. Your rights need to carry with you wherever you choose to live. New Democrat MPs will fight to ensure this is what happens."

No matter who wins the election, Layton says his party will push the federal government to accept responsibility for residential school abuse and resolve land claims. He also wants to dedicate more money for health and housing of native people.

"Our job is not to impose solutions. We've seen enough of that over the years – it hasn't worked and it never will," he said.

"Our job is to be ready to lend a helping hand, and to make sure that the Crown's obligations are honoured to people with whom those treaties were signed."

Martin has closed a two-day summit on aboriginal issues by pledging federal funding of more than \$5 billion over the next five years for a program to improve the lives of native people. Layton added he will insist the next federal government act on the agreements Paul Martin made with aboriginal people during a summit in Kelowna in November. Martin pledged federal funding of more than \$5 billion over the next five years for a program to improve the lives of native people.

**Source: CBC Newsworld (Transcript)**

**Date: 2005.12.21**

**Byline: Julie Van Dusen**

**Don Newman "Politics"**

**Newman:** N.D.P. leader Jack Layton is talking about his party's platform on aboriginal issues. He started off the day in Winnipeg by calling for a government apology for child abuse and residential schools. Julie Van Dusen has the story.

**Reporter:** Jack Layton visited a native friendship centre in downtown Winnipeg, the first such centre established in Canada. Winnipeg has a highest urban concentration of native people in the country.

**Jack Layton:** The N.D.P. respects the nation-to-nation relationship.

**Reporter:** Layton says the federal government's financial compensation for the victims of residential schools is not enough. Paul Martin must go further and apologize in the House of Commons, he says.

**Jack Layton:** Recognizing Canada's responsibility for residential school abuse, including an apology on behalf of Canada by the Prime Minister.

**Reporter:** This native chief says an apology would go a long way to heal the pain.

**Interview:** It will contribute to the healing journey many of our Indian residential school survivors are currently embarking upon.

**Reporter:** Layton also wants initiatives that will honour land claims, help native people preserve their languages and he is calling for the implementation of the Kelowna accord.

**Jack Layton:** ...that the Kelowna agreements will be implemented to the letter of the law and in the spirit of the law.

**Reporter:** Just days before the election campaign, Paul Martin met Canada's premiers and aboriginal leaders to work out what is called "the Kelowna Accord." \$5 billion over five years for education, health, clean water on reserves. Layton says it is a good start.

**Jack Layton:** ...to ensure this time at long last the government of Canada keeps its word. And regardless of which party forms the government after January 23rd, that word must be kept.

**Reporter:** The party's Aboriginal Affairs Critic says the money is paltry and shows how little emphasis Paul Martin's government places on the concerns of native people.

**Interview:** Paul Martin you know maybe he should go through another smudging ceremony 'cause the first one didn't take. Because they've had eight surplus budgets in a row and not one new nickel towards the aboriginal housing crisis until the NDP had the balance of power.

**Reporter:** Layton is also calling for a Parliamentary Commissioner on Aboriginal Affairs. Someone to respond to complaints and make sure that government programs for natives actually get implemented. Julie Van Dusen, CBC News, Winnipeg.