

**Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada
Media Clips**



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

Friday, October 6, 2006 ♦ vendredi, 6 octobre 2006

Table of Contents/ Table des matières

IRS ARTICLES-ARTICLES D'IRS

1. **Williams Lake Tribune** (5 Oct 06) "Residential school symposium explores compensation"
2. **Fredericton Daily Gleaner** (CP) (6 Oct 06) "Pedophile priest confesses to sexual abuse in disturbing confessional documentary"
3. **Fredericton Daily Gleaner** (CP) (6 Oct 06) "Jail workers accused of abuse waiting for compensation"

Williams Lake Tribune (5 Oct 06) "Residential school symposium explores compensation"

By Karen Longwell
Tribune Staff Writer

The Canadian government estimates that there are currently 80,000 residential school survivors alive today. And, according to keynote speaker at the Indian Residential School Symposium Len Marchand, the government intends to compensate these survivors.

Marchand and colleague Michelle Good are lawyers based out of the Kamloops Fulton and Company. They both have had experience with residential school claims. Marchand, who is of Okanagan ancestry, has acted for survivors of physical abuse since 1999, he said at the symposium. Good is of Cree ancestry and has been involved with residential school cases since 2000.

Local 12-year residential school survivor Simon Moses organized the free symposium to share information about the claims process and time lines. The symposium drew a large number of participants from several bands in the Gibraltar Room in Williams Lake Tuesday.

Residential schools operated in Canada from the 1800s to the 1980's. In Williams Lake, the St. Joseph's Mission school operated from 1872 to about 1980.

Marchand explained new settlement possibilities for survivors, which were developed as part of a non-bidding agreement signed by the Canadian government and the Assembly of First Nations on May 30, 2005. The claim system has opened up and may mean more opportunities for settlements, said Moses. Cabinet approved the national settlement in May 2006. Judges in the seven jurisdictions must now approve the Final Agreement where lawsuits pertaining to residential schools are before the courts. Following that approval, survivors will have a mandatory six-month period to examine the details of the agreement.

In the meantime, the Government of Canada has announced an Advance Payment program for former students 65 years of age or older on May 30, 2005, the day the negotiations began. As of today, application forms for the Advance Payment are available on the Government website at www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca, or at a local band office.

Marchand outlined the funds available in the new National Settlement. There will be \$125 million in funding for aboriginal healing, \$65 million funding for truth and

reconciliation processes, \$20 million for commemoration, \$1.9 billion for common experience payments and \$1 billion for independent assessment processes.

The common experience payments would be awarded to anyone who went to a residential school. Payments of \$10,000 for the first school year and \$3,000 for every year after are designed to offer some compensation for loss of language and culture and separation from families and other abuses not covered in the independent assessment process. "This is a large amount and a step in the right direction," said Marchand adding that no amount could really compensate for the harms done.

The independent assessment process will offer a non-adversarial process for awarding additional compensation for sexual abuse and certain types of very serious physical abuse or other abuse. The non-adversarial process means the victim will not be cross-examined and although the perpetrator may be involved (if he or she can be found), he or she will have limited rights in the process.

The hearing will be in front of a neutral decision maker. Marchand said the decision maker will listen and in most cases this is really a step toward healing. Proof of abuse will most likely be accepted if you promise to tell the truth in the process and you do just that.

Abuse covered in the independent assessment process has expanded to cover persistent physical abuse causing very serious psychological injury. In addition it will cover sexual and serious physical abuse by an employee or other adult lawfully on the premises and sexual abuse by other students. It will also cover serious physical abuse by other students. In the case of abuse by students, the survivor must prove it was the fault of the school.

For more information about the processes contact a local band office or see the Assembly of First Nations web site at <http://www.afn.ca/residentialschools/>.

Fredericton Daily Gleaner (CP) (6 Oct 06) "Pedophile priest confesses to sexual abuse in disturbing confessional documentary"

[GILLIAN FLACCUS,](#)

The defrocked priest is by turn remorseful and flippant as he recounts in graphic detail a lifetime of sexually abusing children. Then, near the end of "the most honest confession of my life," he turns to the movie camera to wink and smile at his victims.

Oliver O'Grady's confession is the backbone of a deeply disturbing documentary about the Roman Catholic clergy abuse crisis in one rural northern California diocese - a tale all the more unsettling because, for the first time, it is told in the words of an abusive priest himself.

O'Grady, 61, was deported to his native Ireland in 2001 after serving seven years in state prison for molesting two brothers. He has admitted abusing at least 25 children, and cost the diocese of Stockton millions of dollars to settle civil sexual-abuse lawsuits.

In *Deliver Us From Evil*, first-time filmmaker Amy Berg uses O'Grady's lengthy narrative to question how much diocese leaders knew about those crimes and the steps they took to stop the charming young priest who was nicknamed Father Ollie.

The unrated film, which won best documentary at the Los Angeles Film Festival, opens in Los Angeles and New York on Oct. 13, with a broader release in at least 10 more markets two weeks later. It has been picked up by Lions Gate Entertainment.

The film focuses on O'Grady's relationship with Los Angeles Cardinal Roger Mahony, who was his bishop in Stockton in the early 1980s when O'Grady confessed to at least one instance of molestation. Mahony is now struggling to settle hundreds of sexual-abuse cases against the Los Angeles archdiocese, which may also be under investigation by a criminal grand jury (authorities won't say if proceedings are taking place).

Berg opens the film with O'Grady praying, surrounded by candles. He is pensive and quiet as he reflects on his 22-year career in the diocese of Stockton and the trail of pain he left behind.

"I am here because I recognize in my life there has been a major imbalance mainly caused by what I have done in a criminal way," O'Grady says. "Basically what I want to say to them is, you know, it should not have happened. It should not have happened."

The film then moves through a series of gut-wrenching interviews with several of O'Grady's alleged victims and their parents that hint at the depth of betrayal they feel. O'Grady has previously said in court depositions that he began abusing others when he was 12 and at one point had sex with two of his victims' mothers to gain access to their children.

These interviews are stark, edited in a no-frills style that contrasts with the more choreographed shots of O'Grady, who is often seen from above or far away as he sits in church or a children's

classroom. There is no narrator, but Berg relies on interviews, clips of court testimony and documents to set a critical tone.

In one scene, a father stares at the camera, his face contorted in rage and pain, and screams that he no longer believes in God as his 40-year-old daughter - O'Grady's first known victim - sobs next to him.

Berg, 36, is unapologetic in her harsh critique of the church leadership, particularly Mahony. She acknowledges that during interviews O'Grady often acted "like a seven-year-old child," but says that most of what he told her was supported by documents from his private personnel file.

Mahony, who supervised O'Grady two decades ago, transferred him to a rural parish after the priest confessed to his therapist that he had molested a nine-year-old boy. Following the confession, Mahony ordered O'Grady to undergo a psychological evaluation.

O'Grady continued to abuse children at his new posting in rural San Andreas. He was removed from the priesthood in 1993 and faced criminal charges.

Mahony has said that police could not corroborate O'Grady's story and declined to press charges.

In the movie, the defrocked priest insists that Mahony knew of his pattern of abuse and went as far as to call him personally in 1984 to reassure him no charges would be filed.

780 words / mots.

Fredericton Daily Gleaner (CP) (6 Oct 06) "Jail workers accused of abuse waiting for compensation"

[The Canadian Press,](#)

Some of the more than 600 exonerated former workers at two Nova Scotia youth jails are still waiting for compensation for being wrongly accused of abusing boys in their care.

"We're just at the end of our ropes," said Leslie Belong, 56, who is retired from the former Shelburne Youth Centre.

The province awarded \$5.5 million in general damages to be dispersed among 79 former workers from the Shelburne and Truro youth centres.

But four months later, no one has seen a penny despite being told they would receive compensation ranging from \$20,000 to more than \$100,000 per person.

Some of the former youth centre workers check with the government regularly about the status of the disbursement but don't receive clear answers.

"Nobody seems to know where the \$5.5 million is," said Belong's wife, Debbie. "And who's collecting the interest on it?"

Michelle Lucas, a spokeswoman for the provincial Public Service Commission, said Thursday "we want to see this resolved as quickly as possible, too."

The money is to be distributed by Constance Glube, a retired chief justice of Nova Scotia Supreme Court who is to consider each of the 79 cases involving former workers and determine the amount each will receive, Lucas said.

244 words / mots.