

**Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada
Media Clips**



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

Tuesday, March 13, 2007 ♦ mardi, 13 mars 2007

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CBKR Saskatchewan (9 CBC 07) "Website claims courts have issued approval"

TRANSCRIPT

Media Outlet:	CBK-R Saskatchewan	Date:	March9/07
Program:	Afternoon Edition	Time:	16:31
Anchor / Reporter:	Candace Holmstrom, John Weidlich	Length:	01:25
Topic:	Website claims courts have issued approval		

Candace Holmstrom (Announcer): A government website claims the courts have issued approval orders for the Indian residential school settlement. But several people who are connected to what's going on say that's not true.

Two of nine judges, including one from Saskatchewan have not finished dealing with the case. All nine are needed to sign off before the package can move to the next stage.

The CBC's John Weidlich has the latest.

John Weidlich (Reporter): On Thursday judges dealing with the multi billion-dollar settlement got together, some by telephone to work out the final wording for approving the compensation deal. Everything went smoothly until the judge from Nunavut had to disconnect because of a snowstorm. John Phillips, a lawyer for the Assembly of First Nations was in the room at the time.

John Phillips (Lawyer For The Assembly of First Nations): Finalization of the orders from the court in Nunavut was held up as a result of a weather problem.

John Weidlich: Saskatchewan's judge Dennis Ball also left the meeting with unfinished business, he is still working on the issue of fees for the Merchant Law Group, which has become a contentious matter. Phillips says all approvals will likely be ready next week, but that won't result in any cheques being written, there is still an opt out period to go through and appeals could also hold things up.

John Weidlich, CBC News, Regina.

CBC Radio A New Day (12 Mar 07) “Canada's top judges have agreed to compensate former residential school attendees”

TRANSCRIPT

Media Outlet:	CBC Radio	Date:	Mar.12/2007
Program:	A New Day – Whitehorse	Time:	6:30 a.m.
Anchor / Reporter:	Rock Shannon-Fraser / Vic Istchenko	Length:	2:00
Topic:	Canada's top judges have agreed to compensate former residential school attendees. The federal government has capped on how much lawyers representing the claimants.		

Rock Shannon-Fraser (Host): The federal government has agreed to spend billions of dollars to compensate former Indian residential school students. Supreme Court judges across the country sanctioned the class-action agreement last week in Calgary. Unless it's appealed or rejected by the First Nations claimants, aboriginal communities in the Yukon and across Canada could be awash in cash later this year. Vic Istchenko reports.

Vic Istchenko (Reporter): All former students – an estimated 80,000 – are eligible for common experience payments. Whitehorse lawyer Lauren Cavan represents some of the claimants. She says average payouts will be around \$26,000. Those payments alone will cost Ottawa around \$2 billion dollars.

Lauren Cavan (Lawyer): It's a lot of money just with the common experience payments, but those with more serious complaints will receive more significant amounts of money and it just – the numbers could reach into the four or five billion dollars.

Istchenko: Law firms and lawyers who worked on the agreement will pocket millions. There's still debate over a Saskatchewan firm's bills. But the courts have awarded \$40 million dollars to a national consortium in Toronto. And Ottawa has agreed it will pay lawyers representing individual abuse victims an additional 15 per cent of whatever they eventually win. There are at least 15,000 abuse claimants, so Ottawa has capped individual awards at \$430,000 per person.

Cavan: There will be lots of money coming in to the communities, there's no question about that. However, the earliest the payments could be made is September of this year, so it gives all of us time to prepare for that.

Istchenko: Advanced payments, totaling almost \$8 million dollars, have already been issued to elders. Ottawa has also agreed to spend millions more on healing programs for affected families. Vic Istchenko, CBC News, Whitehorse.

CBKT Regina News at Six (12 Mar 07) "Another delay in Residential School Settlement"**TRANSCRIPT**

Media Outlet:	CBKT-TV	Date:	March12/07
Program:	Regina News at Six	Time:	18:11
Anchor / Reporter:	Costa Maragos	Length:	00:25
Topic:	Another delay in Residential School Settlement		

Costa Maragos (Announcer): It appears there's another delay in the Indian residential school settlement. An appeal regarding fees paid to a Regina law firm handling the settlement was supposed to be heard Wednesday, now it's been postponed until next week. The federal government is appealing the compensation to be paid to the Merchant Law Group, fees that could be in the forty million dollar range. The appeal could delay the multi-billion dollar settlement for eighty thousand former students.