

**Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada  
Media Clips**



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

**Thursday, March 15, 2007 ♦ jeudi, 15 mars 2007**

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**TRANSCRIPT**

<b>Media Outlet:</b>	<b>APTN National News</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>3/14/2007</b>
<b>Program:</b>	<b>News</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>Anchor / Reporter:</b>	<b>Donna Smith</b>	<b>Length:</b>	<b>3min 26sec</b>
<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Residential school abuse</b>		

**Donna Smith:** Our top story is in the Northwest Territories.

One of the darkest chapters in Canadian history is the treatment of First Nation and Inuit children in residential schools.

Many of the schools were run by churches on behalf of the federal government, and while not every experience was negative, most were; and the pain was such that the federal government is finally compensating those who suffered.

As APTN's Dene-za Antoine tells us, some of those in the Northwest Territories who fought hardest for the compensation now have some new concerns.

**Norman Yakeleya** (audioclip): The residential school was a festering ground for alcoholics, family violence, suicides, sexual abuse...

**Dene-za Antoine:** Like thousands of other survivors, Norman Yakeleya would like to forget his residential school experiences. But at an Indian residential school conference in Di-lo this week he is one of several survivors sharing his story in order to raise awareness about this issue. Jocomb Bonarouge believes survivors will only begin to heal when they begin to share their story.

**Jocomb Bonarouge** (audioclip): In regards to sexual abuse, and physical abuse, and psychological abuse, there is a lot of shame attached to that and I guess part of the healing is beginning to muster up enough courage and enough support for each other so that one-by-one all of us will begin to stand up and tell our story about the abuse.

**Dene-za Antoine:** People from all over the north have come to share, and to learn more about the proposed federal residential school settlement.

**Unnamed information session attendee:** What we really need is the ability for people to get together and get all the accurate information, so this is an information session and we are trying to inform as many people as possible so that they know what is in the agreement.

**Dene-za Antoine:** The agreement includes a provision for advance payment for elders. Of those how applied, nearly 85% have been paid. A common experience payment, which would be paid to every former student who applies, should arrive in August or September, but some are wary.

**Unnamed information session attendee:** I just wish that there would be financial counseling, but most of all for the individual to go on a healing journey because the common experience payment will only contribute to an addiction if they're not careful.

**Dene-za Antoine:** Most are happy about the payments, but for many, the healing continues.

**Norman Yakeleya** (audioclip): To understand my experience, it really helped me understand who I was and how I hurt other people, because I didn't want to feel the hurt myself. And how I blamed the government, I blamed the church, how I blamed a lot of people. I had not taken responsibility and I had every to be angry and to be... but I couldn't live like that anymore.

**Dene-za Antoine:** For APTN National News I'm Dene-za Antoine in Di-Lo.

**Donna Smith:** For more information on the settlement process, go to [residentialschoolsettlement.ca](http://residentialschoolsettlement.ca) or call 1-866-879-4913.