HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL ELDERS BORN IN MARCH!!

42nd Annual BC Elders Gathering - July 10-12, 2018
Location: Duncan, BC

‘I TST ‘O’ HWUN’ ‘I - ‘WE ARE STILL HERE’

For all info please go to: eldersgathering.ca

*Groups have been booking rooms since last July, look to Nanaimo and Victoria now. Groups are asked to register early for the Elders Gathering each year to better help the new host with the numbers they can expect for their year.

Our Grateful Appreciation
To: The First Nations Health Authority For Continuing to Help Support Your Provincial Aboriginal Elders Office, Gilakasla, BCECCS

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ATTENTION: Elder’s Contact People Please Make Copies of the EV Each Month For Your Elders, Chief & Council or Board of Directors.

EV’S 203rd Issue!
Easy Bakers Corner – Creamy Chocolate Layer Pie

You will need 1-12 oz. tub of Cool Whip

Mix 4 ounces of cream cheese, softened, with 1 Tablespoon of milk and 1 Tablespoon of granulated sugar in a large bowl with a wire whisk until smooth.

Gently stir in 1 1/2 cups of Cool Whip whipped topping.

Spread Mixture on bottom of crust.

Pour 1 1/2 cups of milk into a bowl.

Add 2 packages of Jell-O chocolate flavoured instant pudding & pie Filling. Beat with wire whisk for 1 minute.

Stir in 2 cups of Cool Whip whipped topping.

Spread over cream cheese layer.

Refrigerate for 4 hours or until set. Garnish with the remaining whipped topping.

Store leftover pie in refrigerator.

Enjoy!

What Can you please share?

The following is a short list of Elders suggestions of what might be shared: Your local Newsletters/Upcoming Local Events/Prayers/Poems/Quotes/Comments/Storytelling/Drawings/Articles of Interest/Native Songs Lyrics/Wellness Seminars/Obituaries, etc. Submissions are best forwarded to me via email by the 15th of the preceding month. If you are interested in providing articles, please do so, I look forward to hearing from anyone who wants to contribute to the content of your newsletter.

Gilakasia, Donna Stirling

‘PRESERVING THE PAST’

The First Ever Elder’s Website “Preserving the Past” is now online (as of Sept. 2002). Registration forms, booth forms, maps of the host territory, accommodation information, etc. concerning the Annual Elders Gatherings are available each year on the BC Elders Communication Center Society’s website www.bcelders.com as soon as they are made available from each new host community.

As of Aug.1st. 2011 issues of your Elders Voice Newsletter will be emailed out to all contacts as well as posted on the website www.bcelders.com the 1st of each month. Although we mailed out the issues for almost 11 years (128 issues) we can no longer afford the cost to do so. Please email bcelders@telus.com to be added to the email list. Thank you

Disclaimer:

Health articles, etc. are provided as a courtesy and neither the BC Elders Communication Center Society’s Board Members or anyone working on its behalf mean this information to be used to replace your doctor’s and other professional’s advice. You should contact your family physician or health care worker for all health care matters. Information is provided in the Elders Voice for your reference only. And opinions contained in this publication are not those of Donna Stirling, Coordinator unless her name appears below the material.
Support Fee from Nov. 1st 2017 – Oct. 31st 2018

Your support is much appreciated!

LEVELS OF SUPPORT
$15,000 - Thunderbird
$10,000 - Killer Whale
$5,000 - Eagle
$1000 – Salmon
$750 – Frog
$500 – Sisiutl
$250 - Hummingbird

Thunderbird Level - $15,000
1. 

Killer Whale Level - $10,000
1. 

Eagle Level - $5,000
1. 

SALMON LEVEL - $1,000
1. Tale’awtxw Aboriginal Capital Corp.

FROG LEVEL - $750
1. Tk’emlups Te Secwepemc
2. Seton Lake Indian Band

SISIUTL LEVEL - $500
1. Weiwaikum First Nation

HUMMINGBIRD LEVEL - $250
1. Lower Kootenay Band
2. Da’naxda’xw First Nation
3. Mamalilikulla First Nation
4. Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society
5. Hailika’as Heiltsuk Health Centre
We welcome you to the beautiful territory of Cowichan Tribes in Duncan, B.C.

We hope you enjoy yourselves and that we provide you with information and ideas to take home with you, which will inspire you in your roles as Elders in your nations and communities. We hope to make your visit memorable.

INTRODUCING THE KING AND QUEEN,
Ed and Juanita Elliott

Ed was born and raised in Cowichan in the Quamichan Village. His parents were Ed Elliott Sr. from Cowichan Tribes, and Martha Elliott (nee Peter) from Snuneymuxw First Nation. He is one of eight siblings.

Ed worked in the forest industry for 38 years, 28 years for Western Forest Products in Honeymoon Bay (Lake Cowichan). When that mill closed down, he was called to Mayo Lumber in Nanaimo. He ended his career in forestry as a saw filer. After many years travelling the highways (and two car accidents), he took an early retirement at 57.

Ed then began his part time work at Cowichan Tribes as a van driver for Tsewjultun Health Centre programs, such as Mother’s Morning Out, the Children’s Program and the Elders program, to name a few.

Before retirement, his volunteer work included 18 years as a North Cowichan fire fighter, since retirement, he was a committee member of the NDP constituency committee and served two terms on the Cowichan Tribes Council.

Ed’s hobbies and interests throughout his life included soccer, softball (which he played alongside his children and nieces and nephews) and has been a member of the Cowichan Golf Club for most of his adult life. He also followed his grandsons around the hockey rink
and baseball diamonds. Ed continues to be busy in his retirement as a co-chair for the Elders program to represent, speak for and share information with the Cowichan Elders.

Juanita is Nuu Chah Nulth from the Hupacasath First Nation in Port Alberni. Her parents were hereditary chief Adam Watts and Nessie Watts (nee Lauder). She is one of 12 siblings.

Juanita is a 10-year residential school survivor of the Alberni Indian Residential School (AIRS). After her schooling, she held many different jobs that included legal secretary-nanny, cook, baby sitter, and finally the Nanaimo Indian Hospital where she was very happy as a nurse’s aide.

Juanita loves to volunteer, especially with the Elders and continues to be a happy volunteer when she can. Her previous contributions to her new Cowichan community included working with other mothers to develop the “Tiny Tot Nursery” (aka as the Cowichan Mother’s Co-op). This was a pre-school far ahead of its time.

Ed and Juanita met in Nanaimo and have been married for 61 years. While Ed worked, Juanita was able to be a full-time wife and mother and together, they raised two children. It should also be mentioned that they provided a foster home for many children over the years.

Their daughter Diana chose nursing as her career and while working in the hospital, she really enjoyed supporting new parents and their babies. This led her back to school and a career change to Early Childhood Development and is now the Provincial Advisor for Aboriginal Infant Development Programs in B.C. Her work has taken her across Canada and internationally to New Zealand.

Their son Ed Jr. is a first-class carpenter whose many years of quality work has taken him all over B.C. and internationally to Japan. He has built houses, mansions, schools and mills. He has the highest training possible as a Journeyman Carpenter.

Grandson’s Matthew and Curtis Wiley are successful in their chosen careers that they have been interested in all their lives. Matthew owns his own charter fishing business and Curtis is a heavy-duty mechanic for a local logging company.

Their two-year-old great-grandson Corbin is successful at melting everyone’s hearts. Completing Ed and Juanita’s family is son-in-law Mike Wiley, daughter-in-law Laura Belle, granddaughter-in-law Selina and latest addition Courtenay who is expecting their second great-grandchild in March 2018.

It is an honour and a privilege for Ed and Juanita to be the King and Queen of the 2018 B.C. Elders’ Gathering.
17th BC Aboriginal Diabetes Conference

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Personal Information
One form per person. Please print clearly. Please photocopy form as needed.

Miss  Ms.  Mrs.  Mr.  
☐  ☐  ☐  ☐

First Name ________________________________________

Last Name ________________________________________

Street (Box #) ____________________________________

City ______________________________________________

First Nation Community ______________________________

Province ______ Postal Code __________________________

Telephone _________________________________________

Fax _______________________________________________

E-mail _____________________________________________

Allergies? No ☐ Yes ☐ What allergies? _________________
Please respect this event as a scent free environment!

General Conference
March 19, 20, 21, & 22, 2018

Registration:
Early – By February 9th – $200
After February 10th – $250
7-18 years $150

Conference Includes
March 19th Monday
Supper
March 20th Tuesday
Breakfast, Lunch, Supper & Snack
March 21st Wednesday
Breakfast, Lunch, Banquet & Snack
March 22nd Thursday
Breakfast, Lunch & Snack

Registration Fee

I am enclosing: Conference Registration Fee
__________ # of participants @ $___________

Total Cheque _______ Money Order _________

Online registration @ bcade.ca Registration online
must be paid at the time of registering, credit card or paypal
accepted. For more registration information contact:
bcaderegistrations@shaw.ca

Cancellation Refund Policy: A $50 administration fee will be
charged to all refunds prior to February 16th. No refunds after
February 17th. Registrations are transferable with prior
notification. Full payment must accompany registration forms.

Mail the completed Conference registration form
with cheque or money order payable to:
BC Aboriginal Diabetes Conference
418 Mabel Lake Road, Enderby, BC V0E 1V4

No registration will be secured without payment.

TRADE FAIR DISPLAYS! Do you have a poster
presentation, or resource you want to display or vendor sales?
Please contact TRADEFAIR@shaw.ca

Accommodation Information
Penticton Lakeside Resort
& Conference Centre
www.rphotels.com
Reservations 1 800 663- 9400

When booking identify yourself with the
BC Aboriginal Diabetes Conference and provide your
registration confirmation number
$100 single room per night – Cityview
$105 single per night – Beachview
$110 single per night – Lakeview
$139 single per night – Cityview Suite
$149 single per night – Lakeview Suite
$15 per night for additional guest; maximum quad
occupancy

(Room rate available with Registration Confirmation
Number and if booked prior to February 17th)
Parking: Limited free spaces; paid spaces $5.00 per
day

418 Mabel Lake Road, Enderby, BC V0E 1V4 donnafelix@shaw.ca Website: www.bcadc.ca
February 14th, 2018

Letter of Support for Indian Residential School Survivors Society

To Health Canada,

Re: Indian Residential School Survivor Society Request for Support

Since 1994 the Indian Residential School Survivor's Society (IRSSS) has provided services to carry out our mandate which is:

"To assist First Nations people in BC to recognize and deal holistically with the primary and generational effects of Indian Residential Schools (IRS) by supporting education, awareness and research, establishing partnerships, and advocating for justice and healing."

In 2015 in order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission made 94 Calls to Action. In #22 and #23 TRC Call to action stated:

22. We call upon those who can effect change within the Canadian health care system to recognize the value of Aboriginal healing practices and use them in the treatment of Aboriginal patients in collaboration with Aboriginal healers and Elders where requested by Aboriginal patients.

23. We call upon all levels of government to:
   i. Increase the number of Aboriginal professionals working in the health-care field.
   ii. Ensure the retention of Aboriginal health-care providers in Aboriginal communities.
   iii. Provide cultural competency training for all healthcare professionals.

The IRSSS staff works extensively with Indian residential school survivors providing counselling, workshops, and support and crisis services to individuals, families, groups, and communities that focuses specifically on residential school trauma. The IRSSS have a staff working in 8 base offices in BC that are trained on culturally and spiritually based healing. The majority of their counselling and support services are delivered directly in the communities and these services have become integral to a population in which government continues to fail at providing health outcomes that serve to help our people survive. IRSSS is making a difference in addressing the aboriginal suicide rates, the reparation of families.

413 W. Esplanade Ave., North Vancouver, B.C. V7M 1A6
Tel: 604.985.4464 Fax: 604.985.0023 Toll Free: 1.800.721.0066 Website: www.irsss.ca
OTTAWA — Prime Minister Justin Trudeau hopes his new Indigenous rights framework will transform the government’s relationship with Indigenous peoples by helping to rebuild Indigenous governments and keeping disputes out of the courtroom.

It’s an ambitious plan, especially given the lack of detail in the speech Trudeau made in the House of Commons on Wednesday.

“Going forward, recognition of rights will guide all government interactions with Indigenous peoples,” Trudeau said. “This framework gives us the opportunity... to recognize Indigenous governments and ensure rigorous, full and meaningful implementation of treaties and other agreements.”

What does that mean? At this point, it’s hard to say. The Liberals are planning consultations on the new framework throughout the spring, led by Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister Carolyn Bennett and Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould. They aim to table legislation later this year, to be passed before the October 2019 election.

But already, there are some hints as to what may change under a new Indigenous rights framework.

Moving from bands to nations

This week, Bennett was clear she’d like to make it easier for Ottawa to negotiate with Indigenous groups that want to take control of education, health and other services. As it stands, there are more than 600 First Nation bands in Canada recognized under the Indian Act. But larger groups of First Nations aren’t generally recognized as legal entities.

Many individual bands are too small to deliver their own programs, said Ken Coates, a professor at the University of Saskatchewan. “These are tiny communities, and so a regional body has way greater potential to be able to afford the professional services and the administrative oversight and all that kind of stuff,” he said.

But it’s difficult for the federal government to negotiate with those larger bodies, said Bennett Wednesday. “(When) Indian Act bands... want to come together to make an education system or a child welfare system or anything, we have no way of funding that,” she said. “We only fund Indian Act bands.”

The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples identified this problem back in 1996. “Bands are usually too small for effective self-government,” the commission’s report says, suggesting the real unit of First Nations governance should be larger nations that share common history, language and culture. It found there were “between 60 and 80 historically based nations in Canada.”

Bennett said a new framework will help bands to “get out from under the Indian Act” and group themselves into those larger nations to draw down jurisdiction over their own services. “We haven’t had a vehicle to do that,” she said.

In August, Ottawa signed an education self-governance agreement with the Anishinabek Nation, representing 23 member First Nations across northern Ontario. But that agreement came after more than
20 years of negotiations. An official in Bennett’s office said the government hopes to get that down to three to five years.

“What we’re saying is we want to get out of the business of delivering programs,” Bennett said during an address to the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador. “Programs should be delivered by Indigenous-led governments and Indigenous-led institutions.”

Lessening impact of political whim

Last week, the federal government introduced new environmental assessment legislation, which included a requirement for Indigenous engagement plans early in the assessment process.

The official in Bennett’s office said the idea is that every department and agency should have to take that kind of approach when dealing with Indigenous rights, regardless of which political party’s in power. “The recognition of rights can’t just be left to the whim of the government of the day.”

Similarly, the official said, if a group of First Nation bands meets an agreed-upon definition of a broader nation, the government should not be able to refuse or delay negotiations with that nation. “It means that even if there was an election in Ottawa, you don’t lose years.”

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Perry Bellegarde, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, on National Indigenous Peoples Day in June 2017.

Resolving disputes

The Trudeau government hopes its new framework will help reduce the number of court challenges from Indigenous communities. While Section 35 of the Constitution recognizes Aboriginal and treaty rights, Trudeau said on Wednesday, “those rights have not been implemented by our governments,” forcing Indigenous people into protracted court battles.

It’s not clear what measures are being considered to help prevent court challenges, though Trudeau spoke of “new ways to resolve disputes so that collaboration becomes the new standard.”

Coates pointed to some concrete examples from other countries. In New Zealand, for instance, the Waitangi Tribunal investigates and makes recommendations to the government about Maori claims.

In Norway, the Sami Parliament is a representative body for people of Indigenous heritage, which promotes political initiatives relevant to the Sami people. Coates said Canada needs to come up with a “better mechanism” for consultation with Indigenous people, and something similar to the Sami Parliament “would actually entrench consultation in an ongoing, systematic way.”

The federal government hasn’t suggested creating a new body responsible for consultation or dispute resolution, the official in Bennett’s office said, but it’s too early to rule anything out. “This is one of the most open commitments to co-production of policy we’ve ever seen,” Coates said. “We’re going to start developing new policy with Indigenous peoples from the ground up.”

Email: mforrest@postmedia.com / Twitter: MauraForrest www.bullfax.com
January 31, 2018

Ms. Donna Stirling
Secretary
BC Elders Communication Centre Society and
BC Elders Council
1415 Weiwaikum Road
Campbell River BC V9W 5W9

Dear Ms. Stirling:

As Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to you for 2018. As the first month of the year winds down, I am looking toward the eventual end of my term as Lieutenant Governor and reflecting on the past five years serving our province. 2017 proved to be an even busier year than ever for the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, as we commemorated Canada’s 150 years of Confederation in a variety of ways.

As part of my sesquicentennial celebrations, I visited 150 schools, sharing the story of confederation and what I do in my role as Lieutenant Governor with students ranging from first to twelfth grade. On a hot and sunny Canada Day, I had the distinct honour of helping swear in 150 new Canadian citizens. I had the privilege of attending or hosting more than 500 events at Government House and throughout the province, visiting around 67 communities. And perhaps most memorably, I gave three Throne Speeches and swore in two different governments.

Thank you for your support in 2017. I am constantly inspired by all who I meet in my work as Lieutenant Governor and full of admiration and gratitude to the passion and commitment applied to so many worthy causes.

On behalf of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, please accept my best wishes for a happy and healthy 2018.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

The Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC
Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

Government House 1401 Rockland Avenue Victoria British Columbia V8S 1V9
Sixties Scoop Class Action
P.O. Box 404041
Louisville, KY 40233-4041

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF SIXTIES SCOOP CLASS ACTION

Are you a Sixties Scoop survivor?

A proposed settlement may affect you. Please read this notice carefully.

The Ontario Superior Court and the Federal Court authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- Survivors of the Sixties Scoop sued the Federal Government of Canada ("Canada").
- The representative survivors and Canada have now reached a proposed settlement that provides compensation for certain survivors of the Sixties Scoop.
- The proposed settlement must be approved by the courts before there is any money or other benefits available.

Your legal rights are affected even if you do nothing. Please read this notice carefully.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

OBJECT: Write to the court if you do not like the proposed settlement.

GO TO A HEARING: Ask to speak in court about the proposed settlement on May 10, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan or May 29, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Toronto, Ontario, or via videoconferencing at select locations of the Federal Court.

DO NOTHING: Give up any right you might have to object to the proposed settlement.

- These rights and options and the deadlines to exercise them are explained in this notice.
- The courts in charge of this case still have to decide whether to approve the proposed settlement. The courts will hear submissions about the approval of the proposed settlement in Saskatoon Saskatchewan on May 10 and 11, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. and in Toronto, Ontario on May 29 and 30, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Money and other benefits will only be made available if the courts approve the proposed settlement and after any appeals are resolved. Please be patient.

What This Notice Contains:

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1. Why did I get this notice?
2. What was the Sixties Scoop?
3. What is a class action?
4. What do the lawsuits complain about?
5. Why is there a proposed settlement?
WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?
6. Who is included in the proposed settlement?
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HOW TO RECEIVE A PAYMENT?
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THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU
16. Who are the lawyers for the plaintiffs?

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18. When and where will the court decide whether to approve the proposed settlement?
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21. What if I do nothing?

GETTING MORE INFORMATION
22. How do I get more information?

BASIC INFORMATION
1. Why did I get this notice?

The Ontario Superior Court and the Federal Court authorized this notice to let you know about a proposed settlement and about all of your options before the courts decide whether to give final approval to the proposed settlement. This notice explains the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, and your legal rights.

2. What was the Sixties Scoop?

Between 1951 and 1991, Indian and Inuit children were taken into care and placed with non-Indigenous parents where they were not raised in accordance with their cultural traditions nor taught their traditional languages (the “Sixties Scoop”).

3. What is a class action?

In a class action, one or more people called “Plaintiffs” sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are called a “Class” or “Class Members.” The courts resolve the issues for everyone affected, except for those who exclude themselves from the lawsuits.

The survivors of the Sixties Scoop that commenced the lawsuits are called the “Representative Plaintiffs.” The Federal Government of Canada is called “Canada.”

4. What do the lawsuits complain about?

This lawsuits claim that Indian children who were victims of the Sixties Scoop lost their cultural identity and suffered psychologically, emotionally, spiritually and physically. They were also deprived of their status, their aboriginal and treaty rights and monetary benefits to which they were entitled pursuant to the Indian Act, RSC 1985, c I-5 and related legislation and policies.
5. Why is there a proposed settlement?

The Representative Plaintiffs and Canada have agreed to a proposed settlement. By agreeing to the proposed settlement, the parties avoid the costs and uncertainty of a trial and delays in obtaining judgment, and Class Members receive the benefits described in this notice. In this case, it also means that the Class Members will not need to testify in court. By settling this class action, the Representative Plaintiffs and Canada have also been able to create a Foundation to enable change and reconciliation. The Representative Plaintiffs and their lawyers think the proposed settlement is in the best interests of all Class Members.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?

6. Who is Included in the proposed Settlement?

The proposed settlement includes all registered Indians (as defined in the Indian Act) and Inuit persons or people eligible to be registered Indians or Inuit who were removed from their homes in Canada between January 1, 1951 and December 31, 1991 and placed in the care of non-Indigenous foster or adoptive parents (the “Class Members”). All Class Members except those who validly opt out will be bound by the proposed settlement if it is approved and will be covered by the releases in the proposed settlement.

7. What if I am not sure whether I am included in the proposed settlement?

If you are not sure whether you are included in the proposed settlement, you may call (844) 287-4270 with questions or visit sixtiesscoopsettlement.info or email sixtiesscoop@collectiva.ca.

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

8. What does the proposed settlement provide?

If the proposed settlement is approved and becomes final, it will provide compensation to all Class Members who were adopted or made permanent wards and who were alive on February 20, 2009 (the “Eligible Class Members”).

The proposed settlement will also establish a foundation (the “Foundation”) to enable change and reconciliation and, in particular, access to education, healing/wellness and commemoration activities for communities and individuals. The Foundation is intended to bridge the generations and give meaning to suffering as well as to provide healing and reconciliation for the whole of Canada, now and for the future. Benefits from the Foundation are not restricted to Class Members.

Canada has agreed to fund the Foundation in the amount of at least $50 million to enable change and reconciliation and, in particular, access to education, healing/wellness and commemoration activities for communities and individuals.

Canada has also agreed to make payments to Eligible Class Members as follows:

- If fewer than 20,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive an amount equal to $500 million divided by the number of Eligible Class Members who submit claims, to a maximum for $50,000 per person.
- If between 20,000 and 30,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive $25,000.
- If more than 30,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive an amount equal to $750 million divided by the number of Eligible Class Members who submit claims.

For example:

- if 5,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive $50,000;
- if 10,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive $50,000;
- if 15,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive $33,333.33;
- if 20,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive $25,000;
• if 25,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive $25,000;
• if 35,000 Eligible Class Members submit claims, each Eligible Class Member will receive $21,428.57;

If there are fewer than 20,000 claims by Eligible Class Members and the total amount paid to Eligible Class Members is less than $500 million, the difference between the total amount paid to Eligible Class Members and $500 million shall be paid to the Foundation.

More details are in a document called the proposed Settlement Agreement, which is available at sixtiescoopsettlement.info.

9. How will the lawyers be paid?

Class Counsel will not be paid until the courts declare that the fees being paid are fair and reasonable.

Class Counsel will ask for approval of fees in the amount of $75 million plus applicable tax, or 10% of the total possible compensation fund. The courts will decide the amount of fees and disbursements to award.

10. When will I receive my payment?

Eligible Class Members whose claims are approved will receive their payments after their claims are assessed. Before anyone can file a Claim Form or be assessed, the courts must decide whether to grant final approval of the proposed settlement and any appeals must be resolved (see “The Approval Hearing” below). If there are appeals, resolving them can take time. Please be patient.

If the proposed settlement is approved, Eligible Class Members that file a Claim Form which is approved will be paid after all claims have been assessed and the payment amounts are determined.

11. What am I giving up in the proposed settlement?

Once the proposed settlement becomes final, you will give up your right to sue Canada for the claims being resolved by this proposed settlement. You will be “releasing” Canada as described in the proposed Settlement Agreement, which means you cannot sue Canada for anything at all related to the Sixties Scoop. The proposed Settlement Agreement describes the released claims with specific descriptions, so read it carefully. If you have any questions, you can talk to the law firms listed in Question 16 or you can, of course, talk to your own lawyer if you have questions about what this means.

12. Can I remove myself from the proposed settlement?

You can only remove yourself from the proposed settlement if you belong to the following group:

All Indian (as defined in the Indian Act) and Inuit persons who were removed from their homes in Canada between January 1, 1951 and December 31, 1991 and placed in the care of non-Indigenous foster or adoptive parents, other than Indian children who were taken from their homes on reserves in Ontario between December 1, 1965 and December 31, 1984 and were placed in the care of non-aboriginal foster or adoptive parents who did not raise the children in accordance with the aboriginal person’s customs, traditions and practices.

If the proposed settlement is approved, individuals who fall within this group will have an opportunity to exclude yourself by filling out and submitting an opt out form. More information about excluding yourself from the proposed settlement will be available if the proposed settlement is approved.

Indian children who were taken from their homes on reserves in Ontario between December 1, 1965 and December 31, 1984 and were placed in the care of non-aboriginal foster or adoptive parents who did not raise the children in accordance with the aboriginal person’s customs, traditions and practices have already had an opportunity to remove themselves from the class action.

HOW TO RECEIVE A PAYMENT

13. How can I receive a payment?

You can only make a claim under the proposed settlement if the proposed settlement is approved by the courts. If the proposed settlement is approved, to ask for a payment, complete and submit the required Claim Form. All claims will be assessed by the Claims Administrator. Eligible Class Members will not need to testify in court.
Claim Forms will be available at sixtiesscoopsettlement.info or by calling (844) 287-4270 after the proposed settlement is approved by the courts.

14. How will payments be calculated?

The Claims Administrator will review your Claim Form and determine if you qualify for a payment. If you do, the Claims Administrator will determine the amount of your payment based on the total number of approved Claim Forms.

15. What if my claim is denied?

If your claim is denied, you will receive notice and may request a reconsideration of your claim before the Reconsideration Officer. The Reconsideration Officer’s decision is final.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

16. Who are the lawyers for the Plaintiffs?

The lawyers for the Plaintiffs are:

- Wilson Christen LLP and Morris Cooper of Toronto, Ontario;
- Koskie Minsky LLP of Toronto, Ontario;
- Merchant Law Group of Regina, Saskatchewan; and
- Klein Lawyers of Vancouver, British Columbia.

If you want to be represented by or receive advice from another lawyer, you may hire one to appear in court for you at your own expense.

OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

17. How do I tell the court if I do not like the proposed settlement?

You can object to the proposed settlement if you do not like some part of it. The courts will consider your views. To object, you must submit an Objection Form that includes the following:

- Your name, address, and telephone number;
- A statement saying that you object to the Sixties Scoop proposed settlement;
- The reasons you object to the proposed settlement, along with any supporting materials;
- The location where you were taken from your home; and
- Your signature.

You must mail or email your objection, postmarked by April 30, 2018 to:

Sixties Scoop Class Action
Collectiva Class Action Services Inc.
1176 Bishop Street, Suite 208
Montreal, Quebec, H3G 2E3
Email: sixtiesscoop@collectiva.ca

THE APPROVAL HEARING

The Ontario Superior Court and the Federal Court will hold hearings in May 2018 to decide whether to approve the proposed settlement and the request for fees and taxes. You may attend and you may ask to speak, but you do not have to.

18. When and where will the court decide whether to approve the proposed settlement?

The Federal Court will hold an approval hearing in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on May 10 and 11, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

The Ontario Superior Court will hold an approval hearing in Toronto, Ontario on May 29 and 30, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
The hearings may be moved to different dates or times without additional notice, so it is a good idea to check sixtyesscoopsettlement.info or call (844) 287-4270 in advance if you are planning to attend.

At these hearings, the courts will consider whether the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the courts will consider them and will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing. The courts may also decide how much to pay Class Counsel. After the hearing, the courts will decide whether to approve the proposed settlement. It is not known how long these decisions will take.

19. Do I have to attend the hearing?

No. Class Counsel will answer questions the courts may have. However, you or your own lawyer are welcome to attend at your own expense or videoconference into the hearings to voice your concerns. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to the courts to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the courts will consider it. You may also have your own lawyer attend, but it is not necessary. The Court will consider making special arrangements to permit an objector who wishes to appear in person to appear at select locations of the Federal Court via videoconferencing. More information about videoconferencing is available at sixtyesscoopsettlement.info.

20. May I speak at the hearing?

Yes, you may ask the courts for permission to speak at the approval hearings. To do so you must file a Notice of Objection and indicate that you wish to speak at an approval hearing.

21. What if I do nothing?

If you do nothing, you are choosing not to object to the proposed settlement. The approval hearings will proceed and the courts will consider whether the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Class without your views on the matter.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

22. How do I get more information?

This notice summarizes the proposed settlement. More details are in the proposed Settlement Agreement. You can get a copy of the proposed Settlement Agreement at sixtyesscoopsettlement.info. You can send your questions to Sixties Scoop Class Action, c/o Collectiva Class Action Services Inc., 1176 Bishop Street, suite 208, Montreal, Quebec, H3G 2E3 or by email at sixtyesscoop@collectiva.ca. You may also call the toll free number (844) 287-4270.
OPEN DOORS, GO PLACES

WITH A BC ABORIGINAL STUDENT AWARD

OPEN TO BC RESIDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THEIR SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY AND ARE PLANNING TO STUDY IN BC IN:

▶ An approved trades training or apprenticeship program
▶ A certificate or diploma program
▶ An undergraduate or graduate degree program

APPLY NOW! DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2018

www.ikbbbc.ca
Text us with your questions - 778-200-2502
Toll Free Phone - 1-844-478-4645
Cody Isaac
Aboriginal Undergraduate Student Award recipient
Leading by Example
Aboriginal Award recipient Cody Isaac shares his positive energy with young people the world over

When Cody Isaac got laid off in 2007 from the Okanagan sawmill where he had been working, he never dreamed that five years later he’d be running a school in China. “After losing my job at the sawmill and not really seeing any outlets in the small town of Vernon, I looked to broaden my horizons and see what the world had to offer,” says the enterprising 32-year-old. After making a few fact-finding phone calls and completing his Teaching English as a Second Language certification, the young man headed west, teaching for four years at a local school in Zhejiang province before partnering with the school’s administrator to open and operate his own school.

It was a perfect fit for a kid who’d always dreamed of making a career helping other people. “After teaching two or three years and seeing the progress of the children and seeing them grow up and use the language that they were learning, I was like, whoa,” Cody says. “It was such a rewarding job.” While in China, Cody also volunteered every week at a school for blind children, teaching them English through smell, touch, taste and sound. He was instrumental in a driving a fundraising campaign, too, to rebuild an earthquake-devastated school in rural Yunnan; the fundraising paid for the school, a teacher, and hot lunches for the children for an entire year.

But when his brother Jamie died in 2013, Cody felt the pull of home once again. “I just knew that it was the time I needed to go,” he says, “not only for myself but for my family’s sake. Because I knew that they were going to need help. I felt that we were going to need to be together to heal and process as a family.” He packed his bags and returned to the Okanagan in 2015, where he gathered his people close and turned his thoughts to how he could create a meaningful career closer to home. “I would really like to make an impact on my local community and on the kids that are growing up now,” he says. “Their parents are like my friends. I would like to be a part of their education.”

And so in 2017 he embarked on his Bachelor of Arts at the University of British Columbia (Okanagan), working toward a Bachelor of Education by 2022. He is grateful for the support of the Irving K. Barber British Columbia Scholarship Society for his schooling, having received a $2000 Aboriginal Student Award in 2017. “I found out [about the award] through my cousin Stacy, who’s a nursing student going to BCIT,” he says.

At university, Cody is specializing in the elementary route, having found it so rewarding to work with grade four and five children while he was teaching in China. “They’re like little sponges, so full of energy,” he says. “They really take it all in. If you’re an energetic teacher, the kids respond to that.”

Energetic is just one of many words that describe Cody. Positive and uplifting are a couple others—he shares freely with whoever is around. On more than one occasion, Cody’s instructors have drawn him aside to comment on how he brightens everyone’s day with his presence and engagement. “I’ve discovered as I’ve gotten older that I think it’s just my nature—my friends describe me as ‘glass three-quarters full’,” he laughs. “You can’t get caught up on small things, the shoulda coulda wouldas. You have to keep moving, and putting your best foot forward.”
$20 Million to Support Community-Driven Solutions to Overdose Emergency

COAST SALISH TERRITORY – Vancouver, B.C. – The Province of B.C. will provide the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) with $20 million over three years to support First Nations communities and Indigenous Peoples to address the ongoing impacts of the overdose public health emergency.

The funding will be administered by FNHA and provided to frontline service providers and First Nations communities to support work already underway, and develop new community-driven approaches and solutions.

Funding includes $4 million in 2017-18 to support activities falling within the four goal areas of the FNHA’s Framework for Action on Responding to the Overdose/Opioid Public Health Emergency for First Nations: 1. Prevent people who overdose from dying; 2. Keep people safer when using; 3. Create an accessible range of treatment options; and 4. Support people on their healing journey.

The funding will support immediate initiatives including: expansion to naloxone training for First Nations communities; peer to peer engagement to support persons using substances with better health care access and stigma reduction; increased access to opioid agonist therapy in rural and remote communities; and telehealth services to increase access to culturally safe pharmacy services.

$2.4 million of year one funding is supporting community-driven, Nation-based innovative and culturally relevant responses to the overdose public health emergency, both on- and off-reserve through FNHA Indigenous harm reduction grants. An open call for projects grants was issued in December 2017, which resulted in 183 applications. Out of those applications, fifty-five community projects have been approved for First Nations communities and urban service providers.

Successful projects are supporting a range of non-judgmental approaches and strategies to enhance the knowledge, skills, resources and supports for individuals, their families and communities to make informed decisions to be safer and healthier. Projects were assessed based on incorporation of harm reduction principles, involvement of people with lived experience, cultural relevance, and geographic equity.

The funded projects support the four goal areas and include a range of cultural and medical interventions and include back-to-land camps, development of Urban Aboriginal harm reduction services, enhancing client care for hard to reach populations, promoting utilization of local harm reduction services including safe injection sites, community-based educational campaigns and more.

In August 2017, the FNHA and provincial partners released preliminary data that showed overrepresentation of First Nations peoples in the overdose public health emergency in B.C. A subsequent patient journey mapping session held in Vancouver October 2017, illustrates that intergenerational trauma and racism continue to be barriers for First Nations accessing mental health and treatment services.
Quotes:

Judy Darcy, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

“In my role as Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, I have heard from people about the heartbreaking toll that the overdose crisis is taking on First Nations communities throughout B.C. We know that these devastating losses are part of a much larger problem that has roots in colonization, dispossession of lands and resources, inter-generational trauma, racism and stigmatization. Together with the First Nations Health Authority, the funding announced today will help us to build a seamless and coordinated system of mental health and addictions services that support culturally-based treatment and recovery options for First Nations and Indigenous people.”

Grand Chief Doug Kelly, Chair—First Nations Health Council

“Our people are deep in pain. The way forward to achieving mental wellness in our families and communities requires new approaches. This investment gives our communities and caregivers opportunities to design initiatives and services to help our citizens heal. Listen, learn and act is what our leaders and Elders have told us. I’m grateful that our partners are working with us to address and resolve the historical legacy of the residential schools and assimilation policies.”

Dr. Shannon McDonald, Acting Chief Medical Officer—First Nations Health Authority

“These investments are supported by an evidence-base of findings that have shown First Nations peoples are overrepresented in the overdose public health emergency in B.C. Knowing this, we have come together as partners to target these funds where they are needed in rural and urban areas, in line with our priority areas of action. We all have a part to play in supporting our community members, family and friends to be well. In this emergency there is no one way to respond. These funds will be used in a variety of ways to meet people where they are at on their journey.”

Background:


FNHA Overdose Information Web Portal: www.fnha.ca/overdose

Province of B.C. Overdose Information: www.gov.bc.ca/overdose


Media Contacts:

First Nations Health Authority
604-831-4898
media@fnha.ca

Lori Cascaden
Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions
778-698-2892
lori.cascaden@gov.bc.ca
OTTAWA — Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is planning to overhaul the way the federal government relates to Indigenous Peoples in Canada, including a new legislative framework designed to pave the way towards stronger rights and greater control over their own destiny.

"We need to both recognize and implement Indigenous rights," Trudeau said Wednesday in a speech in the House of Commons.

"Because the truth is, until we get this part right, we won't have lasting success on the concrete outcomes that we know mean so much to people."

'Real, positive action'

The prime minister said the new approach, to be developed in partnership with First Nations, Metis and Inuit, is needed to tackle the many challenges facing their communities, including overcrowded housing, unsafe drinking water and high rates of suicide among Indigenous youth.

"All of these things demand real, positive action — action that must include the full recognition and implementation of Indigenous rights," Trudeau said. "We need to get to a place where Indigenous Peoples in Canada are in control of their own destiny, making their own decisions about the future."

The new Recognition and Implementation of Indigenous Rights Framework — to be unveiled later this year following consultations led by Carolyn Bennett, the minister for Crown-Indigenous relations, and Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould — will include new legislation.

Trudeau said the Liberals intend to implement it in time for the 2019 election.

"This framework gives us the opportunity to build new mechanisms to recognize Indigenous governments, and ensure rigorous, full and meaningful implementation of treaties and other agreements," he said.

It would allow the federal government to find new ways to help Indigenous communities rebuild, including through self-government, and could lead to new, more collaborative ways to resolve disputes.

Trudeau said it will not, however, require reopening the Constitution, where Section 35 already recognizes these rights.

That recognition, Trudeau acknowledged, came only after the "outspoken advocacy" of Indigenous
Peoples, since the Liberal government at the time, led by his father Pierre Trudeau, had not originally planned to include them.

The problem, Trudeau said, is that federal governments have not been fully implementing those rights, forcing Indigenous Peoples to turn to the courts to enforce them, time and again.

"This will give greater confidence and certainty to everyone involved," Trudeau said.

Wednesday’s speech comes as the family of Colten Boushie wraps up their visit to Parliament Hill, where they said they have felt both welcomed and supported in their effort to press the federal government for change following the acquittal of the man charged in Boushie’s death.

Trudeau mentioned his meeting with the family in his speech.

"Through all their grief and anger and frustration, their focus was not on themselves and the tragedy they have endured, but on how we must work together to make the system and our institutions better," Trudeau said.

"Reforms are needed to ensure that — among other things — Indigenous Peoples might once again have confidence in a system that has failed them all too often in the past."

Liberals to support NDP MP’s UNDRIP bill

A number of visibly Indigenous people were excluded without cause from the jury that last week acquitted Saskatchewan farmer Gerald Stanley, 56, in the shooting death of Boushie, 22, a member of the Red Pheasant First Nation.

The Liberals have long promised justice reforms, but are now promising to review the use of peremptory challenges, which allow lawyers to reject jury candidates during the selection process.

The Liberal government began signalling this new approach last summer, when Trudeau announced that Bennett, who had been in charge of the Indigenous Affairs Department since 2015, would be joined on the file by former health minister Jane Philpott.

Since then, Bennett has been focused on efforts to improve the relationship, leading consultations on how to dissolve the department and create two separate ministries.

Her mandate letter said that would include being part of a ministerial working group — alongside Philpott and Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould — tasked with developing this new "recognition of rights framework and ensuring the Crown is fully executing its legal, constitutional, and international human rights obligations and commitments, including constitutionally protected treaty
Trudeau also said at the time that the Liberal government was taking steps to move beyond the Indian Act, a 141-year-old statute that has been widely criticized by Indigenous leaders as colonial and paternalistic.

Last November, the Liberal government said it would support a private member's bill introduced by NDP MP Romeo Saganash that calls for the full implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which examined the legacy of the Indian residential school system in Canada, also recommended an entirely new way of viewing the relationship, including by calling for a "Royal Proclamation of Reconciliation" from the Crown.

As Liberal leader, Trudeau promised to implement all 94 recommendations in the commission's 2015 report.

Earlier Wednesday, Boushie's cousin, Jade Tootoosis, told a news conference the family felt excluded and ignored by the justice system following the fatal 2016 shooting in Saskatchewan, but their meetings on and around Parliament Hill this week have made them feel they are finally being heard.

"It's those welcoming arms, it's those open doors that's not only impacted us as a family, but shown that leadership is serious about the issue and the experiences that we have felt," Tootoosis said.

Tootoosis said the family will continue working to root out what they describe as systemic racism plaguing the Canadian criminal justice system, and that education and open dialogue will help bring about unity.

"We will we back. We will be speaking out. This does not end here," she said.

"We will continue the dialogue and we will press for concrete changes within the system so that no other families, no other Indigenous lives are taken before changes are made."

Quotes

“The meaning of life is that it stops.” Franz Katka

“We write our own destiny. We become what we do.”

“Those who wish to sing always find a song.”
BC ELDER COMMUNICATION CENTER SOCIETY

ADDRESS:
1415 Weiwaikum Rd.
Campbell River, B.C.
V9W 5W9

Phone: 1-250-286-9977
Fax: 1-250-286-4809
Toll-Free: 1-877-738-7288
Coordinator:
Donna Stirling
Website: www.bcelders.com
Email: bcelders@telus.net

BCECCS HAS GONE PAPERLESS!
ELDERS VOICE ISSUES ARE NOW EMAIL-ONLY
AND POSTED ONLINE BY THE 7TH OF EACH MONTH!

BC SERVICES CARD PROGRAM

Do you have your BC Services Card? The CareCard will be retired in February 2018.

The CareCard has been replaced by the BC Services Card - a secure credential designed to protect identity, improve patient safety, and help avoid fraud and misuse of health care services.

Adults are expected to renew enrolment in the Medical Services Plan (MSP) by February 2018. Once you’ve renewed your MSP, you will get your new BC Services Card in the mail. It’s easy and free!

You can get your BC Services Card at any ICBC driver licensing office in the province; including ServiceBC centres and Appointed Agents.

For more information on the BC Services Card, visit www.gov.bc.ca/bcservicescard

PISCES

ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING INFO CORNER

42nd Annual BC Elders Gathering - July 10-12, 2018
Location: Duncan, BC
‘I TST ‘O’ HWUN’ ‘I - ‘WE ARE STILL HERE’
For all info please go to: eldersgathering.ca

*Groups have been booking rooms since last July, look to Nanaimo and Victoria now.

Groups are asked to register early for the Elders Gathering each year to better help each new host with the numbers they can expect for their year as host of this incredibly huge provincial event.