

Settlement Reached in Ontario Training Schools Class Action Lawsuit

Today, the Government of Ontario and Warwick (Rick) Brown, court-appointed representative plaintiff, jointly announced that the Ontario Superior Court of Justice has approved a \$60 million settlement agreement reached in the Ontario Training Schools class action lawsuit.

The settlement is the result of a class action lawsuit brought against Ontario by individuals who resided at 13 Ontario Training Schools between 1953 and 1984. Individuals who suffered historic harm at these training schools during the following time periods are eligible to submit a claim for compensation of up to \$100,000:

- Pine Ridge School, Bowmanville between January 1, 1953 and 1979
- Cold Springs Forestry Camp between January 1, 1963 and 1976
- Hillcrest School, Guelph between January 1, 1953 and 1978
- Brookside School, Cobourg between January 1, 1953 and April 2, 1984
- Trelawney House, Port Bolster between August 1959 and 1973
- Kawartha Lakes School, Lindsay between 1962 and 1979
- Glendale School, Simcoe between 1962 and July 30, 1974
- White Oaks Village, Hagersville between 1966 and 1978
- Sprucedale School, Hagersville between 1966 and April 2, 1984
- Cecil Facer School, Sudbury between 1971 and April 2, 1984
- Project DARE – Portage Lake between June 1971 and 1976
- Project DARE – Wendigo Lake, South River between 1972 and April 2, 1984
- Syl Apps Youth Centre between 1958 and April 2, 1984

The claims administrator will provide eligible former students with information about the claims process and how to apply for compensation.

Quotes

"These schools operated in the 1950s, 60s, 70s and 80s. Any abuse that kids suffered at these schools was wrong. It was wrong then. It is wrong now. We acknowledge and regret the harm that kids experienced in these institutions. One goal of this settlement is to assist former Training Schools residents to move forward with their lives. This settlement is similar to other settlements regarding historical harms at other institutions. While we cannot change the past, we can compensate victims today and hopefully help them as they heal. Moving forward, we must remain vigilant to ensure that these harms become a relic of the past. This action was started in 2017; this government is proud to have been able to resolve it fairly."

- Doug Downey

Attorney General of Ontario

"Victims of abuse at Ontario Training Schools were just ordinary kids. They were removed from their families and placed in these schools, where many of them suffered terrible abuse – both physical and sexual. I was about ten years old when I was sent to Brookside Training School in 1963. The abuse I suffered there forever altered the course of my life. I have been involved in this action since 2018. I have been the representative plaintiff since 2022. I am so glad we have finally reached a settlement that will bring this action to an end for all Class members. I agreed to be the representative plaintiff because I know that so many children suffered in the Training Schools. So many kids left those schools broken. This settlement is about giving those kids a voice. It was extremely important to me that the compensation process be trauma informed. I'm proud of what we achieved with this process. It is

survivor centric and user-friendly. It is an extremely streamlined process that does everything possible to avoid retraumatization."

- Warwick Brown

Court-appointed Representative Plaintiff

Attorney General

June 26, 2026