



FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

October 13, 2011

Shawn A-in-chut Atleo
National Chief
Assembly of First Nations
473 Albert Street, Suite 900
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 5B4

Dear National Chief:

**Re: Common Experience Payment Deadline –
Request for Discussion on Agenda for December 2011 AFN Special Chiefs Assembly**

We enclose for your consideration a resolution passed by the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly requesting the Government of Canada extend the deadline for Common Experience Payment (CEP) applications for all potential applicants. Although the CEP application deadline date has passed, there may still be former students who, for many reasons, have not yet submitted CEP applications.

As you are well aware, many former Indian Residential School students continue to face tremendous challenges and hardships today as a result of the tragic government policies they experienced in their early lives. We respectfully request that discussion on this important issue be placed on the agenda for the December 2011 Special Chiefs Assembly.

For your information we have written to Minister Duncan and Minister Finley requesting that Canada work with First Nations to ensure the rights and interests of these individuals are recognized and respected. A copy of our correspondence is enclosed for your information.

Please contact our office if you require further information.

Yours truly,
FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT TASK GROUP

Grand Chief Edward John

Chief Douglas White III Kwulasultun

Dan Smith

Enclosures (2) First Nations Summit Resolution #0911.19 (Common Experience Payment)

Copy of First Nations Summit letter to Minister Duncan and Minister Finley re:
Common Experience Payment Deadline

cc. Assembly of First Nations Executive Committee
Union of BC Indian Chiefs
Indian Residential School Survivors Society
Peter Grant, representative for Independent Counsel, National Administration Committee



FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

October 13, 2011

The Honourable John Duncan
Indian and Northern Affairs
10 Wellington St.
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H4

The Honourable Diane Finley
Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development
140 Promenade du Portage
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0J9

Dear Minister Duncan and Minister Finley,

Re: Common Experience Payment Deadline

We enclose for your consideration a resolution passed by the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly requesting the Government of Canada extend the deadline for Common Experience Payment (CEP) applications for all potential applicants. Although the CEP application deadline date has passed, there may still be former students who have not yet submitted CEP applications.

As you are well aware, many former Indian Residential School students continue to face tremendous challenges and hardships today as a result of the tragic government policies they experienced in their early lives. We respectfully request Canada work with First Nations to ensure the rights and interests of these individuals are recognized and respected.

As directed by Resolution #0911.19 we call on you to provide direction to the appropriate officials to allow for the continued submission of CEP applications.

We look forward to your reply.

Yours truly,
FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT TASK GROUP

Grand Chief Edward John

Chief Douglas White III Kwulasultun

Dan Smith

Enclosure (1) First Nations Summit Resolution #0911.19 (Common Experience Payment)

cc: National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, Assembly of First Nations
Union of BC Indian Chiefs
Regional Chief Jody Wilson-Raybould, BC Assembly of First Nations
Indian Residential School Survivors Society
Peter Grant, representative for Independent Counsel, National Administration Committee



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RESOLUTION #0911.19

SUBJECT: COMMON EXPERIENCE PAYMENT

WHEREAS

- A. The Common Experience Payment (CEP) is a component of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The CEP recognizes the experience of residing at an Indian Residential School and its impacts.
- B. The deadline for applying for the CEP was September 19, 2011. The CEP application deadline has passed. Service Canada indicates that as per the Settlement Agreement, applications will be accepted for up to one year after September 19, 2011 the application deadline **only** in such cases where the applicant could not apply within the designated timeframe due to disability, undue hardship or other exceptional circumstances. If you are applying late, you will need to provide a reason, in writing, for the delay in application.

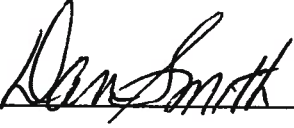
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly call upon the Government of Canada to extend the deadline for Common Experience Payment applications for all potential applicants.

MOVED BY: Chief Maureen Chapman, Skawahlook First Nation
SECONDED BY: Rod Naknakim, Laich-Kwil-Tach Treaty Society
DATED: September 23, 2011

Passed by consensus.

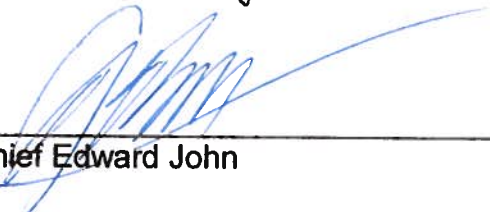
ENDORSED BY:



Dan Smith



Chief Douglas White III Kwulasultun



Grand Chief Edward John