



# SIXTIES SCOOP

CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT

CULTURAL  
GENOCIDE

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Lost Generation - Lost Culture

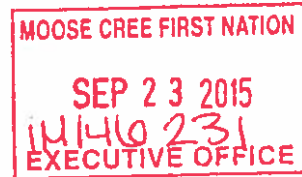


# SIXTIES SCOOP

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August 20, 2015

Chief Norm Hardisty Jr.  
Moose Cree First Nation  
P.O. Box 190, 107 Mookijuneibeg Street  
Moose Factory, Ontario  
POL 1W0



Dear Chief Norm Hardisty Jr.,

Recently, the **Chief Judge of Canada** spoke and said:

*The most glaring blemish on the Canadian historic record relates to our treatment of the First Nations that lived here at the time of colonization. An initial period of cooperative inter-reliance grounded in norms of equality and mutual dependence (described eloquently by John Raulston Saul in his book, A Fair Country), was supplanted in the nineteenth century by the ethos of exclusion and cultural annihilation. Early laws forbade treaty Indians from leaving allocated reservations. Starvation and disease were rampant. Indians were denied the right to vote. Religious and social traditions, like the Potlach and the Sun Dance, were outlawed. Children were taken from their parents and sent away to residential schools, where they were forbidden to speak their native languages, forced to wear white-man's clothing, forced to observe Christian religious practices, and not infrequently subjected to sexual abuse. The objective was to "take the Indian out of the child", and thus to solve what John A. Macdonald referred to as the "Indian problem". "Indianness" was not to be tolerated; rather it must be eliminated. In the buzz-word of the day, assimilation; in the language of the 21st century, cultural genocide.*

*We now understand that the policy of assimilation was wrong and that the only way forward is acknowledgement and acceptance of the distinct values, traditions and religions of the descendants of the original inhabitants of the land we call Canada. In a moving ceremony in Parliament in 2008, the Prime Minister formally apologized to Canada's First Nation people for the abuses of the residential school system. A truth and reconciliation commission, whose report is about to be released, was established. Yet the legacy of intolerance lives on in the lives of First Nation people and their children – a legacy of too much poverty, too little education, and over-representation of aboriginal people in our courts.*

**Rt. Honourable Beverley McLachlin, P.C. Chief Justice of Canada, in the address entitled "Reconciling Unity and Diversity in the Modern Era: Tolerance and Intolerance", given at the Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, May 28, 2015**

Ontario Chief Marcia Martel's class action proceeding is scheduled for trial in June of 2016. It is the first case ever about the Sixties Scoop and the loss of an identity for First Nations' children.

Please place these posters where they might be seen, and thank you.

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