

Did you live in Manitoba Developmental Centre or know someone who did?

A Lawsuit May Affect You. Please Read this Carefully

You could be affected by a class action lawsuit involving the Manitoba Developmental Centre (“MDC”) in Portage la Prairie. The Manitoba Queen’s Bench has decided that a class action lawsuit will go forward on behalf of a “Class,” of people, which could include you. This notice summarizes your rights and options. You can choose whether to stay in the Class or not. There is no money available now and no guarantee that there will be.

WHAT IS THE CASE ABOUT?

This lawsuit says that the Province of Manitoba failed to properly protect the people who lived at MDC from the harm they suffered. The lawsuit says that MDC residents were physically, sexually and mentally harmed by staff and other residents. The Government of Manitoba denies these claims. The Court has not decided which side is right. The lawyers for the Class will have to prove their claims in Court.

AM I INCLUDED?

You are affected by this lawsuit if:

- You lived at MDC between July 1, 1951 and May 29, 2020; OR
- You are an estate trustee of someone who lived at MDC between July 1, 1951 and May 29, 2019, and who died *after* October 31, 2016.

WHO REPRESENTS THE CLASS?

The Court has appointed Koskie Minsky LLP to represent the Class as “Class Counsel”. You do not have to pay Class Counsel, or anyone else, to participate. Instead, if Class Counsel gets money or benefits for the Class, they may ask for lawyers’ fees and costs, which would be deducted from any money obtained, or be paid separately by the Government of Manitoba.

You may hire your own lawyer but if you do, you may have to pay that lawyer.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

Stay in the Class: To stay in the Class, you do not have to do anything. If money or benefits are obtained, you will be notified about how to ask for a share. You will be legally bound by all orders and judgments, and you will not be able to sue the Government of Manitoba about the legal claims in this case.

Staying in this Class will not impact MDC residence or any supports received by class members from agencies which are funded by the Government of Manitoba.

Get out of the Class: If you want to keep your rights to sue the Government of Manitoba individually over the claims in this case, then you need to remove yourself from the Class, by “opting out”. If you remove yourself, you cannot get money or benefits from this lawsuit if any are awarded. To ask to be removed, send a letter to the address below, postmarked no later than **January 12, 2022**, that says you want to be removed from *Weremy v. The Government of Manitoba*. Include your name, address, telephone number, and signature.

You can also get an Opt Out Form at www.MDCclassaction.ca.

You must mail your removal request or Opt Out Form postmarked by **January 12, 2022**, to: Epiq Class Action Services Canada Inc., Attention: Manitoba Developmental Centre Class Action, 134 – 1364 McPhillips Street, Winnipeg, MB R2X 2M4, or send it by email at: info@mdcclassaction.ca.

HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION

Go to <https://kmlaw.ca/cases/manitoba-development-centre-class-action/>, call toll-free 1-800-286-2266, or by email at: mdcclassaction@kmlaw.ca.

Getting information to people who need it. We ask for the help of family members, caregivers and friends of former residents in getting information to former residents who have trouble reading or understanding this notice. More information about this lawsuit is available at the website or by calling the toll-free number. Please show this notice to people who are impacted by this lawsuit or their caregivers.