

News Release – December 23, 2013

Tentative Settlements Reached in Rideau Regional Centre and Southwestern Regional Centre Class Actions

Court to Review Proposed Agreements

Ontario and counsel for the plaintiffs in the Rideau Regional Centre and Southwestern Regional Centre class action lawsuits have reached tentative settlements.

The combined settlements total \$32.7 million. The settlements must now be approved by the court after notice has been provided to the class members. The court will determine the process and timing of the notice.

If approved, the settlements would provide compensation to those former residents of both institutions who suffered harm while living there. Rideau Regional Centre and Southwestern Regional Centre were residential facilities for people with developmental disabilities.

QUICK FACTS

- On Dec. 3, 2013, a \$35 million [settlement](#) was approved in the Huronia Regional Centre class action.
- On Dec. 9, 2013, Premier Wynne delivered a formal [apology](#) to former residents of the Huronia, Rideau and Southwestern Regional Centres in the Ontario Legislature. Today's tentative settlements also include a written apology from the Premier to those former residents of the Rideau and Southwestern Regional Centres who were harmed.
- The Rideau Regional Centre closed in 2009 and the Southwestern Regional Centre closed in 2008. This was in accordance with a government decision to close institutions for adults with developmental disabilities and move residents to homes in the community, with appropriate supports and services.

The government funds a range of developmental services and programs that support adults with developmental disabilities and their families. These services allow them to live, work and participate in a wide range of activities in their communities.

QUOTES

"The tentative settlements reached today are a turning point that I hope will help former residents to heal. I am pleased that we will now be able to present them to the court for its consideration."

— *John Gerretsen, Attorney General*

LEARN MORE

- Learn more about [developmental services](#) available in Ontario.
- Read the [history](#) of developmental services in Ontario.

See how Ontario is helping people with a developmental disability [live and participate](#) in their own communities.

To visit the Attorney General of Ontario's website...click on the following link.

<http://news.ontario.ca/mag/en/2013/12/tentative-settlements-reached-in-rideau-regional-centre-and-southwestern-regional-centre-class-actio.html>