

Legal Action on Behalf of Inuvialuit Former Residential School Students to be Filed Against the Government of Canada

INUVIK, NT (September 6, 2005) - Nellie Cournoyea, Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC), announces that a lawsuit will be filed on Wednesday September 7, 2005 on behalf of all Inuvialuit who attended residential schools. The lawsuit will be filed in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and name the Attorney General of Canada as defendant.

IRC seeks to ensure that the Prime Minister and the Government of Canada respect the commitment made to all aboriginal people to resolve the legacy of residential schools. While IRC wishes to resolve this matter in a timely manner through negotiation, IRC has received no confirmation from the Government of Canada that all Inuvialuit who attended residential schools will be included in the reconciliation process currently underway. IRC will support litigation until all Inuvialuit concerns are addressed.

IRC is working in concert with other regional and national Inuit organizations on this issue to ensure a fair and equitable resolution for all their beneficiaries.

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