



SPECIFIC CLAIMS BULLETIN

Updates and Key Information – Summer 2021

Specific Claims are grievances that First Nations have against the Government of Canada for failing to discharge its lawful obligations with respect to pre-1975 treaties and the management of First Nation lands and other First Nation assets. Specific claims are addressed through the [Specific Claims Policy](#) and the [Specific Claims Tribunal Act](#). Specific claims resolution is under the responsibility of the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown - Indigenous Relations.

This bulletin is a tool Specific Claims Branch is using to update First Nations on the program. We recognize that transparent, consistent, and proactive information sharing and communication is key to relationship building and advancing reconciliation.

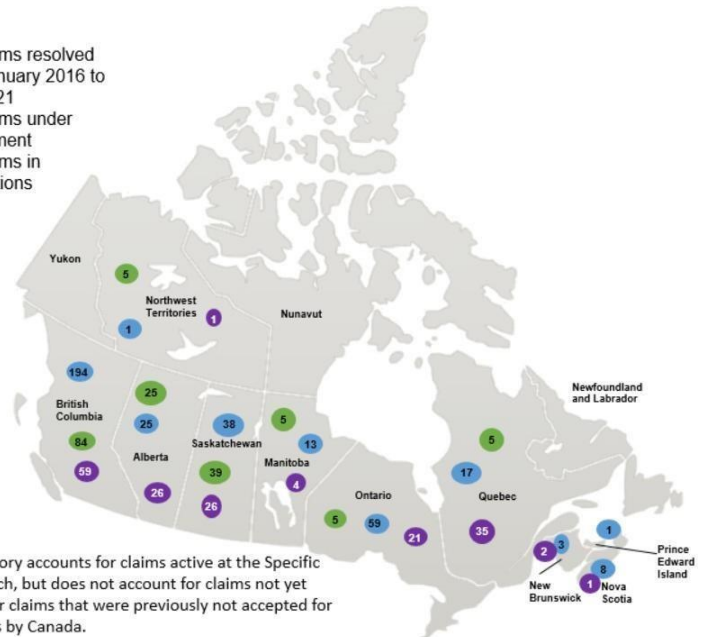
SPECIFIC CLAIMS SETTLEMENTS

- We are looking to be more innovative and flexible, such as through global settlements and bundling of claims to accelerate the pace of settlement.
- For example, the Kanaka Bar Indian Band and the Government of Canada recently concluded a global settlement that resolves all specific claims arising from the Crown's relationship with the Kanaka Bar Indian Band from 1858 to present day.
- The global settlement paves the way to renew and advance reconciliation with the Kanaka Bar Indian Band.
- In 2020-21, 36 specific claims were resolved for \$1.7 billion in settlement compensation to First Nations.

Specific Claims Inventory as of May 31, 2021

Legend:

- 175 claims resolved from January 2016 to May 2021
- 168 claims under assessment
- 359 claims in negotiations



FUNDING INFORMATION

- Beginning in 2019-2020 and up until 2024-2025, an additional \$8 million per year is available for First Nations to support claims research and development, for a total of \$12 million in research funding per year.
- Specific claims research proposals are submitted yearly, with a January 31st deadline. 2021-2022 research proposals are currently being assessed by the Negotiations Support Directorate.
- Research funding can be used to support activities such as archival research, Elder interviews, and legal analysis.
- Research Funding Guidelines and a Workplan Template will be posted to the Specific Claims website in time for the next call for proposals for 2022-2023, to provide a timely, transparent and accessible process for accessing research funding.
- The [Negotiation Loan Funding Guidelines](#) provide information on eligibility requirements and the process to access negotiations loan funding, which can be used to support activities such as legal advice, negotiations travel, and studies or expert reports. A negotiations funding [workplan example](#) is available online.
- Negotiations Support Directorate updates funding guidelines on an ongoing basis and remains open to feedback from First Nations to continually improve how negotiation and research support funding is allocated.
- To provide feedback or for additional information on funding, please contact the Negotiations Support Directorate [here](#).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For information about the role and the process of the Specific Claims Tribunal and its Members, please visit [Specific Claims Tribunal Canada](#).
- For data on specific claims that are in progress as well as claims that have been resolved, please visit the [Reporting Centre on Specific Claims](#).
- Specific Claims Branch Contact Email: aadnc.specificclaims-revendicationsparticulieres.aadnc@canada.ca

SPECIFIC CLAIMS REFORM

- The Government of Canada continues to work with First Nations to reform the Specific Claims process, as set out in the [2019 mandate letter](#) of the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, and re-affirmed in the [2021 mandate letter](#).
- We remain committed to working closely with First Nations and representative organizations such as the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to find fair and practical ways to improve the specific claims process.
- The AFN has published a copy of the "AFN Draft Specific Claims Reform Proposal: Independent Centre for the Resolution of Specific Claims," on the [AFN Website](#) and is inviting feedback from First Nations until August 31, 2021.