First Nations Drinking Water SETTLEMENT

Progress Update on the First Nations Drinking Water Settlement September 2026

Introduction

We are sharing an update on Individual Damages and Specified Injuries claim processing. Below you'll find the latest information on claim processing, what to expect next, and where to get support if you need it.

Individual Damages payments: nearly complete

As of July 2026, more than 90% of Individual Damages claims have been processed, and approximately 89% of eligible claimants have received payment.

For most of the remaining claims in process, we are waiting for additional information from claimants. If you received a request for missing information, please send it before your deadline. Claims may be cancelled if the required information is not received on time. If you are unsure what is needed, please contact the Administrator.

Specified Injuries compensation coming soon

Compensation for Specified Injuries claims will be distributed in late 2026. As outlined in the Settlement Agreement, Eligible Class Members will each receive a proportional share of the fixed $50 million Specified Injuries Compensation Fund.

The $50 million fund has accrued interest over time and will be added to the fund. If there is a surplus after all Individual Damages claims have been paid, it will also be added to the Specified Injuries Compensation Fund and distributed among Eligible Specified Injury Class Members.

Of the nearly 220,000 claims submitted for this Settlement, over 30%, or approximately 70,000 claims, reported that they experienced Harm and included a claim for Specified Injuries. Many Eligible Class Members reported experiencing more than one type of Specified Injury Harm related to long-term drinking water advisories, resulting in approximately 150,000 total individual Harms being claimed.

Current status of Specified Injuries claims

Approximately half of all Specified Injuries claims have been processed. More than 95% of these have been approved. The Administrator began sending out Eligibility Letters for Specified Injuries claims in late 2025 and will continue until all of these claims have been assessed.

What happens next?

Once eligibility has been determined for all Specified Injuries claims and any appeals resolved by the Third-Party Assessor, the Administrator will, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, calculate:

- The total amount in the Specified Injuries Compensation Fund with accrued interest and any surplus funds remaining after all Individual Damages claims have been paid,
- The total number and value of all approved Specified Injuries claims, and
- The Specified Injuries payment amount each approved claimant will receive.

The Administrator expects to begin issuing Specified Injuries payments in late 2026. The payment letter will confirm the Specified Injuries approved for compensation and the amount you will receive. Your compensation amount will be calculated based on the total number of eligible claims, the type of Harm(s) you experienced, the level of Harm, and the amount available in the Specified Injuries Compensation Fund.

If you requested payment by cheque, it will be enclosed with your Specified Injuries Payment Letter. Direct deposits will be issued within three business days of the date on your Specified Injuries Payment Letter.

If you believe there was an error in how your Specified Injuries compensation payment was calculated, you will have 60 days from the date on your Specified Injuries Payment Letter to submit an appeal.

Contacting the Administrator

Claimants are encouraged to contact the Administrator if they have any questions. Please note that at certain times we experience a high volume of calls to our Contact Centre. We answer each call as quickly as possible, and we appreciate your patience. Alternatively, you may wish to submit your question via email, and you will receive an email acknowledgement immediately and a response to your enquiry as soon as possible.

If you have questions or need help, please contact us:

Email: FirstNationsWater@deloitte.ca
Phone: 1-833-252-4220
Hours: Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm EST, except statutory holidays

If you need emotional support, please contact the Hope for Wellness Helpline. Call 1-855-242-3310 or visit www.HopeForWellness.ca.