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**Claims Process Now Open for Historic \$23 Billion Settlement
Acknowledging Discrimination of First Nations Child Welfare System**

(March 10, 2025 – Unceded Algonquin Territory, Ottawa) -- National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak, along with compensation administrator Deloitte, announced today the opening of the first two claims processes for eligible applicants seeking compensation for experiencing discrimination in the First Nations Child and Family Services Program (FNCFS).

“Beginning today, claimants for the Removed Child and Removed Child Family classes can submit their application through a dedicated portal at Deloitte,” said National Chief Woodhouse Nepinak. “You will need valid government-issued identification, a mailing address, and a bank account in their name for compensation deposit. Claims Helpers are standing by to provide trauma-informed support and answer any questions you may have. Deloitte has taken great care to compile the necessary resources to make this final step as seamless as possible.”

Those who may be eligible for compensation under this claims process include First Nations individuals who were removed from their homes as Children between April 1, 1991, and March 31, 2022, while living on reserve or in the Yukon and placed into care funded by Indigenous Services Canada, as well as their Caregiving Parents or Caregiving Grandparents.

To apply for compensation, visit www.fnchildclaims.ca.

“Thanks to the hard work and leadership of many advocates and negotiators, as well as the Administrator, Deloitte, we are finally at the point where compensation can begin reaching those affected by this broken system,” said National Chief Woodhouse Nepinak. “But we must remember that compensation is only one part of Canada’s obligation under the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal orders. It is critical that discriminatory practices end and never happen again. We need Canada to do its part to achieve that goal.”

Additional classes under the settlement agreement will open in phases, as each requires Federal Court Approval based on the unique circumstances of the class. Further information and support resources are available at www.fnchildclaims.ca.

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) is a national advocacy organization that works to advance the collective aspirations of First Nations individuals and communities across Canada on matters of national or international nature and concern.

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