

Annual Report

Indian Claims Commission

Indian Claims Commission Annual Report 2006-2007

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COVER PAGE ARTWORK

Blending of Cultures at K'San, Daphne Odjig, 1983. © Daphne Odjig

TO HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY

In 2006–2007, the Indian Specific Claims Commission completed 7 inquiries and released 2 reports. This report summarizes our major achievements and activities in relation to specific claims last year.

Yours truly,

Renée Dupuis, C.M., Ad.E. Chief Commissioner

Rence Oupries

June 2007



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INTRODUCTION

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Message from the Chief Commissioner

In the fall of 2006, the Indian Claims Commission (ICC) celebrated its 15th anniversary of operation as a commission of inquiry. The Commission was created in 1991, following the Oka crisis, to conduct public inquiries into specific land claims disputes between First Nations and the Government of Canada. Looking back over the past 15 years, the Commission's achievements and contributions in the specific claims area show that it has gained credibility as an independent, neutral body.

Our mandate is to inquire, at the request of a First Nation, into specific claims that have been rejected by the federal government or where the First Nation disputes the compensation criteria being considered in negotiations; and to provide mediation services at the request of one party and with consent of all parties at any stage of the claims process. The ICC's inquiry and mediation processes enable Canada and First Nations to take a fresh look at a specific claim, as well as offering innovative solutions to the parties in their efforts to resolve complex and contentious issues of policy and law.

The ICC operates according to the following principles: 1) independence and impartiality; 2) equity and natural justice; 3) openness and transparency; and 4) importance of oral history. These principles guide us as we conduct our activities and develop and sustain our relationships with First Nations and the Government of Canada.

Over the past 15 years, we have developed a sound reputation for conducting inquiries and providing mediation services in a balanced and neutral manner that favours neither party in the process. As Chief Commissioner, I actively support approaches that address the parties' issues and concerns with the greatest degree of impartiality and independence, so that the credibility of our work and our findings are above reproach. This year, the Commission presented its first stand-alone Report on Plans and Priorities (RPP) to Treasury Board. In previous years, the Commission was represented in Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's RPP. Preparing and submitting our own report enhances the Commission's independence, placing us more firmly at arm's length from the Department of Indian Affairs.

Since our inception in 1991, we have held 69 inquiries involving 76 claims, and issued 65 inquiry reports. We have also provided mediation/facilitation services to 52 specific claim negotiation tables, and completed 11 mediations with reports. We are currently advancing 31 inquiries and 26 mediations. These results make me very proud of what we, a part-time Chief Commissioner and part-time Commissioners and a small team of hard working staff, have been able to achieve together.

We have always put the considerable expertise gained over 15 years of operation at the disposal of parliamentarians. The Commission has testified many times before parliamentary committees charged with studying specific claims issues as well as studying legislation aimed at the creation of a permanent claims resolution body. The latest appearance was last November, during the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples' study of the specific claims process. I believe that the experience and knowledge acquired over the past 15 years would make the Commission the ideal organization to build upon, should a permanent body be created.

We at the Commission see ourselves as bridging different perspectives. The ICC plays a unique role in Canada, as we work between parties with opposing viewpoints during inquiries and with parties having different perspectives during mediations. Despite all of our best efforts, different perspectives will likely continue to characterize the specific claims process in Canada for some time. Therefore, bridging will remain necessary if we are to make collective progress in the resolution of these claims.

As to the immediate future of the Commission, Commissioners and staff are committed to fulfilling our mandate until a permanent, independent claims body is created. We look forward to making a positive contribution to the Indian specific claims process and we will continue to work diligently within our mandate and resources in order to remain effective.

 $^{\circ}\mathsf{O}\mathsf{VER}$ the past 15 YEARS, WE HAVE DEVELOPED A SOUND REPUTATION FOR CONDUCTING INQUIRIES AND PROVIDING MEDIATION SERVICES IN A BALANCED AND NEUTRAL MANNER THAT FAVOURS NEITHER PARTY IN THE PROCESS."

Renée Dupuis, C.M., Ad.E. Chief Commissioner Indian Claims Commission

What's in the Report

This report of the Indian Claims Commission describes the work of the Commission from April 1, 2006, to March 31, 2007. It focuses on the Commission's achievements and its contribution to the settlement of specific land claims that have been rejected by Canada and then submitted by First Nations to the Commission for inquiry. It also makes recommendations to government on how to improve the process.

The report is divided into four sections. The Introduction includes a message from Chief Commissioner Renée Dupuis. This is followed by the Commission's Recommendations. The section entitled Who We Are outlines the mandate and organizational structure of the Commission; provides a brief history of the Commission and specific land claims; and includes biographical sketches of the Commissioners. It is followed by What We Do, the section that constitutes the core of the report, setting out the status of all claims on which the Commission has worked since its inception.

The focus of the report is the summary of claims, which provides information on claims currently before the Commission either in inquiry or in mediation/facilitation. It is followed by a table of claims addressed by the ICC.

The inquiries or mediations completed in 2006–2007 are listed first so that the reader can quickly find the results of work conducted by the Commission over the reporting year. They are followed by summaries of current inquiries and mediations. The Claims Addressed in Inquiries and Mediations Concluded with Reports table tracks the progress of each claim through the specific claims process, once the Commission has completed its inquiry or provided mediation/facilitation services.

Two indexes follow this table. The first is an index of all the claims ICC has addressed, presented by province. The second index lists claims ICC has addressed in inquiries, by theme.





COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENT, 2006–2007

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Recommendations to the government regarding specific claims

Commission's Recommendations to Government, 2006–2007

The long history of the claims process in Canada has been shaped by many events, some of which led directly to the creation of the Indian Claims Commission. Notably, the 1990 Oka crisis prompted the federal government to promise measures aimed at accelerating the settlement of specific claims. In 1991, the Indian Claims Commission was created by Order in Council as a Commission of Inquiry under the *Inquiries Act*. The Order in Council notes that the Commission would be established as an interim process for the review of the government's application of the Specific Claims Policy. The creation of a permanent body has been the subject of joint government/First Nations working groups, and legislation creating such a body received royal assent in 2003 but was not proclaimed. To this day, the ICC remains the only alternative to litigation for First Nations who desire an independent review of the government's rejection of their specific claims.

During its 15 years of operation – conducting inquiries and providing mediation/facilitation services to specific claims negotiation tables – the Commission has gained considerable expertise in the specific claims area. It has often used its annual reports as a vehicle to put this expertise at the government's disposal, to identify potential issues relating to specific claims and to recommend ways in which the government could improve the specific claims process. In its 15th year, the Commission has four recommendations to government, which it believes would, if implemented, contribute to the speedy resolution of specific claims. The first three recommendations were presented by the ICC to the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples in the course of its study on the specific claims process, which was completed in December 2006.

1. The Government of Canada has signed settlement agreements for more than 270 specific claims over the past 30 years; however, more than 850 claims remain in the system. The Commission believes it would be possible to assess groupings of claims, such as treaty rights, flooding claims, claims regarding rights of way over land, surrender claims, or treaty land entitlement claims. The government could then apply the precedents and principles that were generated over the past 30 years of settling these claims to the unresolved claims that are still in the system.

The Commission recommends a grouping of claims in order to apply the precedents and principles that have been generated through 30 years of settling cases.

2. Under its mandate, the Commission provides broad mediation/facilitation services, not just when a claim has been accepted for negotiation, but at any stage of the claims process. Since 1991, the Commission has provided these services to Canada and First Nations. Our experience has been that the use of mediation/facilitation services by the parties – be it before or after the acceptance of a claim by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – greatly increases the chance of a positive outcome, in respect of any matter relating to a specific claim. Open discussion among the parties, in the presence of a neutral third party (the mediator) promotes a better understanding and relationship. In this atmosphere, settlements are easier to reach.

The Commission recommends an increased use of its mediation services, not only for claims that have been accepted and are in the negotiation process, but also for claims at any stage of the process.

3. Over the years, the Commission has noted that some delays in the claims process are caused by a lack of resources, be they lack of personnel or insufficient funds. At times, we've experienced delays awaiting documentation from the parties that was required to proceed with an inquiry or a mediation. This in turn causes additional delays in the process and contributes to the backlog of claims awaiting settlement. We believe that additional resources for all the parties involved in the review of a specific claim, would lead to reductions in the backlog of unsettled claims.

The Commission recommends the allocation of additional resources - for First Nations to conduct research, prepare their claims, and negotiate accepted claims; for officials at Indian and Northern Affairs and the Department of Justice to process claims that are submitted more quickly; and for the Commission to carry out our mandate for inquiries and mediations.

4. Under its mandate, the Commission conducts inquiries into specific claims that have been rejected by the federal government or where a First Nation disputes the compensation criteria being considered in negotiations. Each inquiry is conducted by a panel of three Commissioners who hear the evidence and expert testimony, review the documents, deliberate, and issue recommendations to the Minister of Indian Affairs regarding the claim. When the Indian Claims Commission was created in 1991, a part-time Chief Commissioner was appointed. The appointment of six additional part-time Commissioners soon followed. It was intended that an equal representation of First Nation and non-First Nation Commissioners from different regions across Canada would be achieved. Over the past few years, Commissioners have resigned but no new Commissioners have been appointed to replace them. These vacancies have led to an under-representation in both geographic and First Nation terms and have increased the workload of the remaining Commissioners.

The Commission recommends that the government appoint two additional Commissioners to ensure that the ICC has its full complement of Commissioners.





THE ICC - WHO WE ARE

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Authority, Mandate and Operations

The Indian Claims Commission is a Commission of Inquiry established by Order in Council in 1991 under Part I of the *Inquiries Act*. The Commission has a double mandate: to inquire, at the request of a First Nation, into its specific land claim; and to provide mediation services, with the consent of both parties, for specific claims at any stage of the process. An inquiry may take place when the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada has rejected a First Nation's claim, or when the Minister has accepted the claim for negotiation but a dispute has arisen over the compensation criteria being applied to settle the claim.

As part of its mandate to find more effective ways to resolve specific claims, the Commission has established a process to inquire into and review government decisions regarding the merits of a claim and the applicable compensation principles when negotiations have reached an impasse. Since the Commission is not a court, it is not bound by strict rules of evidence, limitation periods and other technical defences that might present obstacles in litigation of grievances against the Crown. This flexibility removes those barriers and gives the Commission the freedom to conduct fair and objective inquiries in as expeditious a way as possible. In turn, these inquiries offer the parties innovative solutions in their efforts to resolve a host of complex and contentious issues of policy and law. Moreover, the process emphasizes principles of fairness, equity and justice to promote reconciliation and healing between First Nation and non-First Nation Canadians.

"THE PROCESS USED BY THE COMMISSION FOR HANDLING CLAIMS IS AIMED AT INCREASING **EFFICIENCY AND** EFFECTIVENESS IN RESOLVING SPECIFIC CLAIMS."

The Commission provides broad mediation and facilitation services at the request of both the First Nation and the Government of Canada. Together with the mediator, the parties decide how the mediation process will be conducted. This method ensures that the process fits the unique circumstances of each particular negotiation.

The process used by the Commission for handling claims is aimed at increasing efficiency and effectiveness in resolving specific claims. There are five stages to the inquiry process (see page 35) and four stages in the mediation process (see page 55), which begin when a request is received from a First Nation.

History of the ICC and of Specific Claims in Canada

From colonial times through the first half century of Confederation, the federal government and First Nations entered into treaties that created mutual obligations. Many claims derive from the assertion by First Nations that certain treaty provisions have not been honoured by the government. Claims can also derive from breaches of obligation arising out of the *Indian Act* and other statutes, legal duties of the Crown, improper administration of Indian funds or other assets, or illegal disposition of Indian land.

Government policy divides claims into two categories: specific and comprehensive. Specific claims arise from the breach or non-fulfillment of government obligations found in treaties, agreements, or statutes. Comprehensive claims are based on unextinguished Aboriginal title.

In the fall of 1990, in the aftermath of the Oka/Kanesatake crisis, the federal government asked First Nation Chiefs to recommend ways to improve the claims process. Following consultations with their communities, the Chiefs Committee on Claims produced the First Nations Submission on Claims. It received the support of a special assembly of the Assembly of First Nations in December of that year. Among their 27 recommendations, the Chiefs proposed that an "independent and impartial body...with authority to ensure expeditious resolution of claims" be established. This body would assist the negotiation process by bringing the parties together and recommending solutions to contentious issues.

In July 1991, the federal government responded to the Chiefs' submission by creating the Indian Specific Claims Commission as a Commission of Inquiry. Harry S. LaForme served as the first Chief Commissioner until February 1994, when he was appointed a Justice of the Ontario Court (General Division). He was replaced in April 1994 by Commissioners Daniel J. Bellegarde and P.E. James Prentice, who acted as Co-Chairs until Phil Fontaine's appointment as Chief Commissioner in August 2001. In June 2003, Renée Dupuis was appointed Chief Commissioner following Mr Fontaine's resignation.

The mandate of the Indian Claims Commission is to address disputes arising out of the specific claims process. This process is based on Canada's Specific Claims Policy, outlined in a booklet called Outstanding Business, which was published in 1982.

Under the government's current policy, First Nations must research and submit specific claims to the government. The government then decides whether to accept a claim for compensation negotiations.

Negotiation of validated claims may result in an offer of compensation to First Nations. However, concerns have been raised that restitution is currently restricted by government criteria that First Nations often believe to be unfair or applied in ways that are unfair.

For many years, First Nation and government negotiators have attempted to put an end to deadlocked land claims, but there has been little progress. Negotiations have been slow and difficult, and relatively few settlements have been reached. This backlog of unresolved claims is not acceptable.

Before the creation of the Indian Claims Commission, First Nations were unable to challenge government decisions without going to court. As an alternative to court action, the ICC has offered a fresh and positive approach for First Nations that desire an independent review of government decisions.

For many years, the Commission urged the federal government to create a permanent, independent claims body. On November 4, 2003, Parliament passed the *Specific Claims Resolution Act*, legislation to establish the Canadian Centre for the Independent Resolution of First Nations Specific Claims, which has not been proclaimed. In the meantime, the Commission continues to exercise its mandate.

AN EARLY LAND CLAIMS CHRONOLOGY

Early 1700s

The first formal treaties are made with eastern First Nations as the English and French compete for control of the fur trade.

No authentic images of Pontiac are known to exist. This portrait by John Mix Stanley (1814–1872) was painted nearly 100 years after Pontiac's death.



1763

In response to Chief Pontiac's war, an uprising by First Nations around forts in the Great Lakes region, King George III issues the *Royal Proclamation of 1763*, which confirms Aboriginal rights and affirms that treaty making must precede European settlement. Over the next few decades, 41 treaties will be signed covering southern Ontario and parts of British Columbia.

1812

After the War of 1812, treaties between First Nations and the British open up much of Ontario for settlement.

1867

At Canadian Confederation, the responsibilities of the British Crown are transferred to the federal Government of Canada.

1871-77

The first wave of treaty signing between the Government of Canada and First Nations covers northwestern Ontario and the southeastern Prairies. The treaties signed at this time, Treaty 1 to Treaty 7, are known as the Numbered Treaties.

1899-1921

The second wave of Numbered Treaties, covering parts of northern Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan and southern parts of the Northwest Territories, starts with Treaty 8 and ends with Treaty 11.

1927

An amendment is added to the *Indian Act* which discourages land claims. Fines are levied against lawyers who raise funds for a claim or represent a First Nation in a claim against Canada.



Cree examining map with surveyor, Fishing Lake, Saskatchewan. (Photo courtesy of Glenbow Archives NA-3454-30)

EVENTS LEADING TO THE CREATION OF THE COMMISSION

1948

A joint parliamentary committee recommends that a claims commission be set up to assess and settle all claims.

1951

The *Indian Act* is revised to remove the provision that made it an offence to raise funds or hire a lawyer to advance a land claim without the government's permission.

1961-65

A joint parliamentary committee again recommends the creation of a claims body. The bill dies on the order paper.

1969

The White Paper introduces the term "specific claim" based on "lawful obligation." The paper recommends the creation of an independent claims body. Dr Lloyd Barber is appointed to explore the creation of an impartial claims body.

1973

The Supreme Court of Canada's decision in the Calder case recognizes the existence of Aboriginal title.

The federal government announces its claims policy, designating specific and comprehensive claims.

1981

Gérard La Forest, in a report commissioned by the government, recommends the creation of "an independent administrative tribunal" to resolve claims.



Frank Calder, Prime Minister P.E. Trudeau and Indian Affairs Minister Jean Chrétien. The Calder decision had immediate and far-reaching effects on Canadian policy with respect to Aboriginal title. Its acknowledgement of Aboriginal title led to the re-founding of a treaty process in Canada, and ultimately to the Nisga'a Treaty and the BC Treaty Process.

1982

Canada publishes Outstanding Business: A Native Claims Policy - Specific Claims, which focuses on the processes and guidelines for submitting specific claims.

The Constitution Act, 1982, is proclaimed. Section 35 deals with Aboriginal peoples and recognizes and affirms existing Aboriginal and treaty rights.

1984

In the Guerin case, the Supreme Court finds that, under the provisions of the Indian Act, Parliament has conferred on the Crown a fiduciary or trust-like obligation to protect First Nations' interests in transactions with third parties.

1987

The Canadian Bar Association recommends the creation of a "specific claims tribunal."

1990



Elijah Harper. (CP PICTURE ARCHIVE/ Winnipeg Free Press/ Wayne Glowacki)

The Supreme Court, in its comments on the Sparrow case, recognized an existing Aboriginal right to fish based on the facts of that case, and interpreted section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, for the first time.

Elijah Harper helps to block the Meech Lake accord over lack of Aboriginal participation.

Violence erupts in Oka, Quebec, over a rejected land claim.

The federal government announces its Native Agenda, committing it to the acceleration of specific claims settlement.

The Indian Commission of Ontario, in a discussion paper commissioned by the federal government and the Assembly of First Nations, recommends the creation of an independent claims body.

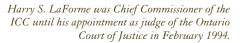


Oka standoff. (CP Photo Ryan Remiorz)

The Chiefs Committee on Claims (Assembly of First Nations) also recommends the creation of an independent claims body and of a Joint Working Group on Claims to continue exploring reform of the claims policy with the federal government.

1991

The Indian Specific Claims Commission, known as the Indian Claims Commission, is created by Order in Council PC 1991-1329, and Harry S. LaForme is appointed Chief Commissioner.





1992

The Commission's mandate is amended by Order in Council PC 1992-1730 following objections from the Assembly of First Nations, and revisions recommended by a Joint First Nations / Government Working Group are incorporated. Six additional Commissioners are appointed: Roger Augustine, Daniel J. Bellegarde, Carole Corcoran, Carol Dutcheshen, Charles Hamelin and P.E. James Prentice.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS...

1995

The Supreme Court hands down its decision in the *Apsassin* case. In its decision, the Court contemplates a number of scenarios in which a pre-surrender fiduciary duty would come into effect: when a band's understanding of the terms of surrender is inadequate; where the conduct of the Crown has tainted dealings in a manner that makes it unsafe to rely on the band's understanding and intention; where the band has abnegated its decision-making authority in favour of the Crown in relation to the surrender; and where the surrender is so foolish or improvident as to be conside red exploitive.

1997

In the *Delgamuukw* case, the Supreme Court finds that to disallow First Nations' oral history and tradition as evidence would put an impossible burden of proof on Aboriginal peoples, since that is the way First Nations kept records. The Court also addresses directly the definition of Aboriginal title; it finds that a First Nation has a right to claim "Aboriginal title" to lands that it has used in order to maintain its traditional way of life. Aboriginal title comes from a nation's use and occupancy of the land for generations; it is therefore a communal right that cannot be held by an individual.

1999



Phil Fontaine was Chief Commissioner of the ICC from 2001–2003. The Supreme Court hands down the *Marshall* decision. Given the language contained in a treaty between the Crown and the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet communities in New Brunswick, the Court finds that Donald Marshall Jr did have a right to earn a "moderate livelihood" from selling his catch of eels.

2001

The First Nations Governance Initiative is introduced by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), at the Siksika First Nation in Alberta. The package of legislation contains the *Specific Claims Resolution Act*, which would create the Canadian Centre for the Independent Resolution of First Nations Specific Claims. This Centre would replace the Indian Claims Commission.

In August, Phil Fontaine is appointed Chief Commissioner of the ICC.

2003

In June, Mr Fontaine resigns as Chief Commissioner and is replaced by Renée Dupuis.

In November, the *Specific Claims Resolution Act* is adopted and receives royal assent, but the legislation is not proclaimed.

2004

In July, Order in Council amendment PC 2004-858 designated the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada as the appropriate minister for the ICC for purposes of the *Financial Administration Act*.

THE COMMISSIONERS



Chief Commissioner Renée Dupuis has had a private law practice in Quebec City since 1973 where she specializes in the areas of Aboriginal peoples, human rights, and administrative law. Since 1972, she has served as legal advisor to a number of First Nations and Aboriginal groups in her home province, including the Indians of Quebec Association, the Assembly of First Nations for Quebec and Labrador, and the Attikamek and the Innu-Montagnais First Nations, representing them in their land claims negotiations with the federal, Quebec, and Newfoundland governments and in constitutional negotiations. From 1989 to 1995, Madame Dupuis served two terms as commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission and she is chair of the Barreau du Québec's committee on law relating to

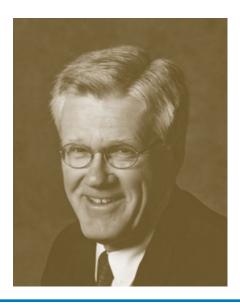
Aboriginal peoples. She has served as consultant to various federal and provincial government agencies, authored numerous books and articles, and lectured extensively on administrative law, human rights, and Aboriginal rights. She is the recipient of the 2001 Award of the Fondation du Barreau du Québec for her book Le statut juridique des peuples autochtones en droit canadien (Carswell), the 2001 Governor General's Literary Award for Non-fiction for her book Quel Canada pour les Autochtones? (published in English by James Lorimer & Company Publishers under the title Justice for Canada's Aboriginal Peoples), and the YWCA's Women of Excellence Award 2002 for her contribution to the advancement of women's issues. In June 2004, the Barreau du Québec bestowed on her the Christine Tourigny Merit Award for her contribution to the promotion of legal knowledge, particularly in the field of Aboriginal rights. She was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 2005. Madame Dupuis is a graduate in law from the Université Laval and holds a master's degree in public administration from the École nationale d'administration publique. She was appointed Commissioner of the Indian Claims Commission on March 28, 2001, and Chief Commissioner on June 10, 2003.





Daniel J. Bellegarde is a member of the Little Black Bear First Nation in southern Saskatchewan. Educated at the Qu'Appelle Indian Residential School and the University of Regina's Faculty of Administration, he has also received specialty training at various universities and professional development institutions. Mr Bellegarde has held several senior positions with First Nations organizations, including socio-economic planner for the Meadow Lake Tribal Council and president of the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies. He was first Vice-Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, holding the treaty land entitlement and specific claims portfolio, as well as the gaming, justice, international affairs and self-government portfolios. He is currently the president and senior governance coordinator of the Treaty 4 Governance Institute, an organization mandated to work with Treaty 4 First Nations to develop and implement appropriate governance processes and structures. He has served on various boards and committees at the community, provincial and national levels, including the Canadian Executive Service Organization. Mr Bellegarde was appointed Commissioner of the Indian Claims Commission on July 27, 1992, and continues to serve in this capacity. He also served as Co-Chair of the Commission, from 1994 to 2000.

Jane Dickson-Gilmore is an associate professor in the Law Department at Carleton University, where she teaches such subjects as Aboriginal community and restorative justice, as well as conflict resolution. Active in First Nations communities, she serves as an advisor for the Oujé-Bougoumou Cree First Nation Community Justice Project and makes presentations to schools on Aboriginal culture, history, and politics. In the past, she provided expert advice to the Smithsonian Institution – National Museum of the American Indian on Kahnawake Mohawks. Ms Dickson-Gilmore has also been called upon to present before the Standing Committee of Justice and Human Rights and has been an expert witness in proceedings before the Federal Court and the Canadian Human Rights Commission. A published author and winner of numerous academic awards, she graduated from the London School of Economics with a PhD in law and holds a BA and MA in criminology from Simon Fraser University. Ms Dickson-Gilmore was appointed Commissioner of the Indian Claims Commission on October 31, 2002.

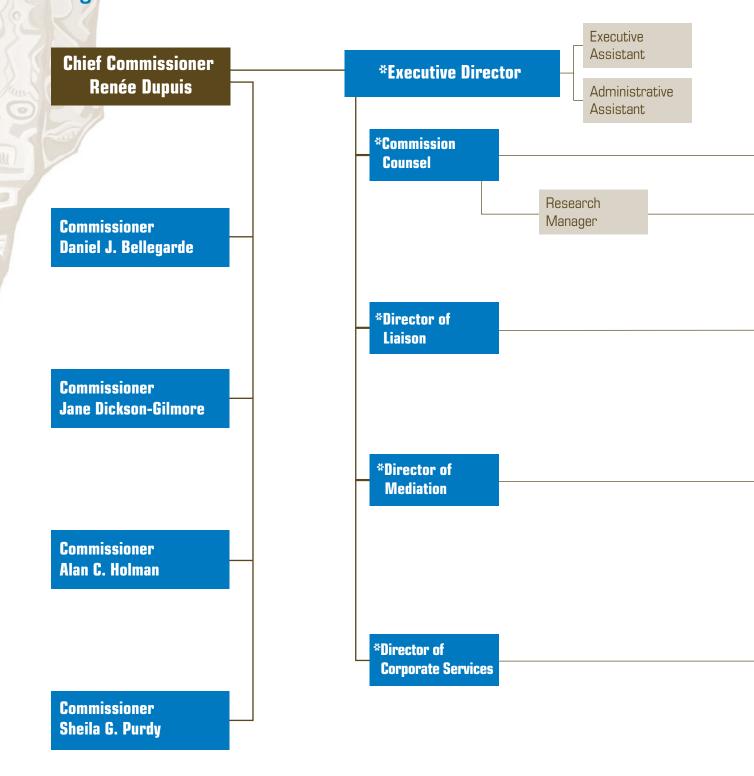




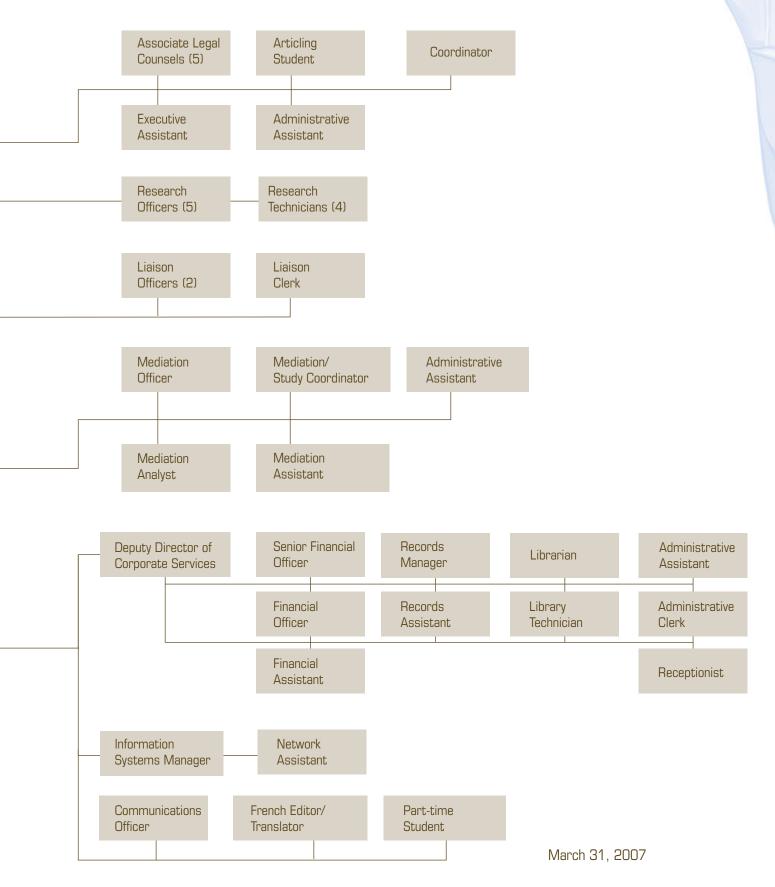
Alan C. Holman is a writer and broadcaster who grew up on Prince Edward Island. In his long journalistic career, he has been an instructor at Holland College in Charlottetown, PEI; editor-publisher of a weekly newspaper in rural PEI; a radio reporter with CBC in Inuvik, NWT; and a reporter for the Charlottetown Guardian, Windsor Star, and Ottawa Citizen. From 1980 to 1986, he was Atlantic parliamentary correspondent for CBC-TV news in Ottawa. In 1987, he was appointed parliamentary bureau chief for CBC radio news, a position he held until 1994. That same year, he left national news reporting to become principal secretary to then-PEI Premier Catherine Callbeck. He left the premier's office in 1995 to head public sector development for the PEI Department of Development. Since the fall of 2000, Mr Holman has worked as a freelance writer and broadcaster. He was educated at King's College School in Windsor, NS, and Prince of Wales College in Charlottetown, where he makes his home. He was appointed Commissioner of the Indian Claims Commission on March 28, 2001.

Sheila G. Purdy was born and raised in Ottawa. Between 1996 and 1999, she worked as an advisor to the government of the Northwest Territories on the creation of the Nunavut territory. Between 1993 and 1996, she was senior policy advisor to the Minister of Justice and the Attorney General of Canada on matters related to the Criminal Code and Aboriginal affairs. In the early 1990s, Ms Purdy was also special advisor on Aboriginal affairs to the Leader of the Opposition. Previously, she provided legal services on environmental matters and worked as a legal aid lawyer representing victims of elder abuse. After graduating with a law degree from the University of Ottawa in 1980, Ms Purdy worked as a litigation lawyer in private practice until 1985. Her undergraduate degree is from Carleton University, Ottawa. Ms Purdy is on the executive of the Canadian Biodiversity Institute, the Advisory Council of Canadian Arctic Resources Committee, and the Women's Legal, Education and Action Fund (LEAF). She was appointed Commissioner of the Indian Claims Commission on May 4, 1999.

Organizational Structure



^{*} denotes member of Management Committee







THE ICC - WHAT WE DO

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Claims Addressed in Inquiries and Mediations Concluded with Reports as of March 31, 2007 Table providing information on the status of each claim addressed in inquiries and each mediation the ICC has completed

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OVERVIEW OF THE ICC'S ACTIVITIES FROM 1991 TO 2007

What you'll find in this section:

Overview of the ICC's Activities from 1991 to 2007 28

Quick facts on ICC's inquiries, 1991-2007

Quick facts on claims in mediation/facilitation

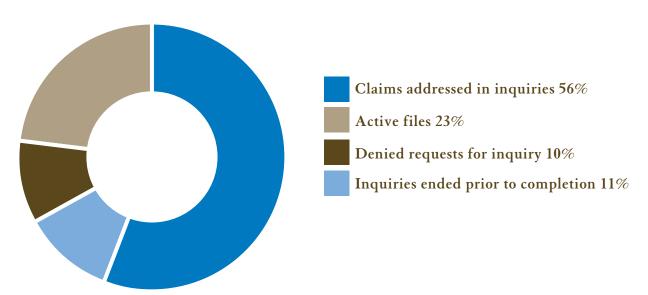
Overview of the ICC's Activities from 1991 to 2007

The following section represents an overview of the various specific claims submitted to the ICC. Since its inception in 1991, the Commission has held 69 inquiries involving 76 claims, and issued 65 inquiry reports. It has also provided mediation/facilitation services to 52 specific claim negotiation tables and issued 11 mediation reports.

QUICK FACTS ON ICC INQUIRIES

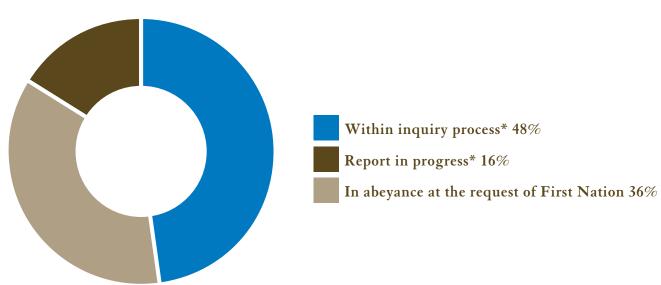
Total requests for inquiry	136
Total accepted requests for inquiry	122
Total denied requests for inquiry	14
Total accepted requests for inquiry	122
Active files (see summaries of each file provided in following section)	31
Reports in progress	5
Within inquiry process	15
In abeyance at the request of First Nation	11
Inquiries ended prior to completion	15
Ended at request of the First Nation	4
Ended by the ICC owing to lack of file activity	11
Claims addressed in inquiries (for more information, see page 69)	76

ICC's Total Requests for Inquiry, 1991-2007



The pie chart above contains a breakdown of the 136 requests for inquiry received by the ICC since its inception in 1991.

ACTIVE FILES, 2006-2007



^{* &}quot;Within inquiry process" refers to stages 1 through 4 and "Report in progress" to stage 5 of the ICC's inquiry process. For more information on these stages, please see chart on page 35.

The pie chart above provides a breakdown of the status of the 31 claims that were under review by the ICC from April 1, 2006, to March 31, 2007.

OUTCOMES OF CLAIMS ADDRESSED BY THE ICC IN INQUIRIES

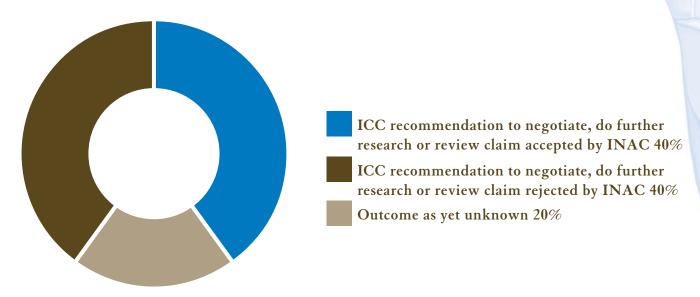
ICC recommends to negotiate, do further research or review claim	47
ICC recommends not to negotiate	8
Claims withdrawn, settled or accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	21

OUTCOMES OF CLAIMS ADDRESSED BY THE ICC IN INQUIRIES, 1991-2007



The pie chart above provides information regarding the outcome of claims addressed by the ICC in inquiries, from 1991 to March 31, 2007. For more information regarding the status of these claims, see page 69.



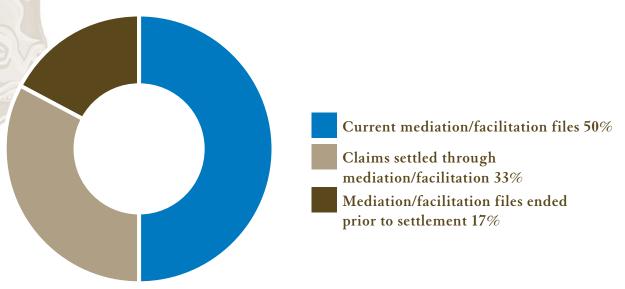


The pie chart above provides information on the follow up by government to the 47 claims ICC has recommended be accepted for negotiation, that further research be conducted or that claim be reviewed. For more information on the status of claims addressed by the ICC in inquiries, see page 69.

QUICK FACTS ON ICC MEDIATION/FACILITATION

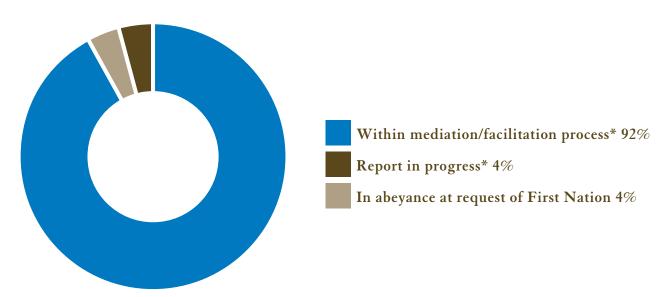
otal requests for mediation/facilitation	
Current mediation/facilitation files	26
Claims settled through mediation/facilitation	17
Mediation/facilitation files ended to prior settlement	9





The pie chart above provides a breakdown of the 52 requests for ICC's mediation/facilitation services received since 1991.

CURRENT MEDIATION/FACILITATION FILES



^{* &}quot;Within mediation/facilitation process" refers to stages 1 through 3 and "Report in Progress" to stage 4 of the ICC's mediation process. For more information on these stages, please see chart on page 55.

The pie chart above provides a breakdown of the status of the 26 claims that were in mediation at the ICC from April 1, 2006, to March 31, 2007.

THE ICC'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2006-2007 INQUIRIES

What you'll find in this section:

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Introduction and definitions

35 The Inquiry Process

Chart of ICC's inquiry process

Inquiries Completed in 2006-2007 36

Summarizes each inquiry completed by the ICC in 2006–2007

41 Summary of Specific Claims in Inquiry between April 1, 2006, and March 31, 2007

Describes each claim in inquiry at the ICC and lists the ICC's activities over the past year within each file

What Are Inquiries?

Inquiries may take place at the request of a First Nation when:

- 1) the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) has rejected the First Nation's claim; or
- 2) the Minister has accepted the claim for negotiation, but a dispute has arisen over the compensation criteria being applied to settle the claim.

Inquiries can be initiated at the sole request of the First Nation, provided the request relates to a rejected claim or a dispute over compensation criteria. After receiving a First Nation's request for an inquiry, an initial planning conference is held between the parties to plan the process. This first conference is followed by a series of stages. One such stage, the community session, is an important part of the inquiry process whereby, upon consent of the community, the Commission will visit the First Nation to hear directly from Elders and other community members in regard to the claim. The community session is followed by an oral hearing at which legal arguments surrounding the claim are made by the First Nation and Canada. Following this, the record will be closed and the Commissioners will deliberate; their deliberations will lead to a formal report containing the Commissioners' findings and recommendations. The report is intended to offer Canada an opportunity, where appropriate, to reconsider its initial position on the claim.

These five stages, which make up the Commission's inquiry process, are illustrated in the chart which follows.

The Inquiry Process

Stage 1	Initial Request for Inquiry
	The Commission reviews the First Nation's request for an independent inquiry and, if it agrees to accept the specific claim for review and assessment, a panel of three Commissioners is formed to hear the inquiry.
Stage 2	Preparation for Inquiry
	Briefing material is prepared and sent to all of the parties in advance to facilitate discussion. Counsel for both parties are asked to state the issues to be addressed by the inquiry, from which the Commission staff will attempt, in consultation with counsel for the parties, to generate a single list of issues. A planning conference is held among the parties and their counsel. In many instances, the need for further research is identified. If there is no consensus by the parties on a single list of issues, this matter is placed before the panel for decision.
Stage 3	Staff Visit and Community Session(s)
	Commissioners and staff attend a session or series of sessions in the First Nation's community to hear directly from Elders and other knowledgeable members of the First Nation. In some instances, expert witnesses may be called upon to present evidence or testimony and are subject to cross examination by the other party.
Stage 4	Written and Oral Submissions
	Both parties present submissions to the panel.
Stage 5	Commissioners' Final Report
	The panel of Commissioners considers the evidence, testimony and submissions presented and issues a final report that contains its findings and recommendation that the Minister of INAC accept the specific claim for negotiation, or that the Minister of INAC not reconsider the decision to deny the specific claim.

Inquiries Completed in 2006–2007

Under its mandate, the Indian Claims Commission inquires, upon request, into First Nations' specific land claims. From April 1, 2006, to March 31, 2007, the Commission completed inquiries on the Blood Tribe/Kainaiwa, Big Claim; the Cowessess First Nation, 1907 surrender – Phase II; the James Smith Cree Nation, Treaty land entitlement; the Kluane First Nation, Kluane Game Sanctuary and Kluane National Park Reserve creation; the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Streets and lanes; the Paul Indian Band, Kapasiwin townsite; and the Sakimay First Nation, Treaty land entitlement. Summaries of these seven inquiries, completed within the 2006–2007 reporting period, can be found below. Reports on the Cowessess First Nation, 1907 surrender and the James Smith Cree Nation, Treaty land entitlement inquiries were issued in this reporting period; reports on the other completed inquiries will be issued in the 2007–2008 fiscal year.

In addition, the Commission released reports on three inquiries completed in previous reporting periods. These are the Blueberry River First Nation and Doig River First Nation: Highway right of way Indian Reserve (IR) 172 claim; the Taku River Tlingit First Nation, Wenah specific claim; and the Williams Lake Indian Band, Village site claim. These and all of the Commission's reports, can be found on our website at www.indianclaims.ca.

Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa

Big Claim, Alberta

In February 2003, the Commission accepted the request of the Blood Tribe to conduct an inquiry into its rejected claim to over 260 kilometres adjacent to its present reserve. A planning conference was held in August 2003, and community sessions were held in June and August 2004 on the Blood Reserve. Oral arguments were heard in Lethbridge in October 2005.

This claim involves the area between the Kootenay (Waterton) and Belly Rivers, the location of the southern boundary of the reserve, and an outstanding treaty land entitlement. The panel concluded that, although a reserve in the Blood Tribe's home base was not formally set aside by Treaty 7, the Crown was nevertheless obligated to set aside a reserve for the Blood Tribe. Historical events show that the Crown and the Blood Tribe agreed that the reserve would at least be located within the Blood Tribe's home base and subject to the other terms of Treaty 7, including the treaty land entitlement formula. From the panel's perspective, the Blood Tribe held what could be described as a cognizable interest in its lands in the home base.

With respect to the surrender of the Blood Tribe's interest in the Bow River reserve, the panel found that a surrender was required. The panel further found that the statutory requirements of a meeting and a vote on the surrender did not take place, and, as a result, the *Indian Act* was breached. However, the effect of a breach of these statutory requirements is technical in nature and does not render the surrender invalid. In examining whether a breach of fiduciary duty occurred with respect to the surrender, the panel concluded that the Blood Tribe did not abnegate its decision-making power and that the surrender was not an exploitative bargain. No breach of fiduciary duty occurred with respect to the surrender.

As for when the Blood Tribe's reserve was established, the panel concluded that John Nelson's 1882 survey established the reserve. Although the panel is mindful that the 1883 survey is acknowledged as confirming the reserve, the panel stated that the circumstances surrounding the 1883 survey warrant careful examination. Because the reserve was established in 1882, a surrender was necessary in 1883 to move the southern boundary. Also, the panel concluded that the Crown failed to fulfill its fiduciary obligations with respect to the movement of the southern boundary.

With respect to the treaty land entitlement (TLE) portion of this inquiry, the panel noted that the parties had agreed to limit their arguments to the date of first survey (DOFS) only and not address the remaining TLE issues. As the panel had concluded that the Blood Tribe's reserve was established in 1882, the panel also concluded that the DOFS is 1882.

Cowessess First Nation

1907 surrender – Phase II, Saskatchewan

The Cowessess First Nation submitted a specific claim in 1981, supplemented between 1984 and 1992, in respect of the 1907 surrender of a portion of its reserve, alleging invalidity of the surrender, fiduciary breach, fraud, and unconscionable conduct. The claim was rejected in 1994, and in August 1996, at the request of the First Nation, the ICC agreed to conduct an inquiry into the rejected claim. By agreement of the parties and the Commission, the inquiry was split into two phases.

In Phase I, the Commission held that a valid surrender vote had not been obtained, but Canada did not accept its recommendation to negotiate the claim. Phase II therefore proceeded, in October 2002, to address the fiduciary issue. The new panel, struck for Phase II, did not, at the First Nation's request, conduct a community session, and legal arguments were heard in September 2004. The inquiry focused on whether the Crown breached its fiduciary duty in the surrender of the southern portion of the Crooked Lake Reserve, IR 73. The southern portion of the reserve, within six miles of the railway, comprising 41 per cent of the reserve, was surrendered.

The Cowessess Band lived, farmed and raised livestock in the north of the reserve and used the southern portion to cut wild hay for its livestock. The First Nation alleged that the Crown breached its fiduciary duty by responding to pressure from settlers, who wanted the land nearest the railway, and that it failed to act in the Band's best interests.

The majority of the panel held that there was no breach; the band members understood the consequences of the surrender, and government officials did not deceive or unduly influence the Band.

The minority found that the best interests of the Band were not served by government failure to protect the reserve land; the settlers, not the Band, benefited in the long term from the surrender.

James Smith Cree Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Saskatchewan

Indian Reserve (IR) 100 was surveyed for the James Smith Band in 1884, as promised by Treaty 6. In 1902, Canada amalgamated the James Smith Band with the "owners of Cumberland Reserve No. 100A," known as the Peter Chapman Band. In the early 1980s, the James Smith Cree Nation submitted an outstanding treaty land entitlement claim. Canada rejected the claim in 1984, stating that the entitlement was met as a result of the 1902 amalgamation of the James Smith Band at IR 100 and the Cumberland Band at IR 100A.

In June 1999, the Commission agreed to conduct an inquiry into the rejected claim. Canada objected to the scope of the inquiry and argued that the First Nation was advancing new issues not previously considered by the Minister. The Commission ruled in May 2000 that it would proceed with an inquiry into all issues raised by the First Nation, but that Canada would have time to respond to them. In November 2003, the Commission agreed to deliver its findings on Issue 9, the amalgamation, Canada being given time to respond to the remaining issues. In June 2004, argument was heard on Issue 9, and the Commission issued a report in March 2005, finding the amalgamation invalid, as the consent of the whole of the Cumberland Band had not ben sought.

In April 2006, the panel heard argument on the remaining issues: population, land quality and lands occupied prior to treaty. The panel found Canada owes no obligation to the James Smith Cree Nation regarding the quality of land selected as IR 100 or for lands occupied by James Smith prior to treaty. The panel also found that as a result of the transfer of IR 100A when the Cumberland Band was amalgamated with the James Smith Band, the James Smith Cree Nation today has more land than required by Treaty 6, IR 100A remaining in its possession. In its report issued in March 2007, the panel concluded that no land entitlement is owed to the James Smith Cree Nation, but that there is an outstanding obligation owed to the Cumberland House Cree Nation.

Reports issued by the Commission in March 2005 concluded three of the four separate but concurrent inquiries into claims by the James Smith Cree Nation and the Cumberland House Cree Nation involving Indian Reserves 98, 100 and 100A. The release of the James Smith Cree Nation Treaty Land Entitlement Inquiry report brought to a close the final inquiry. For more information on these reports, please visit the Indian Claims Commission website at http://www.indianclaims.ca/publications/claimsreports-en.asp.

Kluane First Nation

Kluane Game Sanctuary and Kluane National Park Reserve creation, Yukon

In October 1996, the Kluane First Nation submitted a claim, alleging that Canada breached its fiduciary obligations by establishing the Kluane Game Sanctuary and, later, the Kluane National Park, and by denying it access to its traditional territory in these areas. In March 1999, INAC rejected the claim on the grounds that the claim was based on the assertion of unextinguished Aboriginal title.

In October 1999, the Commission opened an inquiry into the claim at the request of the First Nation. Canada challenged the Commission's jurisdiction to hold the inquiry. Following a hearing in September 2000, the Commission issued a ruling maintaining that the claim fell within its mandate, and a community session was held in February 2002. However, the claim was resolved by the completion of the Kluane First Nation Final and Self-Government Agreements, in effect February 2004. The inquiry was therefore concluded with no findings being made.

Opaskwayak Cree Nation

Streets and lanes claims, Manitoba

In September 1976, The Pas Band, now the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, submitted a claim alleging inadequate compensation for the streets and lanes in the The Pas townsite, established on land surrendered from IR 21A, as well as improper use of band funds to clear the streets and lanes. This claim was rejected, and the band funds claim was resubmitted in May 1986. Following a second rejection, the First Nation requested that the Commission conduct an inquiry into both claims, which began in September 2002.

As a result of further research conducted during the course of the inquiry, it became apparent that, although expenditure of band funds for clearing had been authorized, no funds had been spent. On the basis of further research, the Opaskwayak Cree Nation withdrew the wrongful alienation portion of the streets and lanes claim in December 2004. The inquiry therefore concluded without any findings being made.

Paul Indian Band

Kapasiwin townsite, Alberta

In June 1996, the First Nation submitted a specific claim to Canada regarding the mismanagement of the sale of IR 133B. Canada accepted the claim for negotiation in July 1998, but the First Nation did not agree with the basis on which Canada was willing to negotiate compensation. In 2001, the First Nation requested that the Commission conduct an inquiry into which criteria should be applied to determine compensation. The First Nation also submitted a second, related claim in 2000 regarding the wrongful surrender of Kapasiwin townsite.

Following an April 2002 planning conference, the parties agreed to adjourn the inquiry into the compensation criteria claim and await Canada's findings on the Kapasiwin surrender claim, which was eventually rejected in July 2003. The First Nation then requested that the ICC conduct an inquiry into its compensation criteria claim. The issues relating to this claim were finalized by the parties in January 2004. Further documents were submitted by both the First Nation and Canada, and a community session was held in October 2004. Oral submissions were heard in May 2005 in Edmonton.

The inquiry focused broadly on two central issues, the surrender of IR 133B and the mismanagement of this sale. The panel concluded that the surrender of IR 133B was valid, in that it met the terms of the *Indian Act* and that there was no breach of fiduciary duty on the part of the Crown in the taking of the surrender. The panel found that there had been no failure on the part of the Crown to follow its own policy regarding surrenders, as there was no written policy in place at the time.

The panel concluded that the Band had intended to surrender the mines and minerals, and that it had been well informed about the potential of the surrendered lands for use either as a resort community or as a railway station. The fact that a railway station was not built was not a breach of fiduciary duty on the part of the Crown.

The panel also found that there was no breach of fiduciary duty by the Crown in its management of the lot sales between 1906 and 1912 and that it acted in what it reasonably concluded were the best interests of the Band in the management of the sale.

Although the issue of compensation criteria was the initial basis of the inquiry, the panel declined to deal with it on the ground that there was insufficient evidence on which to do so.

Sakimay First Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Saskatchewan

The Sakimay First Nation submitted a claim to Canada in 1997, in which it was argued that the treaty land entitlement owed to the First Nation had not been fulfilled. Having received no response to its claim by May 2000, the First Nation requested that the Commission hold an inquiry on the grounds that the delay should be deemed a rejection. Upon being informed by Canada that its confirming research would likely be completed by December 2000, the First Nation chose not to pursue its request for an inquiry.

Canada's research was sent to the First Nation in January 2002, and the First Nation's claim was rejected. In July 2003, the First Nation renewed its request for an inquiry, which was accepted in September 2003. The Commission proposed a joint research project. This proposal was accepted by both parties, and a report was completed by August 2004. Based on this additional research, the First Nation made a submission to Canada in October 2004.

Based on Canada's review of the October 2004 submission, further research was conducted. By the end of June 2006, the parties believed they had exhausted the research, and the First Nation requested that Canada complete its review process. The review was completed by the end of August 2006, and the Minister accepted the claim in September 2006.

This TLE claim is intricately connected to the First Nation's history. The modern-day Sakimay First Nation is a combination of the Sakimay or Mosquito Band and the Little Bone Band. Sakimay or Mosquito, was Chief of a Band that received annuity payments with Waywayseecappo's Band

for six years following the conclusion of Treaty 4. A reserve for Sakimay was originally surveyed in 1876 on the north shore of Crooked Lake; however, the survey of the southern boundary was never completed, and the reserve was never confirmed. In 1881, a separate paylist was created for the Sakimay Band and IR 74 was surveyed for the Band on the south side of Crooked Lake. Also in 1881, Sakimay passed away. After his death, the Sakimay Band split into two groups. One group, led by Yellow Calf, occupied the south side of the reserve, while the other group, led by Shesheep, occupied the north side of the reserve. IR 74A, consisting of 1,651.2 acres on the north side of Crooked Lake, was set aside in 1884. In 1889, additional lands were added to this reserve and its size was confirmed as 3,584 acres.

By 1887, the Sakimay First Nation had developed close ties with the Little Bone Band, which occupied IR 73A on Leech Lake, near the Sakimay reserve. The Department of Indian Affairs acknowledged that the two bands had informally amalgamated and, in 1907, proceeded to formalize the amalgamation. A surrender of the Little Bone reserve resulted.

Summary of Specific Claims in Inquiry Between April 1, 2006, and March 31, 2007

This section provides a summary of the Commission's activities in each of the 31 claims in inquiry during the 2006-2007 fiscal year. The First Nation, the title of the claim and the province in which the claim is geographically situated are followed by a description of the issues and the Commission's progress in each of the files during the year.

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation

Compensation criteria for agricultural benefits, Alberta

The First Nation's request for an inquiry into the compensation criteria applicable to its claim was accepted by the Commission in September 2003. The First Nation had submitted the claim in February 1994 and Canada accepted it for negotiation in May 1998, but later suspended the negotiations. A planning conference was held in March 2004; however, Canada subsequently decided not to participate in the inquiry. In April 2004, the First Nation commenced court action to compel Canada to negotiate. The court action was discontinued when Canada agreed to resume negotiations. The inquiry has been placed in abeyance, at the request of the First Nation, pending the outcome of these negotiations.

Blueberry River First Nation and Doig River First Nation

Compensation criteria – Highway right of way – IR 172 claim, British Columbia

Canada accepted the claim of these First Nations for negotiation in September 2004, but the parties disagreed on the compensation criteria applicable to the claim. In March 2005, the Commission accepted the request of the First Nations to conduct an inquiry into which compensation criteria apply. At the request of the First Nations, the claim has been placed into abeyance pending negotiation with Canada about the applicable criteria.

This claim was the subject of a previous inquiry: the Blueberry River First Nation and Doig River First Nation, Highway right of way IR 172. See Claims Addressed in Inquiries and Mediations Concluded with Reports on page 69.

Carry the Kettle First Nation

1905 surrender, Saskatchewan

The First Nation claims that a surrender of 5,760 acres of the Assiniboine reserve taken in 1905 is invalid.

Its claim was rejected, and in 1994 the Commission began an inquiry into the claim. The community session was held in October 1995. In August 1998, the First Nation requested that the claim be put in abeyance until the Commission completed its inquiry into the Cypress Hills claim. The report on that inquiry was released by the Commission in July 2000. In October 2004, the First Nation requested that the Commission resume the inquiry into the surrender.

A staff visit was held in October 2005 and a community session was conducted in July 2006. An oral hearing is expected for fall 2007.

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

Ontario Hydro right of way, Ontario

The Chippewas of the Thames First Nation alleges that the Crown has an outstanding lawful obligation with respect to an easement it granted to the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission in 1926 and renewed in 1959.

The Commission agreed to conduct an inquiry in September 2006, and a planning conference will be scheduled to agree on the issues and next steps.

Esketemc First Nation

Wright's Meadows pre-emption claim, British Columbia

In September 2004, the Commission accepted the request of the First Nation to conduct an inquiry into its claim respecting the pre-emption by a settler, in 1893, of land it maintains was an "Indian settlement." The staff visit took place in January 2006, followed by the community session in April 2006. Additional oral evidence given by an Elder was recorded in July 2006, and a site visit was also conducted at that time. Written submissions have been received, and the parties are preparing for oral submissions.

Kitselas First Nation

Railway specific claim, British Columbia

The Kitselas First Nation alleges that the Crown breached its fiduciary obligations by unlawfully expropriating lands for the construction of a railway and tramway through Kitselas reserves IR1, IR2, and IR4.

The First Nation's claim was accepted for inquiry in September 2006, and a planning conference was conducted in March 2007. A community session will be held in the fall.

Lheidli T'enneh Band

Surrender Fort George IR 1, British Columbia

In December 2003, the Commission accepted the request of the First Nation to conduct an inquiry into its rejected claim respecting the surrender in 1911 of its reserve, in what is now downtown Prince George, for sale to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. A planning conference was held in June 2004, and Canada's documents were received in February 2005.

Following the planning conference, the inquiry became dormant as the First Nation concentrated on its treaty negotiations. This inquiry has become active again now that the treaty negotiations have concluded.

Lower Similkameen Indian Band

Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway right of way, British Columbia

In April 2003, the Commission accepted the Band's request to conduct an inquiry into its rejected claim regarding the taking of a railway right of way through its reserves by the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company in 1905. A planning conference was held in September 2003 and a community session in April 2004. Written legal submissions were completed by the end of 2004, and an oral session was held in January 2005. The panel is currently completing its report.

Lucky Man Cree Nation

Treaty land entitlement – Phase II, Saskatchewan

In March 1997, the Commission issued a report on Phase I of this inquiry, recommending that 1887 be used as the date of first survey (DOFS) of IR 116, for calculating the Lucky Man Band's treaty land entitlement population. The panel recommended that the parties undertake further research and paylist analysis to establish Lucky Man's correct DOFS population. Canada accepted the Commission's recommendations and submitted its further research in February 1998. The First Nation responded with its own research submission in June 2002, which Canada rejected in November 2003. In December 2003, at the First Nation's request, the Commission agreed to open a second phase of the inquiry into the issue of the DOFS population. A planning conference was held in April 2004 and a second planning conference in January 2005. The oral hearing in this inquiry was held in August 2005. A further evidentiary hearing was held in October 2006. The panel is completing its report.

Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation

Crawford Purchase, Ontario

The First Nation claims that compensation was never paid for lands that the government took improperly in 1783. It also alleges that the government breached its fiduciary duty and that the First Nation suffered damages from misrepresentation and equitable fraud in the government's failure to compensate the First Nation for its interest in the land.

A planning conference was held in July 1998. In September 1998, the First Nation requested that the claim be put in abeyance while its Toronto Purchase claim is under consideration. The Toronto Purchase claim remains in negotiation.

Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation

Gunshot Treaty, Ontario

The First Nation claims damages for loss of certain lands and rights to fish, hunt and trap in the area east of Toronto. It argues that these damages are a result of the non-binding nature of the 1788 Gunshot Treaty, under which the land was surrendered, and that the government breached its fiduciary duty to protect the First Nation in its possession of these lands.

The Commission held a planning conference in July 1998. In September 1998, the First Nation requested that the claim be put in abeyance while its Toronto Purchase claim is under consideration. The Toronto Purchase claim remains in negotiation.

Muskowekwan First Nation

1910 and 1920 surrenders, Saskatchewan

This claim was submitted in 1992 and rejected in 1997, following which the First Nation made additional submissions to the Minister of Indian Affairs. In December 2003, the Commission accepted the First Nation's request to conduct an inquiry. The inquiry concerns the First Nation's claim respecting lands surrendered for the purpose of a townsite along the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. A planning conference was held in February 2005, and a community session was held in September 2005. A research project remains outstanding before the parties can proceed.

Nadleh Whut'en Indian Band

Lejac School, British Columbia

In December 2002, the Commission accepted the request of the Nadleh Whut'en Indian Band to conduct an inquiry into a claim regarding the construction and operation of Lejac Residential School. This claim was originally submitted to Canada in May 1992, and was rejected in September 1995. The First Nation made a supplementary submission in February 1997, but, with no response received by June 2002, the First Nation asked the Commission to conduct an inquiry.

At a planning conference in March 2003, it was agreed that both parties would undertake additional research. This research was completed by December 2003, and the First Nation made a revised submission in March 2004. Further documentation was provided, and a revised claim submission was made by the First Nation in September 2004. In December, Canada completed its confirming research and the First Nation provided comments in May 2005.

In 2006, owing to limited resources, Canada's review was delayed. The parties agreed to a joint project to facilitate Canada's legal review of the First Nation's submissions, which is in progress.

Neskonlith, Adams Lake and Little Shuswap Bands

Neskonlith Reserve, British Columbia

In September 2003, the Commission accepted the request of these First Nations to conduct an inquiry into their rejected specific claim to a reserve they say was validly established under the authority of James Douglas, Governor of the Colony of British Columbia, in 1862 and later unlawfully reduced.

The First Nations' documents were received by the Commission in July 2004 and Canada's documents were received in September. A planning conference was held in November 2004, a community session was conducted in July 2005, and an expert session was held in July 2006. An oral hearing is scheduled for June 2007.

Ocean Man First Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Saskatchewan

In July 1994, the Commission accepted the request of the First Nation to conduct an inquiry into its rejected claim that it was entitled to additional land under the terms of Treaty 4 (1874). As a result of changes in the federal treaty land entitlement (TLE) policy, resulting from the ICC's Fort McKay and Kawacatoose findings, new research was conducted in 1999 to determine if there was an outstanding TLE obligation. In October of that year, the government provided a paylist analysis indicating a shortfall of treaty land under the existing TLE policy. However, in May 2000, before Canada could complete its review process, the First Nation filed a claim in the courts against the federal government relating to issues beyond the scope of the inquiry, issues which may or may not have an impact on the current TLE claim. The inquiry has been placed in abeyance pending resolution of the litigation.

Pasqua First Nation

1906 surrender, Saskatchewan

This claim, alleging that the 1906 surrender of IR 79 was invalid and that the federal government had breached its fiduciary obligations to the First Nation in the taking of the surrender, was submitted in 1987 and rejected in July 1997. The First Nation conducted additional research, which led to a supplementary submission in March 2000.

The Commission accepted the request of the First Nation to hold an inquiry into its rejected claim in December 2002. On agreement, Canada continued its review of the First Nation's 2000 submission, commissioning further research and conducting interviews, which were completed in the fall of 2003. The First Nation received a letter rejecting its claim in April 2006.

The First Nation has elected to proceed with its inquiry. To this end, the First Nation is looking at commissioning an expert report to support its arguments.

Red Earth and Shoal Lake Cree Nations

Quality of reserve lands (agriculture), Saskatchewan

In June 2004, the Commission accepted a request for an inquiry by the Red Earth and Shoal Lake Cree Nations into their claims that their right to farming lands under their treaty had not been fulfilled. Their claims at that time had not been expressly rejected, and were accepted by the Commission on a "deemed rejection" basis. Canada responded that it intended to submit a mandate challenge and, in April 2005, did so. The panel denied a request from the British Columbia Treaty 8 First Nations for intervenor status. The oral hearing of the mandate challenge took place in February 2006, in Saskatoon. In December 2006, Canada formally rejected the First Nations' claim. The mandate challenge was thus moot.

The First Nation requested that the Commission resume the inquiry, which is proceeding to a planning conference.

Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation

1903 surrender, Manitoba

This claim, submitted to Canada in 1982 and rejected in 1986, questions the validity of the 1903 surrender of a portion of the Roseau River reserve and the management of the subsequent land sales. In November 1993, the Commission accepted the request of the First Nation to conduct an inquiry. At a planning conference held in December 1993, the parties agreed that additional research was required, and they jointly engaged an independent contractor under the management of the Commission. On the basis of this research, counsel for the First Nation submitted a legal analysis to Canada. In July 2001, the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs rejected the claim. In September 2001, the Commission accepted a request by the First Nation for an inquiry into this second rejection.

A planning conference was held in April 2002 and, in May 2002, the parties agreed on the legal issues. In July and September 2002, community sessions were held on the Roseau River reserve. In January 2003, terms of reference were finalized for an additional joint research project, and the research report was completed early in 2005. The joint project was presented to the panel by the expert in June 2005, and oral arguments were heard in March 2006 in Winnipeg. The panel is in deliberations and a report is in progress.

Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Manitoba

In April 1998, the First Nation requested an inquiry into its rejected claim that non-arable land was included in its treaty land entitlement (TLE), and that additions of land in 1930 and 1970 should not be counted in the TLE calculation. Shortly thereafter, it restated its legal arguments because the original claim had been filed in November 1982 without the benefit of legal counsel. In November 1998, the government challenged the Commission's mandate to inquire into this claim on the basis that the restatement essentially represented a new claim. In June 1999, the panel ruled that the inquiry would proceed.

Planning conferences were held in August and November 2002. During the winter of 2002–2003, a joint working group, made up of representatives of the First Nation, Canada, and the Commission, discussed a paylist analysis of the First Nation. In the spring of 2003, the inquiry was placed in abeyance for a period of time before resuming in October. Planning conferences were held in February, June and September 2004.

In the fall of 2004, Canada proposed splitting the inquiry into two phases and inviting Long Plain First Nation's intervention in the inquiry as an affected party. The panel rejected the phased inquiry request. In December 2004, Long Plain First Nation submitted a motion for intervener status, and Sandy Bay First Nation made submissions on the matter in January 2005. An oral hearing regarding this matter was held in June 2005, as was a site visit.

Oral arguments were heard in June 2006. The panel is in deliberations and a report is in progress.

Siksika First Nation

1910 surrender, Alberta

This claim involves alleged irregularities in the surrender vote; the reservation of coal, oil and gas rights from the 1910 land surrender; and the reduction and subsequent discontinuance of perpetual rations from the proceeds of the sale of surrendered lands. The claim was first submitted to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in 1985. The First Nation and the government conducted a series of cooperative research studies, and the claim was submitted to the Department of Justice, in 1995, for its review.

In January 2002, the Commission agreed to conduct an inquiry into the claim. In March 2002, a planning conference was held at which the parties agreed to begin the initial stages of the inquiry process (that is, document compilation) while Canada finalized its legal review. By agreement of the parties, the inquiry was placed into abeyance in May 2002 while the Commission facilitated Canada's review of the claim. Further legal submissions were made by the First Nation in 2003. A conference call was held in June 2004, and Canada submitted a further research report in February 2005. We understand that the review is continuing.

Stanjikoming First Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Ontario

In July 1999, the First Nation requested that the Commission conduct an inquiry into a claim it had submitted in 1990, arguing that the federal government's lack of response amounted to a "constructive rejection." The claim involves an alleged shortfall of 1,408 acres of treaty land and flooding of reserve land by hydro development. In April 2000, the First Nation requested that the Commission put the inquiry in abeyance, but that it continue to facilitate discussions. In February 2005, the First Nation requested that the flooding portion of this inquiry be put in abeyance once again, as the First Nation, Canada, and the Province of Ontario agreed to meet to negotiate the matter. However, should no settlement agreement be reached between the parties, the First Nation would like the Commission's inquiry to resume.

Stó:lõ Nation

Douglas reserves, British Columbia

This claim is brought by 14 bands within the Stó:lõ Nation, the Aitchelitz, Kwantlen, Kwaw-Kwaw-Apilt, Lakahahmen, Matsqui, Scowlitz, Skowkale, Skwah, Skway, Soowahlie, Squiala, Sumas, Tzeachten and Yakweakwioose Bands. The claim alleges that in 1864, James Douglas, Governor of the Colony of British Columbia, established reserves for the various bands of the Stó:lõ Nation, reserves that were subsequently unlawfully reduced, and that when British Columbia entered Confederation in 1871, Canada inherited the duty to rectify this situation. The claim was submitted to Canada in 1988 and rejected in 1997; it was again rejected again in 1999, after a supplementary submission had been made.

In July 2000, the Stó:lõ Nation made an initial request for an inquiry, which was confirmed a year later. Scheduling of the first planning conference was postponed pending clarification of the conditions and nature of the parties' participation in the inquiry. Subsequent conference calls did not resolve these issues and, in September 2003, the Stó:lõ Nation requested that the inquiry be placed in abeyance.

Sturgeon Lake First Nation

1913 surrender, Saskatchewan

In August 1996, the First Nation requested that the Commission conduct an inquiry into this claim respecting alleged irregularities in the surrender vote of 1913. The inquiry was placed in abeyance in December 1996 while both parties conducted supplementary research. In May 1998, the government advised the First Nation that its review of the claim had disclosed no lawful obligation and in June, the First Nation asked the Commission to resume the inquiry. The inquiry was placed in abeyance again in April 1999, at the First Nation's request. In November 2002, the First Nation asked the Commission to resume the inquiry.

The community session was held in December 2006, at which time the First Nation provided a taped interview of an Elder who had passed away. The interview was in Cree and is being translated.

Canada is expected to provide its response to the supplementary submissions made by the First Nation by May 2007. Once it is received, the timelines for the remainder of the process can be determined.

Touchwood Agency Tribal Council

Mismanagement claim – compensation criteria, Alberta

Early in 1998, the Day Star, Fishing Lake, George Gordon, Kawacatoose and Muskowekwan First Nations of the Touchwood Agency Tribal Council collectively submitted a claim to Canada alleging that their assets had been mismanaged by government agents from 1920 to 1924. This claim was accepted for negotiation in March 1998. Negotiations commenced, but eventually reached an impasse and came to a halt in March 2002.

In August 2003, the First Nations requested an inquiry into the application of compensation criteria. This request was accepted in September 2003. The Commission then attempted to obtain the necessary documentation and a list of issues from both parties, but disagreement regarding disclosure of documentation, the scope of the inquiry, and the Commission's mandate led to an impasse. The First Nations are not being funded and the inquiry is not proceeding at this time.

Treaty 8 Tribal Association

Consolidated annuity claim, British Columbia

The seven claimant First Nations of the Treaty 8 Tribal Association – Doig River, Blueberry River, Fort Nelson, Halfway River, West Moberly, Saulteau, Dene Tsaa Tse K'Nai (Prophet River) – submitted a claim to Canada in February 1995 for treaty annuities from 1899, the date of Treaty 8, to the date each First Nation adhered to the treaty. In August 2003, the claimants asked the Commission to conduct an inquiry, and the Commission, deeming the claim to be rejected, agreed to their request in November of that year. In March 2006, Canada formally rejected this claim for negotiation. The First Nations have requested that the inquiry into their claims begin, and Canada has agreed to participate in the inquiry. A planning conference will be scheduled in the 2007–2008 fiscal year.

Treaty 8 Tribal Association

Treaty land entitlement and land in severalty claims, British Columbia

In August 2003, the Treaty 8 Tribal Association on behalf of the Saulteau First Nation requested that the Commission conduct an inquiry into its claim, submitted in February 1995 and to which Canada had not responded. The First Nation alleges that Canada breached its legal and fiduciary duty by failing to perform its obligations under the land entitlement provision of Treaty 8, and claims a shortfall of 4,898 acres. The First Nation also maintains that a claim to land known as Deadman Creek should be recognized as entitlement under the severalty provision of Treaty 8.

The Saulteau First Nation anticipates that its claims will be accepted for negotiation. Therefore, the Saulteau First Nation has requested that the inquiry into its claims be closed. A brief report is in production and will be released in spring 2007.

Tsawwassen First Nation

English Bluffs surrender claim, British Columbia

In May 2005, the Tsawwassen First Nation asked the Commission to conduct an inquiry into this claim, and in June the Commission agreed. The claim relates to the surrenders and sales, in 1957, of two parcels of land at the Tsawwassen Reserve No. 0. The First Nation alleges undue or improper influence, conflict of interest, and breaches of fiduciary duty by Canada in failing to maximize benefits to the First Nation. The claim does not question the validity of the surrenders.

A statement of issues was agreed to at a conference call in January 2006. A planning conference was held in March 2006, but the inquiry was overtaken by the treaty process in which the First Nation is engaged, in that it was agreed between the First Nation and Canada that the First Nation's specific claims would be addressed in the comprehensive claims settlement. The inquiry was placed in abeyance in October 2006, pending completion of the treaty process.

U'mista Cultural Centre

Prohibition of the potlatch, British Columbia

In April 2002, the 'Namgis First Nation, representing itself, the U'mista Cultural Centre, the Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre and 13 other Kwakwaka'wakw First Nations, requested an ICC inquiry, which the Commission accepted in May 2002. The claimants alleged a breach of Canada's fiduciary obligation through *Indian Act* amendments in 1884, 1895, and 1918 that prohibited the potlatch and also through measures taken by the government and its officials in enforcing such legislation, particularly in the case of a potlatch held at Village Island in December 1921. After a planning conference in October 2002 and several subsequent conference calls, the parties came to an agreement on the issues before the Commission in February 2003. At the end of that month, a community session was held at the 'Namgis First Nation and, in March 2003, the Commission initiated discussions with Canada regarding the possibility of considering the claim as a special claim. By July 2003, the parties agreed on this manner of proceeding. In February 2005 the First Nation revised and submitted its claim as a special claim. The inquiry has been placed in abeyance at the request of the First Nation, pending a decision on the special claim.

Whitefish Lake First Nation

Agricultural benefits pursuant to Treaty 8: compensation criteria, Alberta

A specific claim by the Whitefish Lake First Nation to agricultural benefits under Treaty 8 was accepted by Canada as a claim to contemporary benefits. The First Nation requested that the Commission conduct an inquiry regarding compensation criteria. This request was accepted in September 2003.

Negotiations were subsequently suspended by Canada in February 2004 to permit additional research to be conducted on the subject of agricultural benefits. In March 2004, the Commission accepted an inquiry into a claim of the First Nation for benefits from the time of its adhesion to Treaty 8. The inquiry into compensation criteria for the contemporary claim was deferred.

In March 2005, Canada resumed negotiations with the First Nation on the contemporary claim. The inquiry remains deferred.

Whitefish Lake First Nation

Agricultural benefits pursuant to Treaty 8: historic claim, Alberta

In March 2004, the Commission accepted the Whitefish Lake First Nation's request to hold an inquiry into its claim for agricultural benefits from the time of its adhesion to Treaty 8. In March 2005, Canada resumed negotiation with the First Nation on the contemporary claim. The inquiry into the claim for historic benefits was put into abeyance.

¹ Special claims, formerly known as "Claims of a Third Kind," are those claims from First Nations that fall outside of the Specific Claims Policy and the Comprehensive Claims Policy.

Wolf Lake First Nation

Reserve lands, Quebec

One of the few landless First Nations in Canada, Wolf Lake alleges that the federal government has not fulfilled its fiduciary duty or commitment to provide reserve lands. In January 2002, the First Nation requested that the ICC conduct an inquiry and the Commission accepted this request. In March 2002, however, the inquiry was placed in abeyance on the understanding that the Commission would facilitate Canada's review of a revised claim submission.

A series of research meetings, planning conferences and conference calls, chaired by the Commission, were held through 2002, 2003 and into 2004. During this time the parties refined the scope of the evidence required and the issues in question, and established a joint statement of fact, all of which facilitated the writing of a new legal submission by the First Nation. This submission was provided to Canada in May 2004.

In July 2006, the Minister of Indian Affairs advised Wolf Lake that its reserve creation claim did not disclose an outstanding lawful obligation on the part of the Crown. After meeting with representatives of Canada in October 2006, Wolf Lake decided to revive the inquiry into its rejected claim.

In March 2007, the parties submitted lists of issues for the inquiry. The parties are preparing for the next phase of inquiry, the planning conference.

THE ICC'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2006-2007 MEDIATION AND FACILITATION

What you'll find in this section:

54 Mediation and Facilitation: What Is Mediation and Facilitation?

Introduction and definitions

55 The Mediation Process

ICC's mediation process

55 Summary of Specific Claims in Mediation and Facilitation between April 1, 2006, and March 31, 2007

> Describes each claim in mediation/facilitation at the ICC and lists the ICC's activities over the past year within each file

What Is Mediation and Facilitation?

Mediation is a consensual way of resolving disputes. In this process, a neutral third party, the mediator, assists the parties to reach a settlement that each of them can accept.

Mediation can advance negotiations by:

- narrowing the issues in dispute;
- helping the parties reach an agreed-upon settlement; or
- providing independent advice on a particular issue.

The mediator facilitates discussions by bringing the two sides together to examine the issues in dispute and the particular interests, needs, and concerns of each side. Out of the discussions emerge options for a binding settlement.

The Indian Claims Commission provides broad mediation services at any stage of the claims process, and at the request of both the First Nation and the Government of Canada. Together with the mediator, the parties decide how the mediation process will be conducted. This method ensures that the process fits the unique circumstances of each particular negotiation.

The Commission's mediation services can include:

- arranging for and chairing negotiation meetings;
- coordinating joint studies (e.g., loss-of-use studies);
- monitoring the parties' decisions and following up on their undertakings; and
- providing or arranging for mediation on specific issues when the parties have reached an impasse.

The Indian Claims Commission provides facilitative mediation services that are culturally sensitive, informal, non-threatening and flexible.

Open discussion among equal parties conducted under these four conditions can promote a healthy dialogue and a better understanding and relationship between the parties. In this atmosphere, settlements are easier to reach and can successfully reflect the needs and interests of each of the parties.

The Commission has provided mediation/facilitation services on 52 files since its creation in 1991.

Commission mediation reports can be found on our website at www.indianclaims.ca.

The four stages which make up the Commission's mediation process are illustrated in the chart which follows.

The Mediation Process

Stage 1	Preparation for Mediation
	The Commission reviews the claim being negotiated and brings representatives of the negotiating parties together face-to-face to discuss the issues and terms of the negotiation and mediation protocol agreements.
Stage 2	Negotiation Process
	The Commission facilitates discussions on compensation, assists the parties by coordinating the gathering of information, including land appraisals and joint loss-of-use studies, and monitors the parties' decisions and undertakings.
Stage 3	Settlement
	When and after the negotiating parties reach an agreement in principle, lawyers for the First Nation and Canada work together to draft a final settlement agreement, which is initialled by the negotiators and ratified by both parties.
Stage 4	Final Mediation Report
	The Commission reports to the federal government, the First Nation and the public on the outcome of the negotiation.

Summary of Specific Claims in Mediation and Facilitation Between April 1, 2006, and March 31, 2007

This section reports on the Commission's mediation activities in 2006–2007. The First Nation, the title of the claim, and the province in which it is situated are followed by a brief background of the claim, a description of the issues, and an update on progress made in each of the 26 files during the year.

Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa

Cattle claim, Alberta

The Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa First Nation is located 195 kilometres south of Calgary. The First Nation's reserve consists of two parcels of land encompassing 136,287 hectares. Currently, the First Nation has a population of 9,921, of whom 7,457 members live on-reserve.

In November 2002, the Commission was asked by the Blood Tribe to facilitate further research on its cattle claim. Following a review of the existing research and reports in 2003, the ICC recommended an independent historical review and analysis based on renegotiated terms of reference. Over the next several months, the Blood Tribe undertook a review of the research. In early 2004, the ICC was asked to place this matter in abeyance so that the Blood Tribe could focus its efforts and resources on other claims. The claim remains in abeyance to date.

Chippewa Tri-Council

Coldwater-Narrows reservation claim, Ontario

The Coldwater-Narrows reservation consisted of a strip of land, 14 miles long, averaging one and one-half miles wide, running from the narrows at Lakes Couchiching and Simcoe, westward to Matchedash Bay, comprising approximately 10,000 acres. The Chippewa Tri-Council, composed of three First Nations (Beausoleil First Nation, Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation, and Chippewas of Mnjikaning [Rama] First Nation), claimed that the surrender in 1836 was not consistent with the instructions set out in the *Royal Proclamation of 1763*.

Originally submitted to Canada in November 1991, the claim was accepted for negotiation in July 2002, following an inquiry conducted by the Commission into Canada's 1996 rejection of the claim. The ICC has provided facilitation and study coordination services to the table since September 2002.

At the end of the 2006–2007 fiscal year, negotiations continue with the parties focusing on determining an appropriate settlement. In support of this work, land appraisals, mapping, resource valuation studies and other research have been completed.

Cote First Nation

Pilot project, Saskatchewan

Members of the Cote First Nation are descended from Gabriel Cote, a Saulteaux chief, who signed Treaty 4 on behalf of his followers in 1874. Currently, the band has a registered population of 3,015, of whom 752 live on Indian Reserve 64 (8,088 hectares of land adjoining Kamsack, Saskatchewan, located 16 kilometres west of the Saskatchewan/Manitoba border).

The Cote pilot project relates to a number of transactions involving the First Nation's lands, beginning with the taking of land for a railway in 1903 and ending in a reconstitution of reserve lands in 1963. Brought to the Commission as an inquiry in the mid-1990s, the parties later agreed to work together, with the Commission's facilitation, to discuss and research the many interrelated transactions and issues.

Since 1997, considerable joint research has taken place, with the result that 13 potential claims have been identified. The complexity and interrelatedness of the claims led Cote First Nation and Canada to group the claims into bundles. The first bundle of four surrender claims was submitted, accepted and is currently in negotiation (see summary on next page).

The remaining nine potential claims have yet to be submitted by the First Nation.

Cote First Nation

1905, 1907, 1913, and 1914 surrender claims, Saskatchewan

The 1905, 1907, 1913, and 1914 surrender transactions constitute the first group of claims coming out of the Cote First Nation pilot project. The four claims were jointly discussed and researched and then submitted by the First Nation to Canada. Canada's review determined that the four surrenders were null and void and, in April 2006, Canada accepted the 1905, 1907, 1913, and 1914 specific claims for negotiation.

In May 2006, the Commission was asked by Cote First Nation and Canada to act as a facilitator for the negotiations. During the course of the fiscal year, the ICC's mandate at the table was expanded to include the coordination of the loss-of-use study process. In this role, the Commission acted as the liaison between the negotiating parties and the independent consultants retained to complete research and loss-of-use studies, which included forestry loss of use, agriculture loss of use, mines and minerals loss of use, and a current unimproved fair market value land appraisal.

Negotiations and loss-of-use studies are ongoing at the end of March 2007, with the parties expecting to complete the studies in the next fiscal year.

Cowessess First Nation

Flooding claim, Saskatchewan

Cowessess IR 73, contains 30,781 hectares and is located 13 kilometres northwest of Broadview, Saskatchewan. The First Nation population is 3,470, of whom 670 live on-reserve.

Originally part of the Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority (QVIDA), the Cowessess First Nation was one of a number of First Nations whose lands were lost to recurrent and, in some areas, continuous flooding resulting from the construction in the 1940s of a series of water-control structures under the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act. When negotiations between Canada and QVIDA broke down in August 2003, the Cowessess First Nation chose to continue negotiations directly with Canada, with the Commission facilitating the negotiations. The Province of Saskatchewan is also at the table.

In January 2007, Cowessess First Nation tabled a settlement proposal that is currently being reviewed by Canada.

Fort Pelly Agency (Cote, Keeseekoose and The Key First Nations)

Pelly Haylands, Saskatchewan

This claim involves 12,800 acres northeast of Regina, known as the Pelly Haylands. The Treaty 4 First Nations of Cote, Keeseekoose and The Key have three reserves bordering on the Assiniboine River in the Kamsack area of central Saskatchewan. As of January 2007, they had a combined registered population of 6,159, of whom 1,690 live on the reserves.

The three First Nations joined together as the "Fort Pelly Agency" in 1997 to present collectively their individual claims to a block of land which they alleged had been set apart for them in the early 1890s as a reserve. Submitted to Canada in 1997, the claim was accepted for negotiation in July 2000, with Canada acknowledging that it had breached a lawful obligation by disposing of parts of the Pelly Haylands in 1898 and 1905 without a surrender.

Since October 2000, the First Nations and Canada have completed land appraisals and a number of loss-of-use studies. The parties began discussing a compensation package in late summer 2004 and, by November that year, a settlement amount had been agreed to at the table. The terms of the settlement agreement were successfully ratified by two of the First Nations in 2005–2006 with the third First Nation successful on its second vote in early 2006–2007. A judicial review of one of the votes has delayed implementation of the settlement. The ICC is currently preparing a report on its activities.

Fort William First Nation

Pilot project, Ontario

Fort William IR 52 contains 5,815 hectares of land along the north shore of Lake Superior, on the southern edge of the city of Thunder Bay in northwestern Ontario. The registered membership of the band is 1,759, of whom 826 live on-reserve.

Since 1998, the Commission has been participating in a pilot project to facilitate the resolution of a number of specific claims identified through independent research. The claims involve surrenders and expropriations of reserve land for settlement, railway, mining, and military purposes.

The Rifle Range claim, which involves a parcel of land surrendered in 1907 for a rifle range, was the first of the Fort William First Nation's eight claims to be jointly submitted to Canada. Accepted by Canada for negotiation in 2000, an agreement on compensation was reached in 2002 and ratified in 2006.

At the end of the 2006–2007 fiscal year, the status of the remaining claims was as follows: the boundary claim is in negotiation (see summary below); Canada is working on opinions for the Neebing, Loch Lomond, Chippewa Park, and mining claims; the additions to reserve process on the hydro claim was ongoing; a claim is unlikely to be submitted respecting the timber; and the First Nation was pursuing the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway claim in the courts.

Fort William First Nation

Boundary claim, Ontario

Fort William First Nation is a signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty negotiated between the Crown and the Ojibwa along the northern shores of Lake Superior in 1850. In 1852, the First Nation petitioned the Crown, saying that the reserve as described in the treaty was not as verbally agreed to during the treaty negotiations; the First Nation protested again in 1853 when the reserve was surveyed.

In 1985, the First Nation submitted a claim to Canada and Ontario, alleging that the boundary of the reserve did not reflect the First Nation's understanding of the location and size of the reserve. Canada accepted the claim for negotiation in 1994, but negotiations were suspended in 1996 pending Ontario's decision to join the table. In 2001, Ontario offered to participate in the negotiations but only with regard to specifically limited aspects. In 2002, Canada and Fort William First Nation began bilateral negotiations, including loss-of-use studies, and in 2005 Canada agreed to Ontario's offer of limited participation. The parties began tripartite meetings to develop an approach for completing the negotiations.

The ICC's role during the Canada-Fort William First Nation bilateral negotiations, has been to facilitate the negotiations and to lead the loss-of-use study process. In this latter role, the Commission acts as the liaison between the negotiating parties and the independent consultants hired to complete research and loss-of-use studies, including a land appraisal, and forestry, agriculture, mines and minerals loss-of-use studies, together with a historical research study looking at other land developments. At the conclusion of this past fiscal year, all but one loss-of-use study had been completed and the parties were working with Ontario to finalize a second land appraisal.

George Gordon First Nation (formerly Gordon First Nation)

Treaty land entitlement, Saskatchewan

George Gordon IR 86, contains 14,438 hectares of land and is located 61 kilometres northwest of Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. The total band population is 2,984, of whom 1,011 live on-reserve. This Cree/Saulteaux First Nation adhered to Treaty 4 in 1874.

Research has determined that George Gordon First Nation did not receive the reserve land to which it was entitled according to the formula set out in the treaty. The claim alleges that the First Nation received a shortfall of reserve land pursuant to the terms of Treaty 4. In March 2004, for the purposes of negotiation – and under the 1998 Historic Treaty Land Entitlement Shortfall Policy – Canada accepted that the George Gordon First Nation had sufficiently established a breach of obligation and a shortfall of 5,376 acres of land.

The ICC has acted as facilitator of the George Gordon First Nation treaty land entitlement (TLE) negotiations from their beginning in mid-2004, and also for negotiations at a Treaty Land Entitlement Common Table, which also involved Sturgeon Lake, Muskoday and Pasqua First Nations. The Common Table worked to agree on an approach to determining an adjusted-dateof-first-survey (ADOFS) population. After an exchange of relevant documents and two meetings, held in October and December 2004, the parties agreed on eligibility criteria for ADOFS so that each First Nation could proceed with its individual negotiations. The Common Table concluded its work in December 2004.

By the end of March 2007, the George Gordon First Nation TLE negotiating parties, including the Province of Saskatchewan, had come to agreement on most of the settlement issues, and Canada was pursuing authority to make a formal offer of settlement.

Lac Seul First Nation

Flooding claim, Ontario

Lac Seul First Nation is located approximately 40 kilometres northwest of Sioux Lookout, in northwestern Ontario. The reserve is composed of three communities – Kejick Bay, Whitefish Bay and Frenchman's Head – and is bounded to the north and east by the lake called Lac Seul. It has a total membership of approximately 2,724, of whom about 765 live on-reserve.

In 1922, Canada, along with the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario, constructed a dam at Ear Falls, the outlet of Lac Seul, to store the waters of the lake for hydroelectric generation. As a result, by the mid-1930s, the average level of Lac Seul had risen approximately three metres, resulting in widespread flooding of the surrounding lands.

Negotiations in 1943 resulted in Lac Seul First Nation receiving some financial compensation from Ontario and Manitoba; however, subsequent research demonstrated that the amount of reserve land that was flooded had been underestimated by approximately 3,000 acres. The First Nation submitted its specific claim to Canada in 1985, which was accepted for negotiation in 1995. After six years of talks, negotiations were put on hold in 2001 so that Canada could complete a thorough re-evaluation of its legal position with respect to the claim.

In the spring of 2005, the ICC was asked by the parties to facilitate their talks. Negotiations continue to move ahead and are focused on determining the number of acres affected by the flooding and a land valuation model.

Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation

Hosford Lot and Indian Reserve 7 claim, New Brunswick

Also known as Red Bank First Nation, this community holds four parcels of land totaling 3,907 hectares, located about 22 kilometres west of Newcastle and 160 kilometres northwest of Moncton, New Brunswick. Three hundred and seventy-three of the 521 members live on-reserve and Micmac is the native language.

There are two claims involved in these negotiations: IR 7, consisting of 64 acres purported to have been surrendered in 1904; and the Hosford Lot, consisting of 100 acres taken in 1906. The IR 7 claim was negotiated and a settlement amount agreed upon in August 2000. Three ratification votes were subsequently held, none of which were successful. The Hosford Lot claim was accepted in 2001 and a decision was made by the parties to negotiate a settlement to both claims together. Negotiations continued sporadically from 2002 to 2005.

In April 2005, the parties jointly requested ICC facilitation of the Hosford Lot negotiations. The ICC's involvement concluded in January 2006 when an unofficial offer was made by Canada and accepted by the First Nation. Over the course of the past year, the parties have worked to finalize the terms of a settlement agreement.

Michipicoten First Nation

Pilot project, Ontario

The main reserve of the Michipicoten First Nation is Gros Cap IR 49, with an area of 3,631 hectares on the north shore of Michipicoten Bay in Lake Superior, 4 kilometres west of Wawa, Ontario. The registered membership of the band is 748, of whom 58 live on the reserve. They are descendants of the Ojibway Chiefs who negotiated the Robinson-Superior Treaty with the Crown in 1850, from which stem most of the land claims by the Michipicoten First Nation.

Of the original bundle of potential claims researched and discussed under the pilot project process, three were negotiated and settled, three were resolved through administrative referral, and four resulted in no claim being filed. The last remaining claim is the boundary claim. Accepted for negotiation by Canada in 2003, and with the ICC's continued help as facilitator and study coordinator, the negotiating parties have concluded joint land appraisals and loss-of-use studies and reached an informal agreement on compensation. As of the end of March 2007, Canada was seeking authority to make a formal offer of settlement.

Missanabie Cree First Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Ontario

Missanabie Cree First Nation is a distinct group of Mushkegowuk Cree whose traditional territory is centred on Missanabie Lake, Dog Lake and Wabatongushi Lake, about 120 kilometres north of Wawa, Ontario, and within the Chapleau Crown land preserve. This past year, as a result of negotiations on another claim, the First Nation has acquired a land base of 87 hectares. Of the roughly 345 members, 187 currently live on the land.

In 1993, the Missanabie Cree First Nation submitted a claim to Canada alleging that, under the terms of Treaty 9, a reserve should have been set aside for its members. Following Canada's initial review, the First Nation and Canada jointly undertook research into the claim, and in 1999 Canada accepted the claim for negotiation.

In late 2003, the parties asked the ICC to coordinate the loss-of-use studies, including a natural resource study (minerals, forestry and water), a traditional activities study, a mapping project, and loss-of-use studies covering tourism, recreation and agriculture. With these studies nearing completion in mid-2006, the ICC was also asked to facilitate the negotiation process.

Negotiations are ongoing with the parties focused on determining an appropriate settlement.

Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation

Toronto Purchase claim, Ontario

The Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation has approximately 1,740 members, about 828 of whom live on 2,392 hectares of reserve land located adjacent to Hagersville, Ontario, some 32 kilometres southeast of Brantford.

This claim pertains to the Crown's purchase in 1805 of 250,880 acres of land from the River Credit Mississaugas. Through the purchase, the Mississaugas surrendered much of what is now Metropolitan Toronto, including the Toronto Islands.

Submitted in 1986, the claim was rejected by Canada in 1993. In February 1998, the ICC was asked to conduct an inquiry into Canada's decision to reject the claim. During the course of the inquiry, the First Nation revised its allegations and submitted additional research. Canada conducted a legal review of the revised submission and new evidence, and determined that the claim disclosed an outstanding lawful obligation. It therefore accepted the claim for negotiation in mid-2002.

The Commission has facilitated these negotiations since May 2003 at the parties' request. As of March 2007, the negotiating parties continue to search for a way to assess the value of the Toronto Purchase lands and the loss of use of those lands, and to arrive at a fair and appropriate settlement.

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne

Dundee claim, Ontario

The Mohawk territory called "Akwesasne" is located adjacent to the city of Cornwall, Ontario, and straddles the international boundary of Canada and the United States, the Ontario and Quebec provincial boundaries and the New York state line. On the Canadian side, the elected government is the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, composed of 12 District Chiefs and a Grand Chief. The community currently has a registered population of 10,446, of whom approximately 8,433 live on the 4,739 hectares (11,712 acres) of reserve land on Cornwall Island and other islands in the St Lawrence River.

The claim lands, known as the Tsikaristisere or "Dundee lands," are on the south shore of the St Lawrence River roughly opposite Cornwall. They consist of approximately 20,000 acres in the most westerly portion of the Province of Quebec, in the area now known as the Township of Dundee. Historically, they were part of the land recognized as set apart for the Mohawks of Akwesasne. From the early 1800s, the Dundee lands had been leased out to non-Mohawk settlers. None of the leases were preceded by a surrender.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's claim to the Dundee lands was accepted for negotiation in December 2002 on the basis that the Crown breached a pre-surrender fiduciary duty in relation to an alleged surrender signed in February 1888 and that the Crown owes an outstanding lawful obligation to the Mohawks of Akwesasne in relation to certain leases not validated by the 1864 *Dundee Act*.

The Indian Claims Commission's involvement as facilitator to the negotiations began in late 2005 at the joint request of the parties. A negotiation protocol had been signed by that time, and the negotiating parties had begun identifying and discussing the issues to be negotiated. ICC is facilitating the study coordination for a land appraisal.

Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

Culbertson Tract, Ontario

The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte have a total membership of approximately 7,617, with about 2,095 residing on the Tyendinaga Reserve adjacent to the town of Deseronto and about 10 kilometres east of Belleville, Ontario. The Mohawks have been settled at this location since May 1784.

This claim is based on the illegal disposition in 1836–37 of some 827 acres of land, known as the Culbertson Tract. The tract consists of land within the original Mohawk Tract granted to and reserved for the Six Nations by the Simcoe Deed, also known as Treaty 31/2, in 1793. The basis of the claim is that no surrender of the Culbertson Tract was ever sought by the Crown or given by the Six Nations, as required by the mandatory provisions of the Simcoe Deed. The claim was submitted to Canada in 1995 and accepted for negotiation in 2003.

In September 2004, the ICC began providing facilitation services to the parties at their joint request. Since that time, the parties have worked to identify the boundaries of the claim lands and discussed various approaches to compensation. In the course of the past fiscal year, negotiations stalled over a land issue followed by community unrest and protests. In early 2007, a new chief federal negotiator was appointed by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and talks focusing on the terms under which Canada and the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte will resume negotiations are underway.

Muscowpetung First Nation

Flooding claim, Saskatchewan

Muscowpetung IR 80 contains 8,849 hectares and is located 31 kilometres west of Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. The total band population is 1,142, of whom 273 live on-reserve.

Originally part of the Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority (QVIDA), the Muscowpetung First Nation was one of a number of First Nations whose lands were lost to recurrent and, in some areas, continuous flooding resulting from the construction in the 1940s of a series of water-control structures under the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act. When negotiations between Canada and QVIDA broke down in August 2003, the Muscowpetung First Nation chose to resume negotiations with Canada directly. The Commission is at the negotiation table as mediator/facilitator. The Province of Saskatchewan is also at the table.

Over the past year, Muscowpetung First Nation has completed a number of loss-of-use studies and other research assessing past losses and, in March 2007, it presented a settlement proposal to Canada.

Muskoday First Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Saskatchewan

Muskoday IR 99 contains 9,686 hectares and is located 19 kilometres southeast of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. The total band population is 1,532, of whom 550 live on-reserve.

This Cree/Saulteaux First Nation adhered to Treaty 6 in 1876 under Chief John Smith. Research has determined that Muskoday First Nation did not receive the reserve land to which it was entitled according to the formula set out in the treaty. The claim was submitted to Canada alleging that the First Nation received a shortfall of reserve land pursuant to the terms of Treaty 4. In March 2004, for the purposes of negotiation – and under the 1998 Historic Treaty Land Entitlement Shortfall Policy – Canada accepted that the Muskoday First Nation had sufficiently established a breach of obligation and a shortfall of 5,376 acres of land.

Negotiations began in May 2004 with the Province of Saskatchewan also at the table. The ICC has facilitated the Muskoday TLE negotiations since that time, as well as the negotiations of a Treaty Land Entitlement Common Table comprised of Sturgeon Lake, George Gordon, Muskoday and Pasqua First Nations which wound up in late 2004.

Considerable progress was made by the Muskoday First Nation TLE table during 2006–2007, with a tentative settlement reached and negotiators on both sides recommending the agreement for ratification to their principals. The Muskoday First Nation was not successful in ratifying the agreement in March 2007 and a second ratification vote is scheduled to take place in the coming months.

Nekaneet First Nation

Treaty benefits, Saskatchewan

Nekaneet First Nation is located in the Cypress Hills of southwest Saskatchewan, 40 kilometres southeast of Maple Creek. A signatory of Treaty 4, this Cree First Nation has a membership of 418, including 178 people who live on-reserve. The land base consists of 14,568 hectares scattered in and around the Maple Creek area.

Nekaneet First Nation received reserve land in 1913 which its members commenced farming. Through the years, Nekaneet farmers did not receive a portion of the agricultural assistance – stock, seed, implements – promised them under Treaty 4. In addition, the First Nation did not receive its share of the ammunition and twine benefit promised in Treaty 4.

In February 1987, the Nekaneet First Nation submitted a specific claim to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development seeking compensation under Treaty 4 for outstanding provisions of agricultural benefits, programs and services, annual payments to band members and damages for failure to provide a reserve at the time the treaty was signed in 1874. The claim was accepted for negotiation by Canada in October 1998.

The ICC has facilitated talks between the negotiating parties since July 2002. Negotiations paused for approximately two years to enable Canada to complete a policy review regarding the modern implementation of treaty benefits relating to the provision of agricultural implements. Since the resumption of negotiations and by working with the help of agricultural economists, Nekaneet First Nation and Canada have been able to agree on a methodology to value the loss of the agricultural benefits.

Over the past year, the parties have continued to work together on the terms of a fair and appropriate settlement of this claim.

Pasqua First Nation

Flooding claim, Saskatchewan

Pasqua IR 79 contains 9,471 hectares and is located 16 kilometres west of Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. The total band population is 1,729, of whom 517 live on-reserve.

Originally part of the Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority (QVIDA), the Pasqua First Nation was one of a number of First Nations whose lands were lost to recurrent and, in some areas, continuous flooding resulting from the construction in the 1940s of a series of water-control structures under the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act. When negotiations between Canada and QVIDA broke down in August 2003, the Pasqua First Nation chose to negotiate directly with Canada. The Commission is at the table as mediator/facilitator. The Province of Saskatchewan is also at the table.

Over the course of the past year, the Commission facilitated a number of negotiation meetings between the parties. Most recently, building on work it has done to assess past losses, Pasqua First Nation presented a settlement proposal for Canada's review and consideration.

Pasqua First Nation

Treaty land entitlement claim, Saskatchewan

Pasqua IR 79 contains 9,471 hectares and is located 16 kilometres west of Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. The total band population is 1,729, of whom 517 live on-reserve.

Pasqua First Nation adhered to Treaty 4 in 1874. Research determined that the First Nation did not receive the reserve land to which it was entitled, according to the formula set out in the treaty. Pasqua First Nation submitted its claim to Canada in 2001, and, while the claim was being reviewed by Canada, Pasqua First Nation participated as an observer in the Treaty Land Entitlement Common Table. These discussions, also facilitated by the Commission, resulted in Canada and the Sturgeon Lake, George Gordon, Muskoday and Pasqua First Nations agreeing on a common approach to various issues relating to the determination of an adjusted-date-of-first-survey population.

Pasqua's TLE claim was accepted for negotiation in May 2005 and the ICC agreed to facilitate these negotiations at the request of the parties. The Province of Saskatchewan is also at the table.

By the close of the 2006–2007 fiscal year, the Pasqua First Nation and Canada had agreed on most of the terms of settlement and Canada was seeking authority to make a formal offer of settlement.

Sakimay First Nation

Flooding claim, Saskatchewan

Sakimay First Nation's main reserve, IR 74, contains 10,776 hectares and is located 16 kilometres northwest of Broadview, Saskatchewan. The total band population is 1,357, of whom 340 live on-reserve.

Originally part of the Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority (QVIDA), Sakimay First Nation was one of a number of First Nations whose lands were lost to recurrent and, in some areas, continuous flooding resulting from the construction in the 1940s of a series of water-control structures under the *Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act*. When negotiations between Canada and the larger QVIDA group of First Nation broke down in August 2003, Sakimay chose to continue negotiating its flooding claim together with Ochapowace First Nation and with Piapot First Nation also at the table (Piapot was at the table with observer status, having submitted a flooding claim which was still under review by Canada).

In late spring 2006, Sakimay, Ochapowace, and Piapot First Nations participated in a program aimed at organizing the negotiating parties, their issues and negotiation timelines by means of a results-based management approach. Despite the success of this approach, Ochapowace and Piapot First Nations subsequently chose to abandon negotiations in order to pursue their flooding claims by means of a court action against Canada. Sakimay First Nation decided to stay and continue negotiating with Canada directly, facilitated by the Commission. The Province of Saskatchewan is also at the table.

In early 2007, Sakimay First Nation presented a settlement proposal to Canada, which is under consideration by Canada.

Sakimay First Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Saskatchewan

Sakimay First Nation submitted its TLE claim to Canada in 1997, arguing that the treaty land entitlement owed to them had not been fulfilled. Having received no response to its claim by May 2000, the First Nation requested that the Commission hold an inquiry on the grounds that the delay should be deemed a rejection. When Canada informed the First Nation that its confirming research would likely be completed by December 2000, however, the First Nation chose not to pursue an inquiry.

Canada's confirming research was shared with Sakimay First Nation in January 2002, and its TLE claim was rejected. In July 2003, the First Nation renewed its request for an inquiry, which was accepted in September 2003. The Commission's proposal for a joint research project was accepted by both parties, and a report was completed by August 2004. Based on this additional research, the First Nation made a renewed submission to Canada in October 2004. Canada accepted the claim in 2006 and the ICC was asked by the negotiating parties to facilitate the negotiations. The Province of Saskatchewan is also at the table.

By the end of March 2007, negotiations were still in the early stages with issues being identified and discussed.

Siksika Nation

Castle Mountain claim, Alberta

The Siksika Nation (formerly known as the Blackfoot Band) has a reserve of 70,985 hectares located 80 kilometres east of Calgary, Alberta. It has a total registered population of 6,170, with about 3,400 of that number living on the reserve.

This claim relates to an area of about 68 square kilometres of land at Castle Mountain (located between Banff and Lake Louise) that was surveyed as a timber limit for the Blackfoot people in 1892. The Department of Indians Affairs later concluded that a timber limit in a different location would be preferable, and in November 1908, it returned the land to the Department of the Interior. No replacement timber limit was ever selected for Siksika.

In 1982, Siksika submitted the Castle Mountain specific claim to Canada, and it was partially accepted for negotiation in 1985. In 1993, Canada rescinded its 1985 acceptance of the claim and accepted it on the basis that Canada "has a lawful obligation within the meaning of the Specific Claims Policy to set aside a timber limit as a reserve for the use and benefit of the Siksika Nation."

The ICC came to the negotiation table in mid-2005 as study coordinator, acting as liaison between the negotiating parties and independent consultants hired to complete research and loss-of-use studies, including a consolidated land-use study, resource harvesting, mines and minerals, land appraisals, forestry and other land development (such as tourism and recreation). By the end of March 2007, the consultants' reports were in progress.

Skway First Nation

Schweyey Road claim, British Columbia

Skway IR 5 is located 2 kilometres west of Chilliwack, British Columbia, between the Chilliwack and Fraser Rivers. The 300 band members, 67 of whom live on-reserve, are part of the Stó:lõ Nation.

Accepted for negotiation by Canada in April 2003, this claim concerns the dyke and road on Skway IR 5. In its claim submission, the First Nation successfully established that Canada had breached its lawful obligation to the Skway First Nation, in that the lands for the dyke and road across IR 5 (4.52 acres) were not lawfully taken, and the First Nation had not been properly compensated for this taking.

Negotiations commenced in the fall of 2003, with the Commission at the table as facilitator. Parties to the negotiation include Skway First Nation, Canada, the Province of British Columbia, and the City of Chilliwack.

Despite having reached a tentative understanding regarding settlement some time ago, several unresolved issues prevented the parties from concluding the agreement. During the past fiscal year, the ICC has been providing renewed facilitative support to the negotiating parties in an effort to resolve these issues and conclude a fair settlement to the claim.

Sturgeon Lake First Nation

Treaty land entitlement, Saskatchewan

The Sturgeon Lake First Nation is located near Shellbrook, Saskatchewan, about 50 kilometres northwest of Prince Albert. There are approximately 2,346 registered band members, with 1,600 members residing on the 9,200 hectare reserve.

This Cree/Saulteaux First Nation adhered to Treaty 6 on August 23, 1876. Subsequent research determined that it did not receive the reserve land to which it was entitled, according to the formula set out in the treaty. In March 2004, Canada accepted the Sturgeon Lake First Nation's claim that it had breached its lawful obligation in that there is an outstanding treaty land entitlement shortfall of 2,032 acres of land.

Negotiation of the claim began in September 2004 with the Province of Saskatchewan also at the table. The ICC has acted as facilitator of these negotiations. The ICC has also facilitated discussions aimed at reaching a common approach with Canada respecting issues relating to the determination of an adjusted-date-of-first-survey (ADOFS) population at a Treaty Land Entitlement Common Table involving the Sturgeon Lake, George Gordon, Muskoday and Pasqua First Nations.

Over the course of the past fiscal year, Sturgeon Lake First Nation and Canada agreed on the terms of a settlement agreement and, in January 2007, Sturgeon Lake First Nation successfully ratified the agreement. As of the end of March, the First Nation was waiting for Canada to sign the agreement and looking forward to its implementation.

CLAIMS ADDRESSED BY THE ICC IN INQUIRIES AND MEDIATIONS CONCLUDED WITH REPORTS

What you'll find in this section:

70 Claims Addressed in Inquiries and Mediations Concluded with Reports as of March 31, 2007

Table providing information on the status of each claim addressed in inquiries and each mediation the ICC has completed

Claims Addressed in Inquiries and Mediations Concluded with 79 Reports Index: Provincial

Index of all claims addressed in inquiries and mediations concluded with reports, grouped by province

83 Claims Addressed in Inquiries Index: Thematic

Index of all claims addressed in inquiries, grouped by theme

Claims Addressed by the ICC in Inquiries and Mediations Concluded with Reports

This table updates readers on the status of claims for which the Commission has completed its inquiry or mediation activities. In all of the claims listed below, an inquiry or mediation report has been published and is available from our website at www.indianclaims.ca.

The table tracks the progress of each claim through the specific claims process once the ICC has completed its inquiry or mediation/facilitation services.

The first column lists the name of the First Nation and the type or title of the specific claim it brought to the ICC for inquiry or mediation/facilitation. This information is followed by the outcome of the ICC's inquiry or its mediation activities. The next column contains the date of the ICC's report, which is followed by a column containing the date of Canada's response to ICC's recommendation(s). The nature of that response and any settlement information available are also found in the last column.

Claims Addressed by the ICC in Inquiries and Mediations Concluded with Reports as of March 31, 2007

Na	Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
1	Alexis, AB TransAlta Utilities rights of way ICC recommendation to negotiate rejected by INAC	Inquiry March 2003	In July 2005, government rejected recommendations, stating that a lump sum payment was adequate compensation, that there was no duty to advise the First Nation respecting its taxation powers, and that informed consent to the expropriation was not required.
2	Athabasca Chipewyan, AB W.A.C. Bennett Dam and damage to IR 201 ICC recommendation to negotiate rejected by INAC	Inquiry March 1998	In April 2001, government rejected recommendation, disagreeing that it had a fiduciary duty or a duty under Treaty 8 to protect reserve from effects of Bennett Dam caused by BC Hydro, a third party, or to invoke <i>Navigable Waters Protection Act</i> respecting the dam.
3	Athabasca Denesuline, SK Treaty harvesting rights ICC recommendation to negotiate outside specific claims process rejected by INAC. 1995 supplementary report noted failure of negotiations; recommended government recognize treaty rights or provide litigation funding.	Inquiry December 1993 Supplementary report November 1995	In August 1994, government rejected recommendations made in December 1993 report. November 1995 supplementary report acknowledged; no further response.

Na	me of First Nation, Province Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
4	Betsiamites Band, QC Highway 138 Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 2005	In January 2004, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
5	Betsiamites Band, QC Rivière Betsiamites Bridge Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 2005	In January 2004, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
6	Bigstone Cree Nation, AB Treaty land entitlement Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 2000	In October 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
7	Blood Tribe/Kainaiwa, AB 1889 Akers surrender Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry June 1999	In April 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
8	Blood Tribe/Kainaiwa, AB Akers surrender Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation August 2005	In September 2003, claim settled for \$3.55 million in compensation.
9	Blood Tribe/Kainaiwa, AB Big Claim Recommended claim respecting southern boundary be accepted for negotiation and that position on TLE claim be re-evaluated	Inquiry March 2007	Outcome as yet unknown.
10	Blueberry River and Doig River, BC Highway right of way IR 172 Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 2006	In September 2004, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
11	Buffalo River, SK Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II – loss of commercial and treaty harvesting rights ICC recommendation that part of claim be accepted for negotiation rejected by INAC	Inquiry September 1995	In March 2002, government rejected recommendations, stating: "[C]ompensation for commercial harvesting rights was not based on either Indian status or membership in an Indian Band; rather, it was to be paid to anyone who held a licence on the land which became the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range."
12	Canoe Lake, SK Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range – breach of treaty and fiduciary obligations ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry August 1993	In June 1997, claim settled for \$13,412,333 in federal compensation and a requirement that the First Nation purchase between 2,786 hectares and 20,224 hectares of land.
13	Canupawakpa Dakota, MB Turtle Mountain surrender Recommended claim not be accepted, but recommended Canada and the First Nation work together to acquire and properly designate the burial sites	Inquiry July 2003	Report acknowledged October 2003.

Na	me of First Nation, Province Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
14	Carry the Kettle, SK Cypress Hills Recommended claim not be accepted, but, pursuant to supplementary mandate, recommended government recognize the Carry the Kettle First Nation's historical connection to the Cypress Hills and restore to the Assiniboine people their connection to the territory	Inquiry July 2000	Rejected in January 2001. Government agreed with the Commission's conclusion that the claim did not disclose a lawful obligation on the part of the government under the Specific Claims Policy. The government rejected the Commission's recommendation to restore to the Assiniboine people their connection to the territory.
15	Chippewa Tri-Council, ON Coldwater-Narrows reservation surrender Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 2003	In July 2002, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
16	Chippewa Tri-Council, ON Collins Treaty Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 1998	In December 1998, claim settled for \$565,000 in federal compensation.
17	Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point, ON 1927 surrender Recommended claim be accepted for negotiation, finding fiduciary duty to have been breached	Inquiry March 1997	No response yet received from government. In 1998, the Supreme Court of Canada affirmed the judgment of the Ontario Court of Appeal finding the surrender valid. The courts expressly did not deal with the fiduciary issue.
18	Chippewas of the Thames, ON Clench defalcation Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 2002	In June 2001, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
19	Chippewas of the Thames, ON Clench defalcation Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation August 2005	In November 2004, claim settled for \$15 million in federal compensation.
20	Chippewas of the Thames, ON Muncey land inquiry Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry December 1994	In January 1995, claim settled for \$5,406,905 in federal compensation.
21	Cold Lake, AB Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range – breach of treaty and fiduciary obligations ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry August 1993	In March 2002, claim settled for \$25.5 million in federal compensation.
22	Cowessess, SK 1907 surrender – Phase I ICC recommendation that the portion of IR 73 surrendered in 1907 be accepted for negotiation rejected by INAC	Inquiry March 2001	In March 2002, government rejected recommendation, disagreeing with finding of number of voters present and with interpretation of "majority," but proceeded to phase II of this inquiry as previously agreed.
23	Cowessess, SK 1907 surrender – Phase II Majority recommended that claim not be accepted for negotiation; minority found a fiduciary breach and recommended that claim be accepted	Inquiry July 2006	Outcome as yet unknown.

Na	me of First Nation, Province Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
24	Cowessess, SK QVIDA flooding claim ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry February 1998	In December 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation.
25	Cumberland House, SK IR 100A Recommended that the claim regarding IR 100A be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry March 2005	Outcome as yet unknown.
26	Duncan's, AB 1928 surrender Majority of claim not recommended for negotiation; however, recommended that the surrender of IR 151E be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry September 1999	In June 2001, government rejected recommendation regarding IR 151E made in September 1999 report, stating: "[T]he Commission did not examine the terms of the proposed lease and, as a result, made no finding that the 1923 lease proposal was either more or less advantageous to the First Nation than a surrender."
27	Eel River Bar, NB Eel River Dam Recommended claim not be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry December 1997	Outcome as yet unknown.
28	Esketemc, BC IR 15, 17, and 18 ICC recommendation that the disallowance or reduction of IR 15, 17, and 18 be accepted for negotiation, rejected by INAC	Inquiry November 2001	In June 2005, government rejected recommendation, stating that Canada had no obligation or power to create reserves for the First Nation, and that the Commission's conclusions "are largely premised on findings that the First Nation had aboriginal rights and title to the land at issue."
29	Fishing Lake, SK 1907 surrender Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 1997	In August 1996, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
30	Fishing Lake, SK 1907 surrender Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation March 2002	In August 2001, claim settled for \$34.5 million in federal compensation.
31	Flying Dust, SK Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II — loss of commercial and treaty harvesting rights ICC recommendation that part of claim be accepted for negotiations, rejected by INAC	Inquiry September 1995	In March 2002, government rejected recommendations made in September 1995 report, stating: "[C]ompensation for commercial harvesting rights was not based on either Indian status or membership in an Indian Band; rather, it was to be paid to anyone who held a licence on the land which became the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range."
32	Fort McKay, AB Treaty land entitlement ICC recommendation that government owed outstanding entitlement of 3,815 acres to First Nation, accepted by INAC	Inquiry December 1995	In April 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation.
33	Friends of the Michel Society, AB 1958 enfranchisement No lawful obligation found, but recommended that government grant special standing to submit specific claims	Inquiry March 1998	In October 2002, government "declined to accept the ISCC's recommendation to grant the Friends of the Michel Society special standing to advance specific claims."

Nai	me of First Nation, Province Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
34	Gamblers, MB Treaty land entitlement ICC recommendation that outstanding treaty land entitlement, if any, should be based on 1877 date of first survey and that claim not be negotiated, accepted by INAC	Inquiry October 1998	In November 1998, government accepted recommendation.
35	Homalco, BC Aupe IR 6 and 6A – statutory or fiduciary obligation to obtain 80 acres of land from province of BC ICC recommendation to negotiate part of claim, re: 10 acres, rejected by INAC	Inquiry December 1995	In December 1997, government rejected recommendation, stating that, as the lands were not alleged to be reserve lands, the Policy does not apply, and that Canada does not "recognize a general duty to protect traditional Indian lands (as distinct from reserve lands) from the actions of others."
36	James Smith, SK IR 100A Recommended that the lawful obligations that arise from Canada's dispositions of IR 100A be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry March 2005	Outcome as yet unknown.
37	James Smith, SK Chakastaypasin IR 98 Recommended claim be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry March 2005	Outcome as yet unknown.
38	James Smith, SK Treaty land entitlement Recommended claim not be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry February 2007	Outcome as yet unknown.
39	Joseph Bighead, SK Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II – loss of commercial and treaty harvesting rights Recommended claim not be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry September 1995	Outcome as yet unknown.
40	Kahkewistahaw, SK Treaty land entitlement Recommended claim not be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry November 1996	Outcome as yet unknown.
41	Kahkewistahaw, SK 1907 reserve land surrender Recommended claim be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry February 1997	In December 1997, government accepted claim for negotiation.
42	Kahkewistahaw, SK 1907 surrender Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation February 2003	In November 2002, claim settled for \$94.65 million in federal compensation.
43	Kawacatoose, SK Treaty land entitlement ICC recommendation that government owed a shortfall of 8,576 acres to Band, subject to confirming research, accepted by INAC	Inquiry March 1996	In October 2000, claim settled for \$23 million in federal compensation.

Na	me of First Nation, Province Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
44	The Key, SK 1909 surrender Recommended claim not be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry March 2000	Outcome as yet unknown.
45	Keeseekoowenin, MB 1906 land claim Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation August 2005	In March 2005, claim settled for \$6,999,900 in compensation.
46	Kluane, YK Kluane Game Sanctuary and Kluane National Park Reserve creation Claim resolved by agreement related to comprehensive claim settlement	Inquiry February 2007	No substantive response from government required.
47	Lac La Ronge, SK Treaty land entitlement Recommended that treaty land entitlement obligation was satisfied, and that any claim to be made on restitutionary or fiduciary grounds should be subject of a separate inquiry	Inquiry March 1996	Outcome as yet unknown.
48	Lax Kw'alaams, BC Demand for absolute surrender as precondition to settlement ICC recommendation that Aboriginal interests be excluded from the surrender that was to be a condition of the claim settlement, rejected by INAC	Inquiry June 1994	In December 2001, government rejected recommendations on ground that, as Aboriginal interests were included in appraisals considered in negotiations, they cannot be excluded from settlement discussions; their inclusion is also required to achieve certainty. However, Canada hopes "to move toward settlement" based on "a revised mandate."
49	Long Plain, MB Loss of use of treaty entitlement land ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry February 2000	In November 2005, government accepted claim for negotiation.
50	Lucky Man, SK Treaty land entitlement ICC recommendation for further research to establish proper TLE population, accepted by INAC	Inquiry March 1997	In May 1997, government accepted recommendation: government research indicated no TLE shortfall; First Nation is reviewing and conducting its own research.
51	Mamaleleqala Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Enox, BC McKenna-McBride applications ICC recommendation to negotiate rejected by INAC	Inquiry March 1997	In December 1999, government rejected recommendations, disagreeing with the interpretation of "lawful obligation" in <i>Outstanding Business</i> , and asserting that no fiduciary obligation can exist "in relation to Aboriginal interests in non-reserve lands."
52	Micmacs of Gesgapegiag, QC Pre-Confederation claim to 500-acre island No substantive recommendations made because government agreed to reconsider merits of claim	Inquiry December 1994	In March 1995, government acknowledged receipt of report and advised claim was in abeyance pending outcome of related court case.

Na	me of First Nation, Province Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
53	Mikisew Cree, AB Economic benefits under Treaty 8 Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 1997	In December 1996, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
54	Mississaugas of the New Credit, ON Toronto Purchase Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry June 2003	In July 2002, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
55	Mistawasis, SK 1911, 1917, and 1919 surrenders Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 2002	In September 2001, claim settled for \$16.3 million in federal compensation.
56	Moose Deer Point, ON Pottawatomi rights ICC recommendation for additional research rejected by INAC	Inquiry March 1999	In March 2001, government rejected recommendations, stating that the claim submission had already been "fully researched."
57	Moosomin, SK 1909 reserve land surrender ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry March 1997	In December 1997, government accepted claim for negotiation.
58	Moosomin, SK 1909 reserve land surrender Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation March 2004	In September 2003, claim settled for \$41 million in federal compensation.
59	Muscowpetung, SK QVIDA flooding claim ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry February 1998	In December 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation.
60	Nak'azdli, BC Aht-Len-Jees IR 5 Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 1996	In January 1996, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
61	'Namgis, BC Cormorant Island ICC recommendation to negotiate rejected by INAC	Inquiry March 1996	In May 2001, government rejected recommendation, disagreeing that any fiduciary obligation arose on the facts of this claim.
62	'Namgis, BC McKenna-McBride applications ICC recommendation to negotiate part of claim rejected by INAC	Inquiry February 1997	In December 1999, government rejected recommendation, disagreeing with the interpretation of "lawful obligation" in <i>Outstanding Business</i> and disagreeing that any fiduciary obligation arose on the facts of this claim.
63	Nekaneet, SK Agricultural and other benefits under Treaty 4 Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 1999	In October 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
64	Ochapowace, SK QVIDA flooding claim ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry February 1998	In December 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation.

Na	me of First Nation, Province Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
65	Opaskwayak, MB Streets and lanes claim First Nation withdrew claims during inquiry	Inquiry February 2007	No substantive response from government required.
66	Paul, AB Kapasiwin townsite Recommended claim not be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry February 2007	Outcome as yet unknown.
67	Pasqua, SK QVIDA flooding claim ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry February 1998	In December 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation.
68	Peepeekisis, SK File Hills Colony ICC recommendation to negotiate rejected by INAC	Inquiry March 2004	In June 2006, government rejected recommendation.
69	Peguis, MB Treaty land entitlement Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 2001	In June 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
70	Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority (Cowessess, Kahkewistahaw, Muscowpetung, Ochapowace, Pasqua, Piapot, Sakimay), SK Flooding claim Parties unable to come to an agreement; separate negotiations ongoing with Cowessess, Muscowpetung, Pasqua, Sakimay	Mediation December 2005	Outcome as yet unknown.
71	Roseau River Anishinabe, MB Medical aid ICC recommendation to negotiate rejected by INAC	Inquiry February 2001	In September 2003, government rejected recommendations, stating that medical aid deductions from the trust fund account were permissible, that no treaty promise of medical aid was made or survived, and that no outstanding lawful obligation exists.
72	Roseau River Anishinabe, MB Treaty land entitlement Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation March 1996	In March 1996, claim settled for \$14 million in federal compensation.
73	Sakimay, SK QVIDA flooding claim ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry February 1998	In December 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation.
74	Sakimay, SK Treaty land entitlement Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry February 2007	In September 2006, government accepted claim for negotiation while inquiry underway.
75	Standing Buffalo, SK QVIDA flooding claim ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry February 1998	In December 1998, government accepted claim for negotiation.

	Nar	me of First Nation, Province Type or title of claim Outcome	Date and Type of ICC Report	Canada's Response
	76	Standing Buffalo, SK QVIDA flooding claim Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation March 2004	In March 2003, claim settled for \$3.6 million in compensation and the ability to acquire up to 640 acres of agricultural land to be set apart as reserve land pursuant to Canada's Additions to Reserves Policy.
	77	Sturgeon Lake, SK Red Deer Holdings agricultural lease Accepted for negotiation without full inquiry	Inquiry March 1998	In October 1998, claim settled for \$190,000 in federal compensation.
	78	Sumas, BC IR 6 railway right of way ICC recommendation to negotiate accepted by INAC	Inquiry February 1995	In June 2005, government accepted claim for negotiation.
	79	Sumas, BC 1919 surrender of IR 7 Recommended joint research to assess fair market value of surrendered land	Inquiry August 1997	In January 1998, government stated it was willing to explore possibility of joint research to determine if evidence exists for a claim.
	80	Taku River Tlingit, BC Wenah specific claim Recommended claim be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry March 2006	Outcome as yet unknown.
	81	Thunderchild, SK 1908 surrender Settled with assistance of Commission	Mediation March 2004	In September 2003, claim settled for \$53 million in compensation and ability to acquire up to 5,000 acres of land within 15 years to be set apart as a reserve.
	82	Touchwood Agency, SK Mismanagement (1920–24) claim Parties unable to come to an agreement; Agency requested ICC inquiry	Mediation August 2005	Outcome as yet unknown.
	83	Walpole Island, ON Boblo Island Recommended First Nation resubmit its claim under the Comprehensive Claims Policy	Inquiry May 2000	Outcome as yet unknown.
	84	Waterhen Lake, SK Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II – loss of commercial and treaty harvesting rights ICC recommendation to negotiate part of claim, rejected by INAC	Inquiry September 1995	In March 2002, government rejected recommendations made in September 1995 report, stating: "[C]ompensation for commercial harvesting rights was not based on either Indian status or membership in an Indian Band; rather, it was to be paid to anyone who held a licence on the land which became the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range."
	85	Williams Lake, BC Village site Recommended claim be accepted for negotiation	Inquiry March 2006	Outcome as yet unknown.
	86	Young Chipeewayan, SK Stoney Knoll IR 107 Recommended that claim not be accepted for negotiation but that further research be undertaken	Inquiry December 1994	Outcome as yet unknown.

Claims Addressed in Inquiries and Mediations Concluded with Reports Index: Provincial

The concluded inquiries and mediations presented in the preceding section are displayed below. They are grouped by province and listed in alphabetical order. Each claim is listed as follows: name of the First Nation, title of the claim and date of ICC's report.

ALBERTA

Alexis First Nation, TransAlta Utilities rights of way, March 2003

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, W.A.C. Bennett Dam and damage to Indian Reserve 201, March 1998

Bigstone Cree Nation, Treaty land entitlement, March 2000

Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa, 1889 Akers surrender, June 1999

Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa, Akers surrender [Mediation], August 2005

Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa, Big Claim, March 2007

Cold Lake First Nation, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range, August 1993

Duncan's First Nation, 1928 surrender, September 1999

Fort McKay First Nation, Treaty land entitlement, December 1995

Friends of the Michel Society, 1958 enfranchisement, March 1998

Mikisew Cree First Nation, Treaty 8 economic benefits, March 1997

Paul Indian Band, Kapasiwin townsite, February 2007

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Blueberry River First Nation and Doig River First Nation, Highway right of way IR 172, March 2006

Esketemc First Nation, Indian Reserves 15, 17, and 18, November 2001

Homalco Indian Band, Aupe Indian Reserves 6 and 6A, December 1995

Lax Kw'alaams Indian Band, Tsimpsean Indian Reserve 2, June 1994

Mamalelegala Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Enox Band, McKenna-McBride applications, March 1997

Nak'azdli First Nation, Aht-Len-Jees Indian Reserve 5, March 1996

'Namgis First Nation, Cormorant Island, March 1996

'Namgis First Nation, McKenna-McBride applications, February 1997

Sumas Band, Indian Reserve 6 railway right of way, February 1995 Sumas Indian Band, 1919 Indian Reserve 7 surrender, August 1997 Taku River Tlingit First Nation, Wenah specific claim, March 2006 Williams Lake Indian Band, Village site, March 2006

MANITOBA

Canupawakpa Dakota First Nation, Turtle Mountain surrender, July 2003

Gamblers First Nation, Treaty land entitlement, October 1998

Keeseekoowenin First Nation, 1906 land claim [Mediation], August 2005

Long Plain First Nation, Loss of use, February 2000

Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Streets and lanes claim, February 2007

Peguis First Nation, Treaty land entitlement, March 2001

Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation, Medical aid, February 2001

Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation, Treaty land entitlement [Mediation], March 1996

NEW BRUNSWICK

Eel River Bar First Nation, Eel River Dam, December 1997

ONTARIO

Chippewa Tri-Council, Coldwater-Narrows reservation surrender, March 2003
Chippewa Tri-Council, Collins Treaty, March 1998
Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, 1927 surrender, March 1997
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Clench defalcation, March 2002
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Clench defalcation [Mediation], August 2005
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Muncey land inquiry, December 1994
Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, Toronto Purchase, June 2003
Moose Deer Point First Nation, Pottawatomi rights, March 1999
Walpole Island First Nation, Boblo Island, May 2000

QUEBEC

Betsiamites Band, Highway 138, March 2005

Betsiamites Band, Rivière Betsiamites Bridge, March 2005

Micmacs of Gesgapegiag First Nation, Horse Island, December 1994

SASKATCHEWAN

Athabasca Denesuline, Treaty harvesting rights, December 1993

Buffalo River First Nation, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Canoe Lake Cree Nation, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range, August 1993

Carry the Kettle First Nation, Cypress Hills, July 2000

Cowessess First Nation, 1907 surrender, March 2001

Cowessess First Nation, 1907 surrender – Phase II, July 2006

Cowessess First Nation, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Cumberland House Cree Nation, Indian Reserve 100A, March 2005

Fishing Lake First Nation, 1907 surrender, March 1997

Fishing Lake First Nation, 1907 surrender [Mediation], March 2002

Flying Dust First Nation, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

James Smith Cree Nation, Chakastaypasin Indian Reserve 98, March 2005

James Smith Cree Nation, Indian Reserve 100A, March 2005

James Smith Cree Nation, Treaty land entitlement, February 2007

Joseph Bighead First Nation, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Kahkewistahaw First Nation, 1907 reserve land surrender, February 1997

Kahkewistahaw First Nation, 1907 reserve land surrender [Mediation], January 2003

Kahkewistahaw First Nation, Treaty land entitlement, November 1996

Kawacatoose First Nation, Treaty land entitlement, March 1996

The Key First Nation, 1909 surrender, March 2000

Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Treaty land entitlement, March 1996

Lucky Man Cree Nation, Treaty land entitlement, March 1997

Mistawasis First Nation, 1911, 1917 and 1919 surrenders, March 2002

Moosomin First Nation, 1909 reserve land surrender, March 1997

Moosomin First Nation, 1909 reserve land surrender [Mediation], March 2004

Muscowpetung First Nation, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Nekaneet First Nation, Agricultural and other benefits under Treaty 4, March 1999

Ochapowace First Nation, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Pasqua First Nation, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Peepeekisis First Nation, File Hills Colony, March 2004

Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority (Cowessess First Nation, Kahkewistahaw First Nation, Muscowpetung First Nation, Ochapowace First Nation, Pasqua First Nation, Piapot First Nation, Sakimay First Nation), Flooding [Mediation], December 2005

Sakimay First Nation, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Sakimay First Nation, Treaty land entitlement, February 2007

Standing Buffalo Dakota Nation, Flooding [Mediation], March 2004

Standing Buffalo First Nation, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Sturgeon Lake First Nation, Red Deer Holdings agricultural lease, March 1998

Thunderchild First Nation, 1908 surrender [Mediation], March 2004

Touchwood Agency (Day Star First Nation, Fishing Lake First Nation, George Gordon First Nation, Kawacatoose First Nation, Muskowekwan First Nation), Mismanagement (1920–24) claim [Mediation], August 2005

Waterhen Lake First Nation, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Young Chipeewayan First Nation, Stoney Knoll Indian Reserve 107, December 1994

YUKON

Kluane First Nation, Kluane Game Sanctuary and Kluane National Park Reserve creation, February 2007

Claims Addressed in Inquiries Index: Thematic

The concluded inquiries presented in the preceding section are displayed below. They are grouped thematically and listed in alphabetical order. Each inquiry is listed as follows: name of the First Nation, province, title of the claim and date of ICC's report.

TREATY RIGHTS

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, AB, W.A.C. Bennett Dam and damage to Indian Reserve 201, March 1998

Athabasca Denesuline, SK, Treaty harvesting rights, December 1993

Buffalo River First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Canoe Lake Cree Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range, August 1993

Cold Lake First Nation, AB, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range, August 1993

Eel River Bar First Nation, NB, Eel River Dam, December 1997

Flying Dust First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Joseph Bighead First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Mikisew Cree First Nation, AB, Treaty 8 economic benefits, March 1997

Moose Deer Point First Nation, ON, Pottawatomi rights, March 1999

Nekaneet First Nation, SK, Agricultural and other benefits under Treaty 4, March 1999

Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation, MB, Medical aid, February 2001

Waterhen Lake First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

FIDUCIARY DUTY

Alexis First Nation, AB, TransAlta Utilities rights of way, March 2003

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, AB, W.A.C. Bennett Dam and damage to Indian Reserve 201, March 1998

Buffalo River First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Canoe Lake Cree Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range, August 1993

Canupawakpa Dakota First Nation, MB, Turtle Mountain surrender, July 2003

Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, ON, 1927 surrender, March 1997

Chippewa Tri-Council, ON, Coldwater-Narrows reservation surrender, March 2003

Cold Lake First Nation, AB, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range, August 1993

Cowessess First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Duncan's First Nation, AB, 1928 surrender, September 1999

Eel River Bar First Nation, NB, Eel River Dam, December 1997

Esketemc First Nation, BC, Indian Reserves 15, 17 and 18, November 2001

Fishing Lake First Nation, SK, 1907 surrender, March 1997

Flying Dust First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Homalco Indian Band, BC, Aupe Indian Reserves 6 and 6A, December 1995

Joseph Bighead First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Kahkewistahaw First Nation, SK, 1907 reserve land surrender, February 1997

The Key First Nation, SK, 1909 surrender, March 2000

Kluane First Nation, YK, Kluane Game Sanctuary and Kluane National Park Reserve creation, February 2007

Lac La Ronge Indian Band, SK, Treaty land entitlement, March 1996

Long Plain First Nation, MB, loss of use, February 2000

Mamaleleqala Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Enox Band, BC, McKenna-McBride applications, March 1997

Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, ON, Toronto Purchase, June 2003

Mistawasis First Nation, SK, 1911, 1917 and 1919 surrenders, March 2002

Moosomin First Nation, SK, 1909 reserve land surrender, March 1997

Muscowpetung First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

'Namgis First Nation, BC, McKenna-McBride applications, February 1997

Ochapowace First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Pasqua First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Paul Indian Band, AB, Kapasiwin townsite, February 2007

Peepeekisis First Nation, SK, File Hills Colony, March 2004

Sakimay First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Standing Buffalo First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Sumas Band, BC, Indian Reserve 6 railway right of way, February 1995

Sumas Indian Band, BC, 1919 Indian Reserve 7 surrender, August 1997

Taku River Tlingit First Nation, BC, Wenah specific claim, March 2006

Waterhen Lake First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Williams Lake Indian Band, BC, Village site, March 2006

FLOODING CLAIM

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, AB, W.A.C. Bennett Dam and damage to Indian Reserve 201, March 1998

Cowessess First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Eel River Bar First Nation, NB, Eel River Dam, December 1997

Muscowpetung First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Ochapowace First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Pasqua First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Sakimay First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Standing Buffalo First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

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Alexis First Nation, AB, TransAlta Utilities rights of way, March 2003

Athabasca Denesuline, SK, Treaty harvesting rights, December 1993

Buffalo River First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Canupawakpa Dakota First Nation, MB, Turtle Mountain surrender, July 2003

Carry the Kettle First Nation, SK, Cypress Hills, July 2000

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, ON, Muncey land inquiry, December 1994

Cowessess First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Esketemc First Nation, BC, Indian Reserves 15, 17 and 18, November 2001

Flying Dust First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Friends of the Michel Society, AB, 1958 enfranchisement, March 1998

Joseph Bighead First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

Kluane First Nation, YK, Kluane Game Sanctuary and Kluane National Park Reserve creation, February 2007

Lac La Ronge Indian Band, SK, Treaty land entitlement, March 1996

Lax Kw'alaams Indian Band, BC, Tsimpsean Indian Reserve 2, June 1994

Mamaleleqala Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Enox Band, BC, McKenna-McBride applications, March 1997

Micmacs of Gesgapegiag First Nation, QC, Horse Island, December 1994

Mikisew Cree First Nation, AB, Treaty 8 economic benefits, March 1997

Muscowpetung First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

'Namgis First Nation, BC, Cormorant Island, March 1996

'Namgis First Nation, BC, McKenna-McBride applications, February 1997

Nekaneet First Nation, SK, Agricultural and other benefits under Treaty 4, March 1999

Ochapowace First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Pasqua First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Peepeekisis First Nation, SK, File Hills Colony, March 2004

Sakimay First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Standing Buffalo First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Waterhen Lake First Nation, SK, Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range II, September 1995

MCKENNA-MCBRIDE COMMISSION – BRITISH COLUMBIA

Esketemc First Nation, BC, Indian Reserves 15, 17 and 18, November 2001

Homalco Indian Band, BC, Aupe Indian Reserves 6 and 6A, December 1995

Mamaleleqala Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Enox Band, BC, McKenna-McBride applications, March 1997

Nak'azdli First Nation, BC, Aht-Len-Jees Indian Reserve 5, March 1996

'Namgis First Nation, BC, McKenna-McBride applications, February 1997

RIGHTS OF WAY

Alexis First Nation, AB, TransAlta Utilities rights of way, March 2003

Betsiamites Band, QC, Highway 138, March 2005

Betsiamites Band, QC, Rivière Betsiamites Bridge, March 2005

Blueberry River First Nation and Doig River First Nation, BC, Highway right of way IR 172, March 2006

Cowessess First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Eel River Bar First Nation, NB, Eel River Dam, December 1997

Mistawasis First Nation, SK, 1911, 1917 and 1919 surrenders, March 2002

Muscowpetung First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Ochapowace First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Pasqua First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Sakimay First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Standing Buffalo First Nation, SK, Qu'Appelle Valley Indian Development Authority flooding, February 1998

Sumas Band, BC, Indian Reserve 6 railway right of way, February 1995

SPECIFIC CLAIMS POLICY

Alexis First Nation, AB, TransAlta Utilities rights of way, March 2003

Athabasca Denesuline, SK, Treaty harvesting rights, December 1993

Canupawakpa Dakota First Nation, MB, Turtle Mountain surrender, July 2003

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, ON, Muncey land inquiry, December 1994

Duncan's First Nation, AB, 1928 surrender, September 1999

Esketemc First Nation, BC, Indian Reserves 15, 17 and 18, November 2001

Fishing Lake First Nation, SK, 1907 surrender, March 1997

Friends of the Michel Society, AB, 1958 enfranchisement, March 1998

Homalco Indian Band, BC, Aupe Indian Reserves 6 and 6A, December 1995

Kahkewistahaw First Nation, SK, 1907 reserve land surrender, February 1997

The Key First Nation, SK, 1909 surrender, March 2000

Lax Kw'alaams Indian Band, BC, Tsimpsean Indian Reserve 2, June 1994

Mamaleleqala Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Enox Band, BC, McKenna-McBride applications, March 1997

Micmacs of Gesgapegiag First Nation, QC, Horse Island, December 1994

Mikisew Cree First Nation, AB, Treaty 8 economic benefits, March 1997

Moose Deer Point First Nation, ON, Pottawatomi rights, March 1999

Moosomin First Nation, SK, 1909 reserve land surrender, March 1997

'Namgis First Nation, BC, Cormorant Island, March 1996

'Namgis First Nation, BC, McKenna-McBride applications, February 1997

Nekaneet First Nation, SK, Agricultural and other benefits under Treaty 4, March 1999

Peepeekisis First Nation, SK, File Hills Colony, March 2004

Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation, MB, Medical aid, February 2001

Sturgeon Lake First Nation, SK, Red Deer Holdings agricultural lease, March 1998

Young Chipeewayan First Nation, SK, Stoney Knoll Indian Reserve 107, December 1994

SURRENDER

Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa, AB, 1889 Akers surrender, June 1999

Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa, AB, Big Claim, March 2007

Canupawakpa Dakota First Nation, MB, Turtle Mountain surrender, July 2003

Chippewa Tri-Council, ON, Coldwater-Narrows reservation surrender, March 2003

Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, ON, 1927 surrender, March 1997

Cowessess First Nation, SK, 1907 surrender, March 2001

Cowessess First Nation, SK, 1907 surrender – Phase II, July 2006

Duncan's First Nation, AB, 1928 surrender, September 1999

Fishing Lake First Nation, SK, 1907 surrender, March 1997

Kahkewistahaw First Nation, SK, 1907 reserve land surrender, February 1997 The Key First Nation, SK, 1909 surrender, March 2000 Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, ON, Toronto Purchase, June 2003 Mistawasis First Nation, SK, 1911, 1917 and 1919 surrenders, March 2002 Moosomin First Nation, SK, 1909 reserve land surrender, March 1997 Nak'azdli First Nation, BC, Aht-Len-Jees Indian Reserve 5, March 1996 Paul Indian Band, AB, Kapasiwin townsite, February 2007 Sumas Indian Band, BC, 1919 Indian Reserve 7 surrender, August 1997 Walpole Island First Nation, ON, Boblo Island, May 2000

TREATY LAND ENTITLEMENT

Bigstone Cree Nation, AB, Treaty land entitlement, March 2000 Blood Tribe / Kainaiwa, AB, Big Claim, March 2007 Fort McKay First Nation, AB, Treaty land entitlement, December 1995 Gamblers First Nation, MB, Treaty land entitlement, October 1998 James Smith Cree Nation, SK, Treaty land entitlement, February 2007 Kahkewistahaw First Nation, SK, Treaty land entitlement, November 1996 Kawacatoose First Nation, SK, Treaty land entitlement, March 1996 Lac La Ronge Indian Band, SK, Treaty land entitlement, March 1996 Long Plain First Nation, MB, Loss of use, February 2000 Lucky Man Cree Nation, SK, Treaty land entitlement, March 1997 Peguis First Nation, MB, Treaty land entitlement, March 2001 Sakimay First Nation, SK, Treaty land entitlement, February 2007

OTHER

Chippewa Tri-Council, ON, Collins Treaty, March 1998 Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, ON, Clench defalcation, March 2002 Opaskwayak Cree Nation, MB, Streets and lanes claim, February 2007



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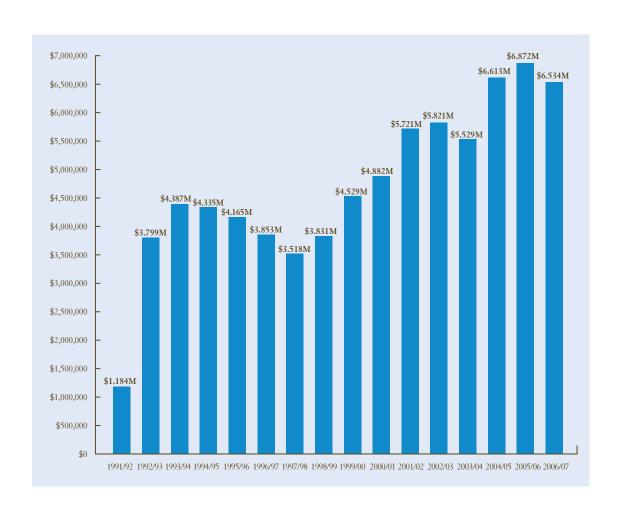
Contact information for the Indian Claims Commission

Financial Information

The Commission strives to ensure that adequate mechanisms and processes are in place to enable it to maintain the high quality and impartiality of its services.

In 2006–2007, the Commission's activities in both inquiries and mediation resulted in expenditures of \$6.534 million. Of this amount, \$4.225 million was for salaries and benefits and \$2.309 million was for other operating costs.

YEARLY EXPENDITURES SYNOPSIS - 1991-2007



In Fact...

Some little known facts about the Indian Claims Commission from the 2006–2007 reporting period:

- First Nation communities were visited, with a total population of 21,167 members in 4 provinces (inquiries only)
- to reach a First Nation community
- days were spent in mediation/facilitation/ negotiation meetings
- ICC Mediation Services were involved in 47 conference calls
- new requests for inquiry were received
- new request for mediation were received
- requests for information were received
- 295 requests for publications were received
- inquiries were completed in 2006-2007, affecting a total of 24,732 First Nations people
- 16,222 website hits were counted
- information kits were distributed

How to Contact Us

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Indian Claims Commission P.O. Box 1750, Station B Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1A2

Website: www.indianclaims.ca

Collect calls will be accepted for all information or publication requests:

Tel: 613-943-2737 Fax: 613-943-0157