

Agenda

Sixties Scoop

- Important dates
- Interim payments
- Letters from Collectiva
- $\bullet \ Contacts$

Federal Indian Day Schools

- The claim form
- Drafting the narrative
- ${\bf \cdot} \ {\rm Witness} \ {\rm statements} \\$
- Trauma-informed interviewing
- Update on the claims process



SIXTIES SCOOP

Summary of Claims as of June 25, 2020:

Total filed

Total processed -12, 551

Dates

- Final deadline to apply was August 30, 2019.
- Late claims were being accepted up until December 2, 2019.

Letters claimants may receive:

- Notice of Intent to Reject (prior to an Official Rejection)
- Request for Additional Documents (Supplementary Claim Form)
- Notice of Eligible Class Member



Contact Collectiva:

1-844-287-4270 sixtiesscoop@collectiva.ca

Contact Class Counsel:

Klein Lawyers 604-874-7171

Interim Payments:

- The total compensation that will be issued depends on the number of claimants found eligible.
- Interim payments of \$21,000 are being made to eligible claimants as the total is being determined.

FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOLS

The claim
s deadline is July 13, 2022
(However, a 6-month extension is
available upon request due to COVID-19)

In 2009, Garry McLean launched a class action lawsuit against Canada to seek compensation for the harms suffered by Indigenous students forced to attend Federal Indian Day Schools and Federal Day Schools across Canada.

On August 19, 2019, the Federal Court approved a nationwide Class Action Settlement to compensate Claimants for harms suffered while attending federally established, operated, maintained, and controlled Day Schools.

To be **eligible for compensation**, an individual must have attended one of the identified Federal Indian Day Schools or Federal Day Schools listed on the List of Federal Day Schools and experienced harm.



Who's who?

The Claims Administrator - Deloitte

The Claims Administrator assesses each claim to approve the level of compensation in accordance with the Harms Assessment Grid.

Deloitte Claims Administrator Call Centre 1-888-221-2898

The Third Party Assessor

If a claimant disagrees with the Claims Administrator's assessment of a lower level of compensation they have the option of having their claim reviewed by a Third-Party Assessor. The decision of the Third-Party Assessor is final. In unique and specific situations, the Third-Party Assessor may refer a Claim to the Exceptions Committee for consideration.

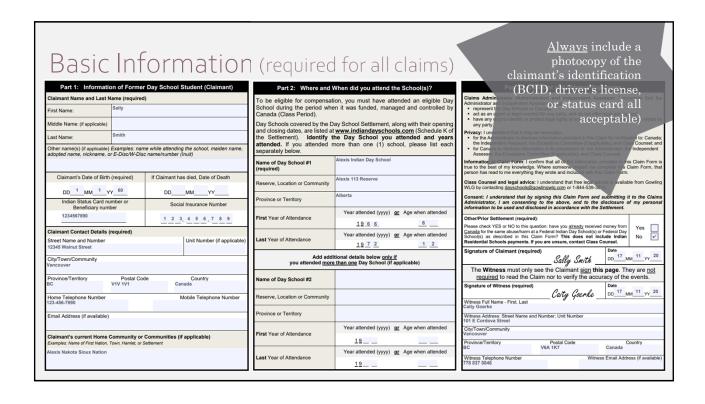
Class Counsel - Gowling WLG

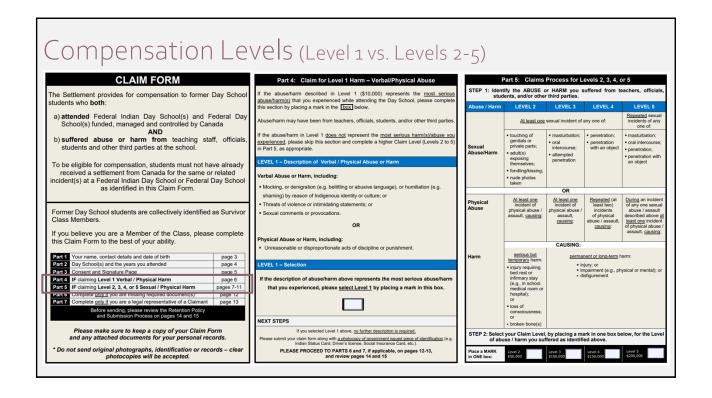
1-844-539-3815 dayschools@gowlingwlg.com

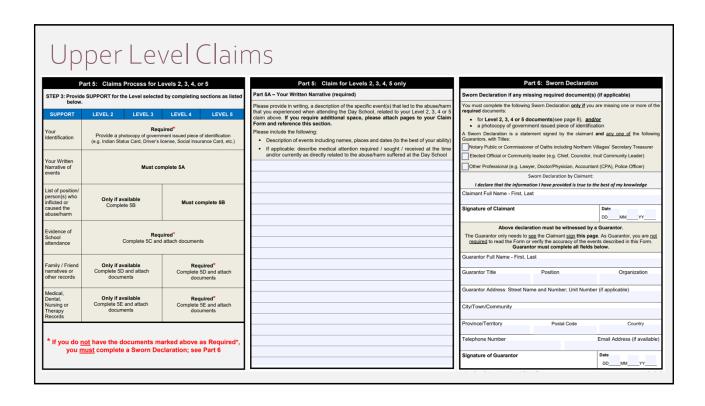
The Exceptions Committee

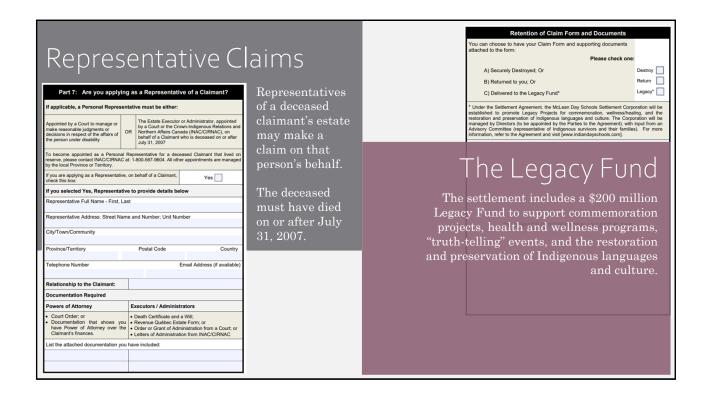
The Third Party Assessor will refer an Application to the Exceptions Committee where the harms described in the Application are not contemplated in the Harms Grid, and where the Third Party Assessor is of the opinion that the circumstances described by the claimant are exceptional and should be considered for compensation. The decision of the Exceptions Committee on such a Claim will be final and not subject to review.

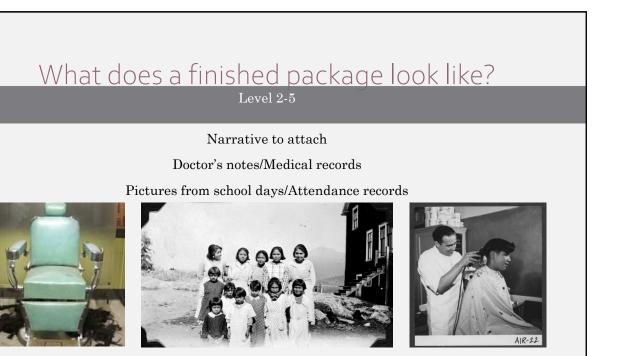
THE CLAIM FORM

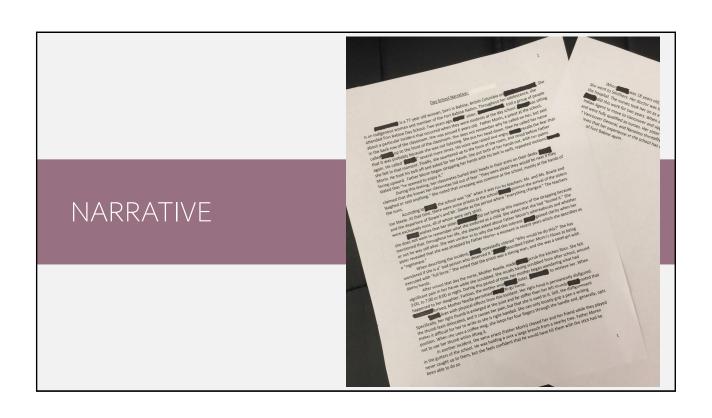


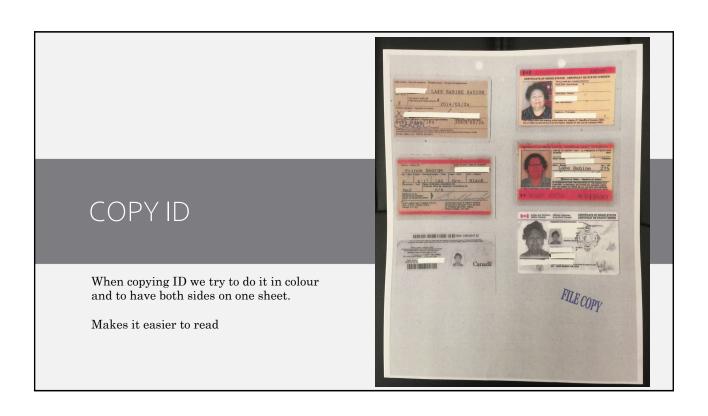


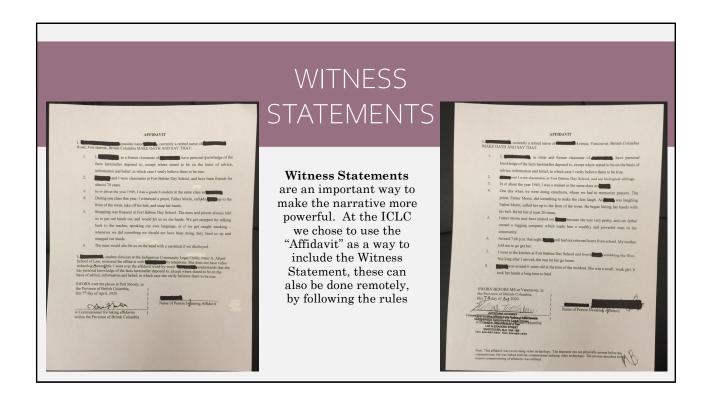






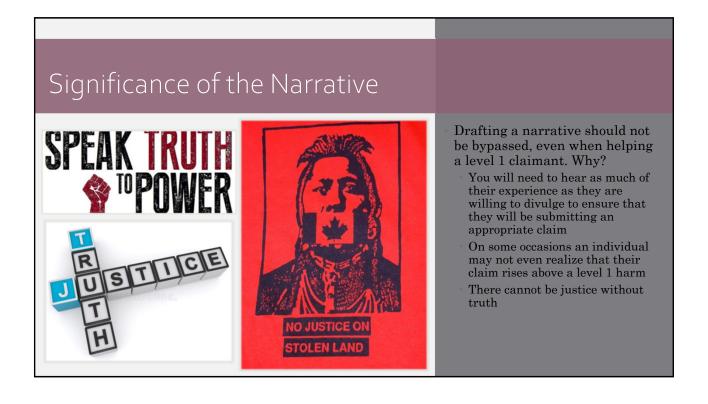








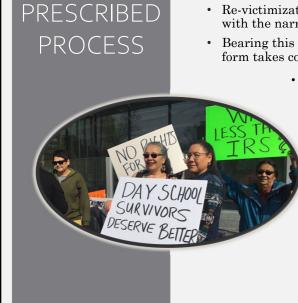




Indigenizing a Colonial Process

- The narrative component of the Claim Form is an opportunity to engage in truth telling and truth gathering—both of which are vital to healing and reconciliation.
- Even if they are a level 1 claimant, the harms they have suffered have likely left a lifelong impact upon them, and in many cases, they have not relayed their experiences to their own families. Therefore, clients may wish to use the narrative to share their experiences with their families to facilitate the healing process.





- Re-victimization cannot be avoided in assisting survivors with the narrative process
- Bearing this in mind, navigating this portion of the claim form takes considerable skill, patience, and sensitivity
 - Prescribed process:
 - 1. Take the time to establish a rapport with the survivor
 - 2. Discuss the availability of therapeutic resources
 - 3. Advise your client that they have significant control over the process and can take breaks as needed
 - 4. Send drafts of your narrative to your client so you can clarify and make revisions throughout the process
 - 5. Advise your client to keep a pen and pad with them to write down their memories—this process will bring up suppressed memories
 - 6. Although the focus of the assessor is on harms incurred at Day School, expand your narrative to include a greater history of the survivor
 - 7. Humanize the survivor in your narrative
 - 8. End your meetings on a light note

WITNESS STATEMENTS

The Challenge of the Witness Narrative

- This process did not anticipate the ethical challenges associated with obtaining witness narratives
- How to corroborate without 'spilling the beans'?





PRESCRIBED PROCESS

- 1. Consider the relationship between the client and the witness
 - · Are they close?
 - · Do they have a completely transparent relationship regarding their life experiences?
 - * Has the client divulged all personal information to the witness?
- 2. Do you have your client's permission to discuss deeply personal details?
 - If yes, you are in luck!
 - If no, how does one proceed?

Prescribed Process Cont'd

3. Ask strategic questions

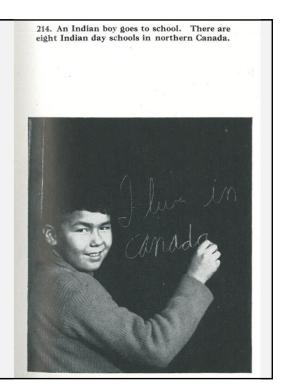
- Rather than: "Did you see Mr. Nelson sexually assault David?"
- Ask: "Do you remember Mr. Nelson?"; "Did any teachers sexually assault any children at the school?"; "Do you recall if something like this ever happened to David?"

4. Drafting the witness narrative

- Intersperse the witness narrative and the client's narrative into one document
 - This will be easier to draft, and will be more streamlined for the administrator to digest

5. Produce a redacted witness narrative

 Remove all portions of the client's narrative and submit the document to the witness for their review



Chester:

With respect to the sexual abuse Chester sustained while he was at Day School, Chester recalls how Dr. Jack Gifford made unwanted advances towards him when he was age 12-15. As stated by Chester:

"He told all the other kids to leave the class, and then started hugging me, and trying to put his hands on me. He put his hands on my knee, and on my body. I could smell alcohol on his breath, and I sensed it wasn't good and I told him that I had to go. He knew that I wasn't going to put up with it. But I can remember him getting other kids. Sometimes he would get them to go to his house."

That said, although Chester was able to avoid Dr. Jack Gifford's sexual advances for the most part, Chester has stated that many other students, including his brother, Nigel, were not so lucky, and he recollects Nigel spending time at Dr. Gifford's residence and notes that "there are many witnesses who know about it [Dr. Gifford's sexual abuse]." "I knew my brother spent time with him, where he lived," says Chester, "But, I never told my mother and my dad anything about that. I kept it to myself." To this day, this is one of Chester's biggest regrets.

Frasier:

Frasier substantiates Chester's allegations against Dr. Jack Gifford, and notes that it is well-known in their community that Dr. Gifford preyed upon children at the Day School. That said, Frasier recalls one occasion in which Nigel detailed the abuse he suffered at the hands of Dr. Gifford, and other staff at the Day School. Frasier recounts Nigel's story as follows:

"He [Dr. Jack Gifford] caused a great amount of damage to the community; not just to the sexuality of young men, but to their psyche. We played basketball together [Frasier and Nigel], and I knew he was a homosexual, and one day he told me how it started with him—the genesis of it all, before he could think critically and make decisions of his own. He told me, 'I stood there while the people abused me. They [Day School staff onlookers] laughed at me and the blood running down my legs.' He did not tell me how old he was when it bennessed."

With respect to the relationships between Chester and Nigel, Frasier recalls that Nigel's homosexuality was a source of contention between Nigel and his siblings. In fact, . . . |





Prescribed Process Cont'd

- 6. Request that the witness narrative be destroyed rather than returned to the client or submitted to the legacy fund
 - Do not worry about this step if your client and the witness have a completely transparent relationship with respect to their life experiences
 - NB: Since this conundrum has not been anticipated within this settlement, you will have to draft and submit this request along with the rest of the claim form



TRAUMA-INFORMED INTERVIEWING

General tips for trauma-informed interviewing

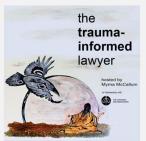


- 1. Listen
- 2. Be patient and comfortable with silences
- 3. Ask open ended questions
- 4. Always let the interviewee sit in the driver's seat
- 5. Trust is earned build rapport!
- 6. Set aside as much time and flexibility as possible
- 7. See the whole person, not discrete legal issues
- 8. Be mindful of body language
- 9. Be self-aware
- 10. Talk about self care and support (and make referrals when appropriate)
- 11. Always be transparent about the process
- 12. Vicarious trauma is real take care of yourself when you need to

Day Schools Interviews

- Understand the historic context of Indian Day Schools: https://vimeo.com/434944936
- Learn about intergenerational trauma: <u>http://nctr.ca/reports.php</u>
- Be aware of your own positionality
- Even though the class action doesn't ask for this information, take time to talk about **healing and resistance**. Mainstream narratives often frame Indigenous people as victims counter this by focusing on strength and survival.
- For some claimants, deciding to do a Level 1 claim in order to avoid having to provide a narrative may truly be the best decision for their mental and emotional health. Create a safe space for someone to share their story, but respect and honour their decision not to if they determine that is the right path for them.

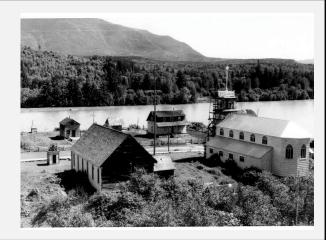
Check out Métis-Cree lawyer, Myna McCallum's podcast, <u>The Trauma-</u> <u>Informed Lawyer</u>

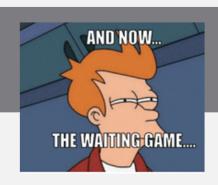


MISSING INFORMATION

If you have already submitted a claim you may receive a letter asking for more information.

- Read the letter.
- Review what is asked for.
- Complete the "Missing Information" Form, sign and send it to the Claims Administrator.





TIME ESTIMATES

Level 1

- · Can take up to six months
- You will receive a payment letter to confirm a claim has been approved.

Level 2 - 5

- Can take up to 12 months for the review process to be complete
- These claims are also sent to the Government of Canada

ADDITIONAL NOTICES

 Additional information – which accompanies the Missing Information Form



A Letter advising that your Level
 2-5 Claim is being sent to the
 Government of Canada





 You claimed Level 1, but the Administrator feels that you qualify for a higher level, or you have been reclassified at a higher level



 Your Claim is being sent to the exceptions committee to determine eligibility based on attendance at a Non-Schedule K school and/or year attended.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES

Resources:

- Consolidated Settlement Agreement:
 - · Schedule A the Agreement in Principle
 - ${\boldsymbol \cdot} \;$ Schedule B- the compensation grid and the claims process
 - $^{\circ}$ Schedule C Amended Statement of Claim, relief claimed, survivor class, family class
 - · Schedule K list of approved schools
- Federal Indian Day School Class Action website
- · Gloria and Jaden's Courthouse Libraries webinar
- Gowling WLG (Class Counsel):
 - · 1-844-539-3815
 - · dayschools@gowlingwlg.com
- · Claims Administrator Call Centre
 - · 1-888-221-2898





FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOLS **CLASS ACTION**

Survivors of Federal Indian Day Schools are now eligible to apply for compensation through the Federal Indian Day Schools Class Action.

Survivors have until July 13th, 2022 to complete their claim forms.

If you believe you may be eligible for the class action, have any questions, or would like to speak to someone further about supports and services available to you, reach out to the Legal Advocacy Program at Atira Women's Resource Society.

Atira Women's Resource Society E: volunteer_advocate@atira.bc.ca 101 East Cordova St. Vancouver

т: 604 331 1407 ext 114

Mental Health/Counselling Resources

All of the following services are free.

Hope for Wellness Helpline

t: 1.855.242.3310

Experienced and culturally competent counsellors offer immediate mental health support and crisis intervention to all Indigenous peoples across Canada.

Available 24/7 in English and French – on request, phone counselling is available in Cree, Ojibway, and Inuktitut.

Online counselling is also available at www.hopeforwellness.ca

t: 1.800.588.8717

KUU-US Crisis Line Society

e: kuu-usexecutivedirector@shaw.ca

Crisis line service for Indigenous adults, youth, and elders in BC.

Available 24/7.

For more information: www.kuu-uscrisisline.ca

Kilala Lelum: Urban Indigenous **Health & Healing Cooperative**

t: **604.620.4010**

Indigenous Elders work with physicians and allied health professionals to provide physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual care to residents of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

Located at 626 Powell St, Vancouver.

2 to 3 month waitlist for services.

For more information: www.kilalalelum.ca

t: 604.254.9949

Vancouver Aboriginal Health Society

e: admin@vahs.life

The All My Relations Elders Program - Mmmooooooke Na Sii Yea Yea (MNSYY) - aims to improve patients' wellness, resilience, and sense of positive identity through connection to Indigenous culture, spirituality, and Elders with the goal of addressing intergenerational effects of residential schools and colonialism.

Services include one-to-one counselling sessions with Indigenous Elders, cultural teaching circles, access to health care providers, access to Indigenous ceremonies, therapeutic listening, advocacy and referrals.

Located at 449 East Hastings St, Vancouver.

For more information: www.vahs.life

t: 604.558.8822

Lu'ma Medical Centre

e: Booking@LumaMedical.ca

Patients of the Lu'ma Medical Centre can access traditional healing with Elders, cultural ceremonies, and one-to-one and family counselling.

Located in East Vancouver.

For more information: www.lnhs.ca/luma-medical-centre

Metro Vancouver

Indigenous Services Society

t: 604.255.2394

Culturally diverse support services for Indigenous people including support groups, individual/family counselling and community healing.

Open to Indigenous residents of Vancouver, North Vancouver and Richmond.

Located at #100 – 2732 East Hastings St, Vancouver.

For more information: www.mviss.ca

Aboriginal Wellness Program

t: 604.675.2551

One-to-one counselling, support groups, and cultural support for Indigenous people living in Vancouver and the Lower Mainland.

6 to 8 month waitlist for services.

Located at #288 – 2750 E Hastings St, Vancouver.

For more information: www.vch.ca

First Nations Health Authority

t: 1.855.550.5454

One-to-one counselling available for those eligible for FNHA Health Benefits (First Nations people with a Status number, who have Medical Service Plan coverage and who are not otherwise covered by benefits provided by the federal government or a self-governing First Nation).

Indigenous Residential School Resolution Health Support Program and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Health Support Services available for First Nations and non-First Nations individuals.

Available throughout BC.

For more information: www.fnha.ca

YWCA Crabtree Corner:

Elder in Residence

t: 778.222.4209

The Elder is Residence at Crabtree Corner provides group and one-to-one support for families with an Indigenous approach, centring Indigenous perspectives and knowledge. Support, healing and wellness for those who are disconnected from family or who are working to reconnect with their Indigeneity.

Available to residents of Vancouver.

Located at 533 E Hastings St, Vancouver.

For more information: www.ywcavan.org/programs/crabtree-corner

Saa'ust Centre

t: **604.684.1178**

e: saa-ust@vancouver.ca

Support centre for families and survivors affected by the Nation Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Services include cultural activities, prayer space, drop-in workshops and referrals to counselling.

Located at 44 E Cordova St, Vancouver.

For more information: www.vancouver.ca/people-programs/saa-ust-centre

Indian Residential School Survivors Society

t: 1.800.721.0066

e: reception@irsss.ca

Short-term crisis counselling, emotional support and spiritual healing for survivors of residential schools and their families.

Services available across BC.

For more information: www.irsss.ca

Residential Historical Abuse Program

t: 604-875-4255

e: rhap@ych.ca

Funding for counselling for adults who were sexually abused while in foster care in BC.

Services available across BC.

t: **604.331.1407** ext. **107**

Atira Women's Resource Society

e: stv@atira.bc.ca

One-to-one and group counselling to women and transwomen in the Downtown Eastside who have experienced current or past relationship abuse, sexual assault, or physical, emotional or sexual abuse at any age. Servies are provided from a strengths-based, feminist, anti-oppressive, and harm reduction perspective.

For more information: www.atira.bc.ca

Battered Women's Support Services

t: 1.855.687.1868

e: intake@bwss.org

One-to-one and group counselling for women in the Lower Mainland who are currently experiencing violence and/or who are survivors of violence including childhood sexual abuse or adult sexual assault. BWSS also provides support to women survivors of Indian Residential Schools and/or foster care.

BWSS offers culturally appropriate services run by Indigenous women for Indigenous women. The Indigenous Women's program offers drum groups, counselling and ceremonies.

Crisis & Intake Line available 24/7. Support workers provide emotional support, information and referrals, and help with coping and safety planning.

For more information: www.bwss.org

WAVAW Rape Crisis Centre

t: 1.877.392.7583

e: admin@wavaw.ca

One-to-one and group counselling to survivors of sexualized violence who are of marginalized genders: cis and trans women, Two-Spirit, trans and/or non-binary people.

WAVAW also provides phone, one-to-one, group and family counselling as well as traditional healing ceremonies for self-identified family members of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

Crisis & Info Line available 24/7. Support workers provide immediate crisis assistance, emotional support, information and referrals.

For more information: www.wavaw.ca

Family Services of Greater Vancouver

t: 604.874.2938 ext. 4141

e: specializedtraumaservices@fsgv.ca

One-to-one counselling for women survivors of adult or childhood physical/sexual abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, or incest.

1.5-year waitlist.

Located in Vancouver, Richmond, and New Westminster.

For more information: www.fsgv.ca

VGH Access & Assessment Centre

t: 604.675.3700

Mental health services available to all residents of the City of Vancouver age 17 and up.

Call or visit drop-in centre between 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., 7 days a week.

Located at Vancouver General Hospital.

For more information: www.vch.ca

t: 310.6789

Crisis Line Association of BC

e: info@crisislines.bc.ca

Emotional support, information and resources specific to mental health.

The Crisis Line Association of BC also provides the 1-800 SUICIDE line for anyone who is considering suicide or is concerned about someone who may be. Dial 1.800.784.2433.

For more information: www.crisislines.bc.ca

VictimLinkBC

t: 1.800.563.0808

e: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca

24/7 phone line providing information and referrals to all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.

For more information: www.healthlinkbc.ca

Atira acknowledges that the above services take place on the unceded, ancestral and traditional territories of diverse Indigenous peoples across what is commonly referred to as the province of British Columbia.