

CLASS ACTION - INSTITUTION DES SOURDES-MUETTES DE MONTRÉAL

File number: 500-06-001151-212

LSQ VERSION: [MFSM c. La Communauté des Sœurs de Charité de la Providence et als. - Avis aux membres](#)

WHO IS CONCERNED?

If you were a student or boarder of the Institution des Sourdes-Muettes de Montréal before June 20, 1975, you could be part of this class action.

WHY A CLASS ACTION?

La Maison des Femmes Sourdes de Montréal has received authorization to institute a class action against La Communauté des Sœurs de Charité de la Providence, Sœurs de la Providence and Sœurs de la Providence, Province Émilie-Gamelin. La Maison des Femmes Sourdes de Montréal seeks to obtain compensation for students or boarders who may have suffered abuse (sexual, physical or psychological) at the hands of the nuns of the Institution.

Important: This is not yet a final decision. The Court has only agreed that the class action can proceed. A trial will be held to determine whether the defendants should pay compensation to the victims.

ARE YOU PART OF THE CLASS ACTION?

You are part of this class action if you were a student or boarder at the Institution des Sourdes-Muettes de Montréal before June 20, 1975, and you have been **sexually, physically or psychologically abused** there by a nun of La Communauté des Sœurs de Charité de la Providence.

WHO REPRESENTS THE MEMBERS?

The law firm **Trudel Johnston & Lespérance** represents the victims.

No fees: The lawyers for the claim will be paid only if the class action is settled or won by them. You do not have to pay any fees or costs otherwise.

YOU CAN CHOOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE

If you do nothing, you will automatically be a part of the class action. You are under no obligation to get involved or intervene.

If you **do not wish to** participate (for example, if you wish to start your own lawsuit), you must **send a letter** to the Court. You have until September 2, 2025).

Addresses to Opt Out:

Montreal Superior Court

1, rue Notre Dame Est
Montréal (Québec) H2Y 1B6

Trudel Johnston & Lespérance

90-750 Côte de la Place d'Armes
Montréal (Québec) H2Y 2X8

YOU MAY ASK TO INTERVENE

The class action will be tried in Montreal. If you wish to **actively participate** in the case (for example, to share your testimony or provide important information), you can ask the court to let you intervene.

The court will only accept your intervention if it is **useful** for all the members of the group.

STAY INFORMED

If you would like to receive updates on the progress of the case, you can subscribe to the lawyers' mailing list here: [Abuses by nuns at the Institution des Sourdes-Muettes de Montréal - Trudel Johnston & Lespérance](#)

Please note: Subscribing to the mailing list does NOT mean you are making a claim. If the class action is successful, you will need to make a formal claim for compensation.

For further information, you can also consult the Registry of class actions: <https://www.registredesactionscollectives.quebec/en>

NEED HELP?

You can contact La Maison des Femmes Sourdes de Montréal's lawyers at:



TRUDEL JOHNSTON & LESPÉRANCE

Address: 750 Côte de la Place d'Armes, Suite 90
Montréal (Québec) H2Y 2X8

Toll-free number: 1 844-588-8385

E-mail: info@tjl.quebec

APPENDIX A

QUESTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS AUTHORIZED BY THE COURT

Questions authorized by the Court

- a) Were sexual, physical and psychological abuses committed by nuns who were members of the defendant religious communities on the students and boarders of the Institution des Sourdes-Muettes de Montréal in their care?
- b) Did La Communauté des Sœurs de Charité de la Providence, the Sœurs de la Providence and the Sœurs de la Providence, Province Émilie-Gamelin incur liability as principals for the abuses committed by the nuns at the Institution des Sourdes-Muettes de Montréal?
- c) Did La Communauté des Sœurs de Charité de la Providence, the Sœurs de la Providence and the Sœurs de la Providence, Province Émilie-Gamelin incur liability by failing to intervene to prevent and stop the recurrence of abuses committed by the nuns at the Institution des Sourdes-Muettes de Montréal?
- d) Are La Communauté des Sœurs de Charité de la Providence, the Sœurs de la Providence and the Sœurs de la Providence, Province Émilie-Gamelin jointly liable to the group members for the damages suffered by them?
- e) What types of damage, harm and consequences are common to members of the "victims of sexual or physical abuses" subgroup?
- f) What types of damage, harm and consequences are common to members of the "victims of psychological abuses" subgroup?
- g) What is the amount of non-pecuniary compensatory damages common to the members of the "victims of sexual or physical abuses" subgroup to which each member is entitled?
- h) What is the amount of non-pecuniary compensatory damages common to members of the "victims of psychological abuses" subgroup to which each member is entitled?
- i) Should collective recovery of non-pecuniary compensatory damages be ordered?
- j) Is article 2926.1 C.C.Q. unconstitutional and is the action prescribed?

The conclusions sought authorized by the Court:

GRANT Plaintiff's class action

CONDEMN the defendants jointly to pay to each member of the "victims of sexual or physical abuses" subgroup an amount of \$200,000 in non-pecuniary damages, unless perfected, plus interest at the legal rate and the additional indemnity provided for in article 1619 of the Civil Code of Québec, from the date of service of the Application for authorization to institute a class action and to obtain the status of representative, and **ORDER** the collective recovery of these sums;

CONDEMN the defendants jointly to pay each member of the "victims of psychological abuses" subgroup \$50,000 in non-pecuniary damages, unless perfected, plus interest at the legal rate and the additional indemnity provided for in article 1619 of the Civil Code of Québec, from the date of service of the Application for authorization to institute a class action and to obtain the status of representative, and **ORDER** the collective recovery of these sums;

CONDEMN the defendants jointly to pay to each member of the group a sum in pecuniary damages, the amount of which is to be determined subsequently, any sum to be increased by interest at the legal rate and the additional indemnity provided for in article 1619 of the Civil Code of Québec, from the date of service of the Application for authorization to institute a class action and to obtain the status of representative, and **ORDER** individual recovery of these sums;

THE WHOLE with legal costs, including notice fees, administration fees, expert fees and interpretation fees.