

STUDENT LOANS CLASS ACTION

PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY - IT MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS.

To all persons whose personal information was contained in an external hard drive in the control of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (now known as Employment and Social Development Canada) or the National Student Loan Services Centre which was lost or disclosed to others on or about November 5, 2012.

What is this lawsuit about?

A class action lawsuit has been started in the Federal Court of Canada claiming that Human Resources and Skills Development (now known as Employment and Social Development Canada) or the National Student Loans Service Centre lost an external hard drive containing the private details of some 583,000 Canadians. This case has now been certified as a class action by the Federal Court. The plaintiffs are seeking compensation for this alleged privacy breach.

What happens next?

The class action has two stages. In the first stage, a trial will be held to determine the common issues in the action. If these issues are determined in favour of the class members, there will be a second stage to determine what each person has to do to obtain compensation.

What do I have to do to participate?

There is nothing you have to do right now. If your personal information was on the lost hard drive, you are automatically included in the class. Unless you opt-out you will be bound by the result of the common issues trial. However, in order to make sure you are notified of any important developments in the action, we recommend you register on our website at www.studentloansclassaction.com.

What if I don't want to participate?

If you don't want to be part of the class action, you must send a copy of the opt-out form to Sarkis Isaac, an accountant at the firm Howie & Partners. A copy of the opt-out form can be found at www.studentloansclassaction.com. You must complete the form by no later than **5:00 p.m. EST on August 31, 2016**.

Do I need to pay anything?

You will only need to pay legal fees if the action is successful and the class is awarded compensation. Those legal fees will be paid directly from that compensation. You will not need to pay any legal fees out of your own pocket. Any fee paid to the lawyers must be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable. The fee agreements entered into by the representative plaintiffs allow the lawyers to be paid up to 1/3 of any amounts recovered or any benefit obtained from the class action. If and when this occurs, the lawyers will apply to the Court for approval of that percentage or some lesser amount.

If the class action is unsuccessful at the common issues trial, you will not pay any legal fees.

Who are the lawyers for the class?

The lawyers for the class are:

BRANCH MACMASTER LLP
1410 – 777 Hornby Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 1S4

CHARNEY LAWYERS
151 Bloor Street West, Suite 602
Toronto, ON M5S 1S4

SUTTS, STROSBERG LLP
600 - 251 Goyeau Street Windsor
Windsor, ON N9A 6V4

BOB BUCKINGHAM LAW
81 Bond Street
St. John's NL A1C 1T2

Where can I get more information?

You can always check the website for the class action at www.studentloansclassaction.com or contacting the lawyers at the addresses above.