



INFORMATION PACKAGE

MISMANAGEMENT CLAIM

MONTANA FIRST NATION SETTLEMENT RATIFICATION

November 12, 2024

MONTANA FIRST NATION MEMBERS

Chief and Council are asking members of the Montana First Nation to consider Canada's Settlement Offer for Montana First Nation's long-standing Mismanagement Claim that was filed in the Federal Court in 1993.

On July 14, 2022, Canada made a settlement offer to Montana First Nation to settle the Mismanagement Claim and the Related Actions for \$14.7 million. Chief and Council held community information sessions in April and May 2024 to discuss the settlement offer with Montana First Nation members. Montana First Nation members provided valuable feedback and expressed their opinions, but a clear consensus and direction were not agreed upon.

On August 1, 2024, Canada provided an updated Settlement Offer to Chief and Council for \$16 million. This Settlement Offer was valid until September 30, 2024. Chief and Council and our advisors met with Canada's representatives and lawyers in September. Canada's representatives advised Chief and Council that the existing financial mandate to settle Montana First Nation's Mismanagement Claim is due to expire and \$16 million is the maximum amount of compensation that Canada could offer Montana First Nation based on this mandate.

We believe that it is important for Montana First Nation members to consider Canada's Settlement Offer. Based on the timelines for acceptance provided by Canada and the expiry of the existing financial mandate, Chief and Council accepted the Settlement Offer, *in principle*, and directed that a Settlement Agreement be drafted and presented to Montana First Nation members. The Settlement Agreement will only be accepted if a majority of eligible voters who participate in the vote cast their ballots in favour of the Settlement Agreement.

There are advantages and disadvantages to accepting Canada's Settlement Offer. Chief and Council want to provide the opportunity for our members to consider the Settlement Agreement and make an informed decision on whether to vote yes or no. This Information Package will provide you with the details to understand the Settlement Agreement. We will hold Information Meetings on November 26-27, 2024, where you can ask questions of leadership and our legal counsel.

We look forward to hearing your perspectives and thank you for taking the time to consider this important matter.

Montana First Nation Chief and Council

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DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE

ELECTORS

Electors are the individuals who are eligible to vote in the Ratification Vote. These individuals are Montana First Nation members on the Montana First Nation membership list and are the full age of 18 years.

INFORMATION MEETINGS

Information Meetings will be held in-person at the Montana Administration Gym on:

Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm MST and

Wednesday, November 27, 2024
at 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm MST

Chief and Council, the Ratification Officer and legal counsel will be present at these meetings to provide information about the Ratification Vote and the Settlement Agreement. If you have questions but are unable to attend the Information Meetings, please contact the Ratification Officer.

INFORMATION PACKAGE

The Information Package is this document. Montana First Nation members may pick up this Information Package at the Information Meetings or at the Montana First Nation Administration Office.

Montana First Nation members may request an emailed copy of the Information Package by contacting:

Leanne Louis at leannelouis@montanafirstnation.com or
Haley Schow at assistant@foxllp.ca.

MISMANAGEMENT CLAIM

The Mismanagement Claim or the Federal Court Action relates to Montana's Statement of Claim filed in the Federal Court in 1993 (Federal Court File T-2954-93). For more information on this claim please see page 5 (FEDERAL COURT FILE: T-2954-93) of this Information Package.

RATIFICATION OFFICER

The Ratification Officer, also called an Electoral Officer, is appointed by Chief and Council to oversee the Ratification Vote.

Chief and Council have appointed Brett Bilyk at OneFeather as the Ratification Officer so that Montana First Nation members can vote both electronically and in-person.

The contact information of the Ratification Officer is:

Email: voterhelp@onefeather.ca

Office: 250-384-8200

Toll Free: 1-855-923-3006

Ratification Officer: Brett Bilyk

RATIFICATION VOTE

The Ratification Vote is where eligible Montana First Nation voters will be asked to vote on the ballot question:

Do you agree to the terms and conditions of the proposed Montana First Nation Settlement Agreement that will settle and release Canada from the claims in Federal Court Action T-2954-93 and all related actions for payment of \$16 million, and authorize and direct Chief and Council to sign the Montana First Nation Settlement Agreement and take all actions necessary to give effect to the Montana First Nation Settlement Agreement? Yes or No

Montana First Nation voters can vote as follows:

ELECTRONIC VOTING: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 5:00 pm MST until Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 1:59 pm MST.

ADVANCE POLL: Monday, December 9, 2024 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm MST at the Montana Administration Gym, Montana First Nation.

VOTING DAY: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm MST at the Montana Administration Gym, Montana First Nation.

For more information on how to vote, please see page 12 (VOTING) of this Information Package.

RELATED ACTIONS

Related Actions are the lawsuits that have been filed that raise the same matters, issues, or allegations as those in the Mismanagement Claim. For more information on the Related Actions, please see page 8 (RELATED ACTIONS) of this Information Package.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The Settlement Agreement is the document that outlines the terms and conditions of Canada's Settlement Offer to Montana First Nation. For more information on the Settlement Agreement, please see page 9 (SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT SUMMARY) of this Information Package.

SETTLEMENT OFFER

On August 1, 2024, Canada provided a Settlement Offer to Chief and Council for \$16 million to settle the Mismanagement Claim and Other Related Actions. This Settlement Offer is the basis for the Settlement Agreement. For more information, please see page 9 (SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT SUMMARY) of this Information Package.

VOTERS LIST

The Voters List is the list of Electors (Montana First Nation members who are at least 18 years old and who are eligible to vote in the Ratification Vote). This list was prepared by the membership department and a copy is available at the Montana First Nation Administration Office. If you have any questions about the Voters List, please contact the Ratification Officer.

MISMANAGEMENT CLAIM SUMMARY
FEDERAL COURT FILE: T-2954-93

BACKGROUND

The Mismanagement Claim relates to Montana Indian Reserve No. 139 (“Montana’s Reserve”) as well as the Pigeon Lake Indian Reserve No. 138A (“Pigeon Lake Reserve”) that is shared between the four Maskwacis Nations.

Montana’s Reserve and the Pigeon Lake Reserve contained large deposits of oil and gas. In 1946, Montana First Nation members surrendered the mineral interests in both reserves, so that Canada could manage the oil and gas reserves, grant leases to oil and gas companies, and collect the royalties for Montana First Nation. As Canada owed a fiduciary duty to the Montana First Nation, it was required to act in the best interests of the Montana First Nation, but there were concerns that Canada was not fulfilling these duties.

In 1989, Samson Cree Nation filed a lawsuit against Canada in relation to the management of oil and gas reserves on Samson’s Reserve and the Pigeon Lake Reserve. In 1992, Ermineskin Cree Nation filed a similar action. In 1993, both Montana First Nation and Louis Bull filed similar actions, but also included the 25% issue, which will be explained below.

TIMELINE

September 29, 1989	Samson Cree Nation Statement of Claim filed at the Federal Court (T-2022-89)
May 28, 1992	Ermineskin Cree Nation Statement of Claim filed at the Federal Court (T-1254-92)
December 14, 1993	Montana Statement of Claim (Mismanagement Claim) filed at the Federal Court (T-2954-93)
December 14, 1993	Louis Bull Statement of Claim filed at the Federal Court
February 13, 1999	Montana Amended Statement of Claim filed
March 10, 1999	Montana Amended Amended Statement of Claim filed
March 2, 2001	Montana Amended Amended Amended Statement of Claim filed
September 30, 2001	Canada’s Statement of Defence filed in the Montana Mismanagement Claim
November 30, 2005	Federal Court decision in relation to the money management issues (Samson and Ermineskin)
December 20, 2006	Federal Court of Appeal decision in relation to the money management issues (Samson and Ermineskin)

May 31, 2007	Canada brought a Third Party Claim against the other Maskwacis Nations in relation to the Montana Mismanagement Claim
February 13, 2009	Supreme Court of Canada decision in relation to the money management issues (Samson and Ermineskin)
July 9, 2015	Federal Court decision in relation to the “other” oil and gas issues (Samson and Ermineskin)
September 8, 2016	Federal Court of Appeal decision in relation to the “other” oil and gas issues (Samson and Ermineskin)
March 9, 2017	Supreme Court of Canada declined to hear the appeal of the “other” oil and gas issues (Samson and Ermineskin)
May 30, 2024	Canada discontinued the Third Party Claim against Samson in the Montana Mismanagement Claim and the Louis Bull Action
June 9, 2024	Canada discontinued the Third Party Claim against Ermineskin in the Montana Mismanagement Claim and the Louis Bull Action

STATEMENT OF CLAIM

There are five issues outlined in Montana’s Statement of Claim:

Issue #1 - Money Management

The money management part of the Mismanagement Claim relates to how Canada treated the funds it received from oil and gas producers on the Pigeon Lake Reserve. Montana claimed that Canada should have invested the funds from oil and gas differently. The funds from the oil and gas production were put into Canada’s Consolidated Revenue Fund and Montana claimed that the Crown was in a conflict of interest by depositing this money into this account.

Samson and Ermineskin unsuccessfully litigated the money management issue at the [Federal Court](#). This decision was appealed to both the [Federal Court of Appeal](#) as well as the [Supreme Court of Canada](#) but Samson and Ermineskin were not successful at any of the appeals.

Issue #2 - Oil and Gas Issues

The oil and gas issues relate to how Canada managed the oil and gas production on the Pigeon Lake Reserve and how Canada dealt with the oil and gas producers.

Montana alleges that:

- Canada did not take adequate steps to ensure that the production of oil and gas from the Pigeon Lake Reserve was maximized.

- There were issues with the royalty rate and how the royalties were calculated from the oil and gas that was produced from the Pigeon Lake Reserve.
- Canada improperly and negligently administered, managed, and supervised the natural resources on the Pigeon Lake Reserve and Montana's Reserve.

Issue #3 - "Other" Oil and Gas Issues (Tax or Regulated Pricing Regime)

The other oil and gas issues relate to the imposition of measures about the pricing, export, and sale of oil and gas from the Pigeon Lake Reserve between 1973 and 1985. During this period, a national strategy was developed to address the effects of rapidly rising international oil prices in late 1973 and 1974 resulting from an oil embargo implemented by the members of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries. The federal government decided to implement a price freeze on oil sold domestically and to implement a tax, and later a charge, on export sales of oil. This was legislated under the *Oil Export Tax Act* (later called the *Petroleum Administration Act*). The monies received by Canada on account of the tax/charge were used to subsidize consumers in Eastern Canada.

Canada brought a motion for summary judgement on this issue in the Samson and Ermineskin Actions. Canada argued that Samson and Ermineskin waited too long to file a statement of claim and that these claims were time-barred because of limitation periods. The [Federal Court](#) agreed with Canada. Samson and Ermineskin unsuccessfully appealed this decision to the [Federal Court of Appeal](#) and the [Supreme Court of Canada](#) decided not to hear the appeal of this issue.

Issue #4 - Programs and Services

This issue relates to Canada's failure to provide government funding for programs and services on reserve. Montana First Nation argues that because it received oil and gas royalties, Canada withheld funding for programs and services like housing, reserve infrastructure, education, health, roads, economic and social development, capital facilities, and band administration, operation and maintenance. As Canada withheld funding for these programs and services, Montana First Nation had to use its own funds to provide these programs and services to its members.

Issue #5 - 25% Split Issue

The 25% split issue alleges that the oil and gas proceeds should have been divided equally between all Maskwacis Nations instead of based on population. Montana First Nation argues that it should have received 25% of the oil and gas proceeds from the Pigeon Lake Reserve, instead of a 6.98% share of the oil and gas proceeds based on its population in proportion to the other Maskwacis Nations. This argument is also made in the Louis Bull Action.

Montana First Nation received 6.98% of the oil and gas proceeds as that was the population of Montana First Nation members between 1952-2017 in proportion to the other Maskwacis Nations. Ermineskin's population was 26.63%, Samson's population was 53.08% and Louis Bull's population was 13.31%.

RELATED ACTIONS

Chevron

In *Chevron Canada Resources v Canada*, Chevron brought a claim seeking repayment of the money it overpaid to Canada from January 1991 to August 1996. After Chevron discovered the overpayment, it requested that Canada repay the overpayment, but Canada had already transferred the payments to the Maskwacis Nations. The [Alberta Court of Queen's Bench](#) found in favour of Chevron and awarded the amount of the overpayment and interest for a total of \$10.8 million. Montana's portion of the total judgement was \$1,012,268.42. This issue was appealed by Samson and Louis Bull in 2022. On appeal, the [Court of Appeal](#) held that Canada is not entitled to judgment against Samson and Louis Bull but is entitled to indemnify itself from the trust funds for the amounts it paid to Chevron.

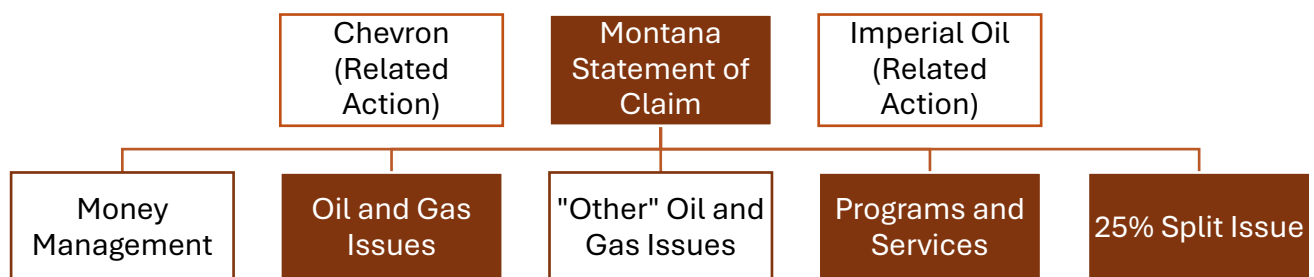
Canada takes the position that because Montana First Nation did not participate in the appeal, Canada has an outstanding judgement against Montana First Nation for its portion of the overpayment. Canada's original settlement offer deducted this amount from the total amount of compensation offered. However, the August 1, 2024 Settlement Offer states that Canada agrees to release Montana First Nation from the amounts it owes to Canada related to the Chevron decision.

Imperial Oil

Canada brought an action against Imperial Oil (one of the Pigeon Lake Reserve operators) regarding certain royalty underpayment and calculation issues. Canada argues that Imperial Oil owed \$2.47 million in royalties in relation to Pigeon Lake Reserve. Canada has been unable to collect from Imperial Oil due to limitation issues and may not be successful for this claim. However, if Canada is successful, Montana First Nation would be entitled to approximately \$257,950.

As part of the Settlement Agreement, Montana would agree to release Canada from liability for the Imperial Oil underpayments. Further, if Canada is able to recover any money from Imperial Oil through litigation or settlement, Montana First Nation agrees to not make any claims for its share of this money.

Mismanagement Claim and Related Actions



SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT SUMMARY

The proposed Settlement Agreement is a document that sets out the terms and conditions of Canada's Settlement Offer to Montana First Nation.

Parties

The Parties to the Settlement Agreement are Montana First Nation, as represented by its Chief and Council and His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Indigenous Services.

Preamble

The Preamble sets out the background information as to why the Settlement Agreement is being entered into and outlines the following information:

- The Pigeon Lake Reserve was set aside for the ancestors of the four Maskwacis Nations.
- The Montana Reserve was set aside for the Montana First Nation. In 1946, Montana surrendered its mineral rights in both reserves, so that the Crown could enter into leases for oil and gas production.
- In 1993, the Montana First Nation sued Canada in Federal Court, claiming that the Crown failed to maximize the oil and gas returns. Canada denies these claims.
- Settlement discussions occurred in 2022 and 2024. On August 1, 2024, Canada offered \$16 million to settle the Mismanagement Claim and Related Actions.
- This Settlement Agreement contains negotiated terms in order to achieve a full, fair, and final settlement of the Mismanagement Claim and Related Actions.

Definitions and Schedules

This part outlines the defined terms used throughout the Settlement Agreement. It also lists the Schedules to the Agreement which form part of the Settlement Agreement.

These Schedules include (1) Solicitor's Certificate; (2) Form of Band Council Resolution ("BCR") for Payment and Direction to Pay; (3) Form of BCR regarding the Ratification Vote; and (4) Related Actions.

Compensation

If a majority of eligible voters who participated in the Ratification Vote cast their ballots in favour of the Settlement Agreement, Chief and Council will provide Canada with the BCR for Payment and Direction to Pay. Canada agrees to pay the First Nation \$16,000,000 in full and final settlement of the Federal Court Action and Related Actions. This is a global amount that is inclusive of legal costs and ratification costs.

The settlement amounts will not be considered "Indian moneys" within the meaning of the *Indian Act*. This means that Canada will not be responsible for determining how these funds are spent. Canada will deposit the funds into the bank account authorized by Chief and Council. Canada will not be responsible for managing this money.

Release and Indemnity

In exchange for the compensation, Montana First Nation agrees to release and discharge Canada from any aspect of the Mismanagement Claim and the Related Actions. This includes legal costs, liability from the negotiation or ratification of the Settlement Agreement, the adequacy of compensation provided, and loss of the compensation or interest through any failure of a financial institution.

Once the Settlement Agreement comes into effect, Montana First Nation agrees to not bring any claim or action against Canada about the matters that are outlined in the Mismanagement Claim and the Related Actions. If any person brings a legal action against Canada with respect to the matters that have been released, Montana First Nation agrees to indemnify or compensate Canada for the loss it suffers from these legal actions.

Canada agrees that it will release and discharge Montana First Nation from any outstanding claims or orders for legal costs made against it in the Mismanagement Claim, the Related Actions and any appeals of these matters.

Canada will release and discharge Montana First Nation from all claims related to the *Chevron* matter.

Dismissal of Proceedings

Montana First Nation agrees to dismiss the Mismanagement Claim at the Federal Court within 90 days from the Effective Date of the Settlement Agreement. Montana First Nation will seek an order from the Federal Court approving this settlement before Canada signs the Settlement Agreement.

Ratification

If a majority of Montana First Nation Electors who participate in the Ratification Vote cast their ballots in favour of the Settlement Agreement, Montana First Nation will ratify and agree to all the terms and conditions contained in the Settlement Agreement. Chief and Council will sign the Settlement Agreement and execute the BCR in Schedule 3.

If a majority of Montana First Nation Electors who participate in the Ratification Vote do not cast their ballots in favour of the Settlement Agreement, the Settlement Agreement is void.

Conditions to Execution by Canada

Before Canada can execute the Settlement Agreement the following steps must have taken place:

- A majority of Montana First Nation Electors who participated in the Ratification Vote cast their ballots in favour of the Settlement Agreement.
- Chief and Council must sign the Settlement Agreement and the Certificate in Schedule 1 and the BCRs in Schedules 2-3 must be provided to Canada.
- The Chief Finances, Results and Delivery Officer of Indigenous Services Canada must be authorized to sign the Settlement Agreement and the funds for compensation must be approved and appropriated by Canada.
- The Federal Court must approve the settlement and dismissal of the Federal Court Action conditional upon Canada paying the compensation to Montana First Nation.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

If we accept the Settlement Agreement, can we bring another lawsuit later?

Montana First Nation will not be able to bring another lawsuit about the issues raised in the Statement of Claim and the Related Actions in the future. Once the Settlement Agreement has been fully signed and compensation has been paid to Montana First Nation, the issues will be resolved.

Montana First Nation will be able to bring any other claims or actions against Canada in the future, as long as those claims or actions do not relate to the issues raised in the Statement of Claim and the Related Actions.

If a majority of Montana First Nation members vote “Yes” in the Ratification Vote, how much money does the Montana First Nation receive?

Montana First Nation will receive \$16 million for the full and final settlement of the Mismanagement Claim.

If a majority of Montana First Nation members vote “No” in the Ratification Vote, how much money does the Montana First Nation receive?

Montana First Nation will not receive any funds as the funds will only be provided by Canada if the Settlement Agreement is approved by members of the Montana First Nation.

If a majority of Montana First Nation members vote in favour of the Settlement Agreement, when will Montana First Nation receive the funds?

Canada has stated that the funds should be released to the Montana First Nation in the summer of 2025.

How much money do the lawyers take from the settlement?

Legal counsel is not paid by a contingency fee so the lawyer will not receive any portion of the \$16 million settlement if accepted by Montana First Nation.

Can Montana First Nation request that Canada provide more money to settle the Mismanagement Claim?

Canada has stated that this is the most amount of money they can provide to the Montana First Nation based on their existing mandate. If Montana First Nation members decide to vote “no” to this Settlement Agreement, we can ask Canada to seek a new financial mandate, but there is no guarantee that this will be given.

Does this Settlement Agreement affect our other claims, like Cows and Ploughs or TLE?

This Settlement Agreement will not affect Montana First Nation’s other claims, like the Agricultural Benefits claim or the Treaty Land Entitlement claim. Regardless of whether Montana First Nation members vote in favour or against the Settlement Agreement, it will not affect those other claims.

Will Montana First Nation lose our reserve lands or the Pigeon Lake reserve lands if we accept this settlement?

No, the Settlement Agreement does not involve the surrender of Montana’s Reserve or Montana First Nation’s interest in the Pigeon Lake Reserve.

Does the settlement affect Montana First Nation’s Treaty or Aboriginal rights?

No, the Settlement Agreement only affects the issues in the Statement of Claim and the Related Actions which relate to the oil and gas on the Pigeon Lake Reserve and Montana’s Reserve.

VOTING

BALLOT QUESTION

Montana First Nation Electors will be asked to vote on the following ballot question at the Ratification Vote:

Do you agree to the terms and conditions of the proposed Montana First Nation Settlement Agreement that will settle and release Canada from the claims in Federal Court Action T-2954-93 and all related actions for payment of \$16 million, and authorize and direct Chief and Council to sign the Montana First Nation Settlement Agreement and take all actions necessary to give effect to the Montana First Nation Settlement Agreement? Yes or No

VOTING INFORMATION

Montana First Nation Electors may only vote once, either in-person or electronically using OneFeather's Electronic Voting Platform, accessible on your phone or computer.

Electronic Voting

Electronic voting will be available from Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 5:00 pm MST until Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 1:59 pm MST.

If you wish to vote electronically:

- click this link: <https://www.onefeather.ca/nations/montana>
- then click the **red** "Sign Up with OneFeather" or "Vote with OneFeather" button and follow the instructions provided

In order to vote electronically, you will be required to provide:

- your personal email
- your Registry Number (this is your 10-digit Status card number starting with "442...")
- your date of birth

Visit this link to get started: <https://www.onefeather.ca/nations/montana>

In-Person Voting

Montana First Nation Electors have two opportunities to vote in-person:

ADVANCE POLL: Monday, December 9, 2024 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm MST at the Montana Administration Gym, Montana First Nation.

VOTING DAY: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm MST at the Montana Administration Gym, Montana First Nation.

If you require voting assistance or support, please contact OneFeather:

Email: voterhelp@onefeather.ca

Office: 250-384-8200

Toll Free: 1-855-923-3006

Ratification Officer: Brett Bilyk

VOTING: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Am I eligible to vote?

Montana First Nation members who are at least 18 years old and who are listed on Montana’s membership list are eligible to vote.

A copy of the Voters List will be available at the Montana First Nation Administration Office. To confirm your name is on the Voters List, or if you have any concerns with the Voters List, please contact the Ratification Officer.

Why are we being asked to vote?

Montana First Nation members are being asked if they agree that the Federal Court case can be settled based on the terms of the Settlement Agreement. This means that Montana First Nation will not be able to seek any additional compensation from Canada in relation to these issues at any time in the future.

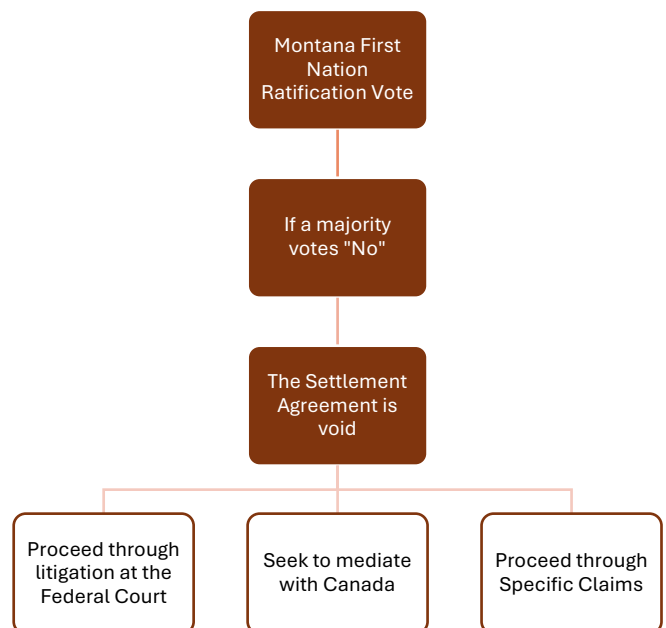
What happens if a majority votes “no”?

If a majority of eligible Montana First Nation Electors who participate vote “no” that means they do not approve of the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement would then be considered “void” and Montana First Nation would not receive the compensation promised in the Settlement Agreement.

This does not mean that Montana First Nation has no more options to resolve this matter. Montana First Nation could:

- continue with the court action in the Federal Court;
- seek to mediate with Canada; or
- file these claims through Canada’s Specific Claims Policy.

These options could result in more compensation being paid to Montana First Nation, or less. There is no guarantee either way. These options would also take years to bring this matter to a full resolution.

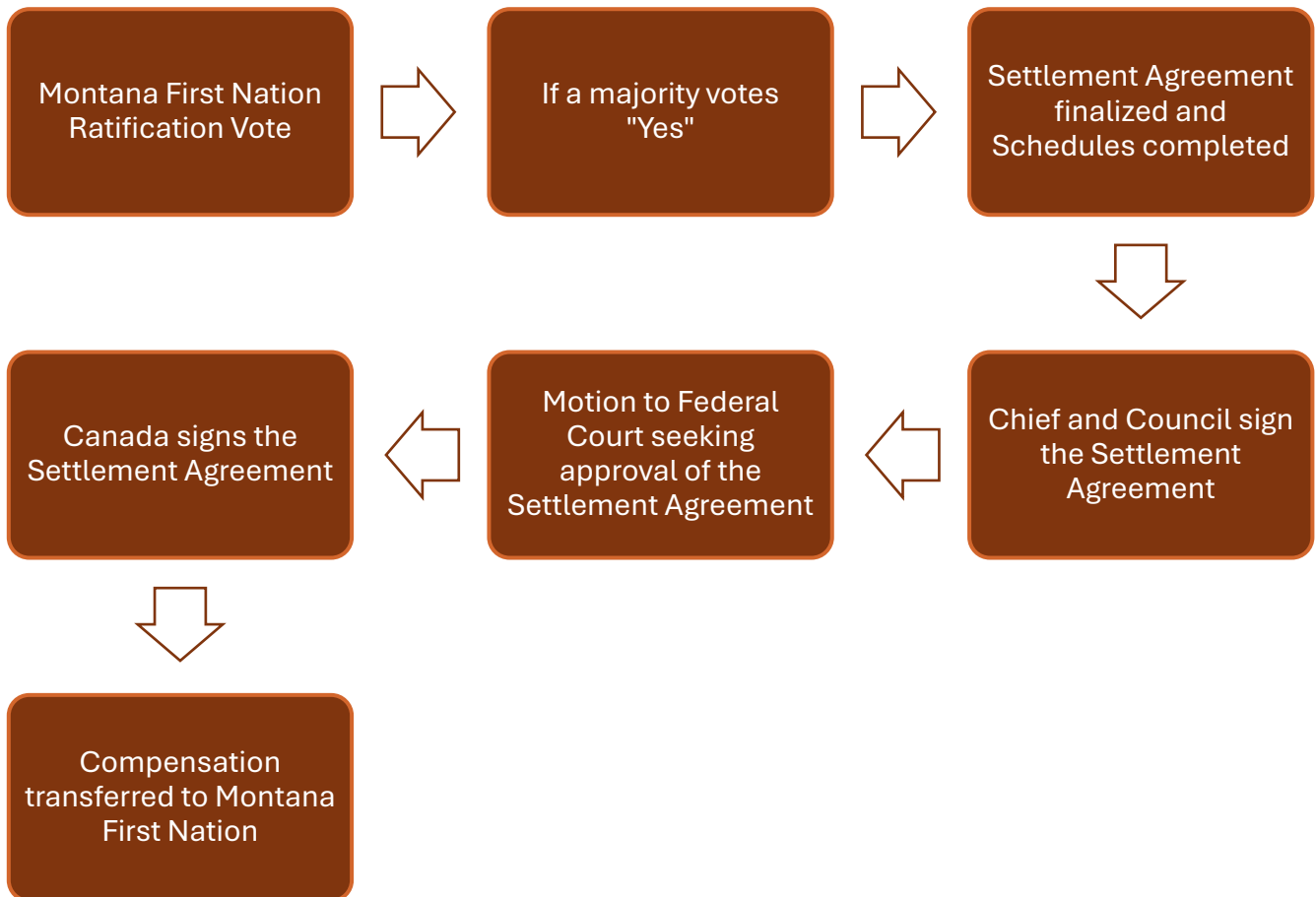


What happens if a majority votes “yes”?

If a majority of eligible voters who participated in the Ratification Vote cast their ballots in favour of the Settlement Agreement:

1. The Settlement Agreement will be finalized.
2. The schedules to the Settlement Agreement will be completed, including:
 - A Solicitor’s Certificate confirming independent legal advice
 - A BCR for payment and direction to pay
 - A BCR confirming the results of the Ratification Vote
3. Chief and Council will sign the Settlement Agreement.

4. Montana First Nation’s legal counsel will bring a motion to the Federal Court seeking approval of the Settlement Agreement and dismissal of Federal Court Action T-2954-93 on the condition that Canada signs the Settlement Agreement and pays Montana First Nation the amount of compensation.
5. Canada, as represented by the Chief Finances, Results and Delivery Officer of Indigenous Services Canada will sign the Settlement Agreement.
6. Canada will transfer the compensation to Montana First Nation. Legal counsel for Canada anticipates that the compensation will be paid to Montana First Nation by summer 2025.



Is electronic voting secure?

Yes, OneFeather uses servers that ensure that all data is encrypted and uses the best data protection systems in Canada. OneFeather is the only First Nations electronic voting platform built specifically for First Nations in Canada. OneFeather has worked with over 280 First Nations across Canada and has had thousands of successful voting events including leadership votes, land code votes, referendums, and settlement votes.

OneFeather systems were developed to ensure the highest standards of voter

authentication and verification, along with other regulatory and audit requirements to ensure that voting is accepted by Canada.

Once a ballot is cast, no one can see it. It cannot be withdrawn, changed or tampered with.

Can a person vote twice?

No, a person cannot vote twice electronically using OneFeather.

If you vote in-person at a polling station you will not be able to cast an electronic ballot for the same vote. If you cast an electronic ballot, you will not be able to vote in-person at a polling station.

INFORMATION MEETINGS

Information Meetings will be held in-person at the Montana Administration Gym on:

- Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm MST.
- Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm MST.

Chief and Council, the Ratification Officer and legal counsel will be present at these meetings to provide information about the Ratification Vote and the Settlement Agreement.

If you have questions about the proposed Settlement Agreement but are unable to attend the Information Meetings, please contact the Ratification Officer.

RATIFICATION OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

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