

## **Tobacco Class Action**

Good evening,

## We are pleased to announce the conclusion of the CCAA mediation process!

A plan of Arrangement providing, among other things, for the compensation of the class members of the Quebec class actions has been made public and will be submitted to a vote of the creditors no later than December 12, 2024.

We support this plan and are confident that almost all creditors will vote in favor of its adoption.

You don't have to do anything at this stage. It is the class representatives and their lawyers who look after the interests of the class members, participate in the discussions and vote.

## Financial compensation for tobacco victims and their heirs

Under the plan, the tobacco companies will pay \$4.25 billion to compensate tobacco victims and their heirs, as well as the heirs of heirs in the Quebec class actions (CQTS-Blais and Létourneau).

The direct and indirect financial compensation provided for in the plan is as follows, for members of the CQTS/Blais class action:

- Up to \$100,000 for lung cancer or throat cancer (larynx, oropharynx or hypopharynx);
- Up to \$30,000 for emphysema or COPD grade III or IV;

Of the \$4.25 billion set aside to compensate class members, \$131 million will be paid into a foundation to fight smoking-related diseases. This contribution of \$131 million represents the total amount of the punitive damages awarded in the Létourneau class action relating to addiction caused by nicotine in cigarettes.

## Approval required

If the creditors' vote is favourable, the plan will then have to be presented to the Ontario Court, which will hear interested parties before deciding whether to ratify the creditors' vote. This hearing will most likely take place in **early 2025**.

Finally, if the plan is approved by the Court, it will then be implemented, allowing the claims process to begin.

We will notify you in December 2024 of the outcome of the vote and the date of the hearing that will be set for the approval of the plan by the Ontario Superior Court.

We will also be writing to you shortly to help you prepare your claim file.

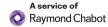
For more information about the proposed plan, click here

Have a good evening,

Proactio for the Trudel Johnston & Lespérance team

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