

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES HMCS QUADRA “DASH” PROGRAM CLASS ACTION
SEXUAL ABUSE, ASSAULT, AND HARASSMENT BY CANADIAN ARMED FORCES
AT HMCS QUADRA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

**IF YOU ATTENDED HMCS QUADRA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
BETWEEN 1980 – 1986 AS A JUVENILE AND FOR THE “DEVELOPING
ADOLESCENCE STRENGTHENING HABITS” (DASH) PROGRAM,
THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS, PLEASE READ
CAREFULLY.**

THE NATURE OF THE CLASS ACTION

This class action seeks damages and other relief as a result of sexual abuse, assault, or harassment by Canadian Armed Forces members against persons who participated in the juvenile delinquent sentencing program “Developing Adolescence Strengthening Habits” (DASH) operated at HMCS Quadra in British Columbia between 1980 and 1986. The Plaintiff and the Class (as defined below) claim that the defendant, His Majesty the King, is vicariously liable for the actions and inactions of the Canadian Armed Forces.

The purpose of this Notice is to: (1) inform you of a class action lawsuit filed in the Federal Court of Canada which you may have a right to participate in; (2) explain how your rights may be affected by this lawsuit; and (3) explain the procedure for opting out of this lawsuit.

A class action is a lawsuit in which one or more persons, known as the “Representative Plaintiff(s)”, sue on behalf of persons who have similar claims. The members of this group are called the “Class”, and will be bound by the resolution of common issues and any court-approved settlement of the class action, whether favorable to you or not.

Class members may have to successfully prove various “individual issues” before becoming entitled to relief. Throughout the class action, the Representative Plaintiff will act on behalf of the Class. Class members may receive periodic court-approved notices about the progress of the class action, and how they may further participate.

The scope of this class action includes claims of negligence, including systemic negligence, and breach of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* [the *Charter*] by the Canadian Armed Forces between 1980 and 1986 – the period of the Canadian Armed Forces’ involvement with the DASH program at Quadra.

CERTIFICATION

By Order dated June 26, 2019 the Federal Court of Canada certified *Eugene Kelly Tippet* v. *His Majesty the King*, Court File No. T-541-18, as a class action. The Court appointed Eugene Kelly Tippet as the Representative Plaintiff. Merchant Law Group LLP act as counsel for Eugene Kelly Tippet and as counsel for the Class.

The allegations made by the Representative Plaintiff have not been proven in Court. The Court has made no determination of the merits of the Representative Plaintiff's claims. His Majesty the King in right of Canada, the Defendant in the class action, denies the allegations made by the Representative Plaintiff. These allegations remain to be determined at a future trial. This notice is being provided because you may be a member of the Class whose rights may be affected by the lawsuit.

THE CLASS

The class action was certified on behalf of the following individuals, who make up the Class:

All persons who participated in the juvenile delinquent sentencing program "Developing Adolescence Strengthening Habits" operated at HMCS Quadra in British Columbia [the DASH Program] and suffered injury due to sexual abuse, assault, or harassment by Canadian Armed Forces members while participating in said juvenile delinquent sentencing program.

PARTICIPATION AND EXCLUSION FROM THE CLASS

If you are a Class member as defined above, you will automatically be included in the Class and are not required to take any further steps at this stage.

IF YOU WISH TO EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE CLASS ACTION ("Opt-Out") you must deliver a written notice specifying your desire to opt out of the class action and Class membership by completing the Opt-Out Form found at the website below and sending the completed form to Class Counsel by mail or by email at:

Merchant Law Group LLP – Attn: DASH Class Action
100 - 2401 Saskatchewan Drive
Regina, SK S4P 4H8

Website: <https://www.merchantlaw.com/class-actions-recours-collectif-canada-canadian-armed-forces-hmcs-quadra/>

Email: dash@merchantlaw.com

Notice of your decision to opt-out via the Opt-Out Form must be received by Class Counsel or postmarked on or before July 22, 2025.

No person may opt out on behalf of a mentally incapable person without permission of the Federal Court, after notice of such opting-out has been provided to the Public Guardian and Trustee, as applicable to Class Members resident in Ontario, and to comparable or equivalent entities in the other provinces and territories, as applicable to Class Members resident in those provinces and territories.

**ANY JUDGMENT OBTAINED ON THE COMMON ISSUES IN THIS ACTION, WHETHER FAVOURABLE OR NOT, WILL BIND ALL OF THE CLASS MEMBERS WHO DO NOT OPT OUT OF THIS PROCEEDING.
FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES**

There is no cost to be a Class member with respect to the common issues. If the common issues are determined in favour of the Class, individual Class member participation may be required to establish individual claims. If this is necessary, each member of the Class may have to bear the monetary costs of such individual proceedings. If the common issues are determined in favour of the Class, Class members will have the opportunity to decide whether to make an individual claim at that time.

Class Counsel has entered into an agreement with the Representative Plaintiff with respect to legal fees and disbursements. This agreement provides that Class Counsel will not receive payment for their work unless and until the class action is successful or monies are recovered from the Defendant. The agreement presently provides that Class Counsel may seek a percentage from 25% to 35% of compensation or benefits, plus disbursements, plus taxes, that may be awarded. This agreement must be approved by the Federal Court and the percentage awarded could be adjusted by the Court at that time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT CLASS COUNSEL:

Merchant Law Group LLP – Attn: DASH Class Action
100 - 2401 Saskatchewan Drive
Regina, SK S4P 4H8
Email: dash@merchantlaw.com

Information can also be obtained from the following website: <https://www.merchantlaw.com/class-actions-recours-collectif-canada-canadian-armed-forces-hmcs-quadra/>

Any questions about the matters in this Notice should **not be directed to the Federal Court, because its administrative structure is not designed to address this type of inquiry.**

Date of Notice: May 22, 2025