



[INAC](#) > [About INAC](#) > [Activities & Responsibilities](#) > [Estimates](#)

Horizontal Initiative

Name of Horizontal Initiative: Indian Residential Schools (IRS) Resolution Health Support Program (formerly Mental Health Support Program)

Name of lead department(s): Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) — Resolution and Individual Affairs Sector

Lead department program activity: Claims Resolution

Start date of the Horizontal Initiative: November, 2003

End date of the Horizontal Initiative: March 31, 2013

Total federal funding allocation (start to end date): \$112.038 M

Description of the Horizontal Initiative (including funding agreement): The IRS Resolution Health Support Program component of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) ensures that eligible former students, and their families, have access to an appropriate level of health support services so that they may safely address a broad spectrum of mental wellness issues related to the disclosure of childhood abuses. Main program components include: Emotional support services provided by Resolution Health Support Workers (RHSWs); Cultural support services provided by Elders; Professional Counseling; and assistance with the cost of transportation to access counseling, Elder, and/or Traditional Healer services.

Shared outcome(s): Healing for former IRS students and their families as they go through the IRSSA process.

Governance structure(s): INAC — Resolution and Individual Affairs Sector is responsible for the overall IRSSA model and is working in partnership with Health Canada to coordinate and provide services for former Indian Residential School students. Various program components of the Resolution Health Support Program will be delivered separately by Health Canada and INAC — Resolution and Individual Affairs Sector.

INAC — Resolution and Individual Affairs Sector responsibilities relating to the Resolution Health Support Program include:

- Administration of the national 24-hour toll free Indian Residential School Crisis Line operated by an Aboriginal organization with trained Aboriginal crisis counsellors;
- Communicating the entire IRSSA to former Indian Residential Schools students and Aboriginal communities, including the various components of the Resolution Health Support Program;
- Facilitating Health Canada's verification of eligibility; and
- Ensuring that Health Canada's Resolution Health Support Program is aware of dates for Independent Assessment Process/Alternative Dispute Resolution hearings, litigation, and Truth and Reconciliation and Commemoration events as they arise, so that Resolution Health Support Program regional coordinators are prepared to address high claimant settlement areas.

Health Canada provides cultural, paraprofessional and professional support for individuals, families



and communities, as well as assistance with the cost of transportation, throughout all phases of the Settlement Agreement including the Common Experience Payments, the Independent Assessment Process, the Truth and Reconciliation Committee, and Commemorative events.

(\$ millions)

Federal Partners	Federal Partner Program Activity (PA)	Names of Programs for Federal Partners	Total Allocation (from Start to End Date)	Planned Spending for 2009-10	Expected Results for 2009-10
Health Canada	First Nations and Inuit Health, Community Programs Directorate, Mental Health and Addictions	Resolution Health Support Program	\$112.038M	\$22.451M	provision of support at IAP, Truth and Reconciliation and Commemoration events; increase in the number of Elders available to provide Cultural Support; and increase in the number of RHSWs available to provide Emotional Support.
Total			\$112.038M	\$22.451M	

Contact information Health Canada:

Kari Nisbet
Manager
IRS Resolution Health Support Program

Contact information:

Patricia Power
A/Director
Policy and Strategic Planning
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
90 Sparks Street, Room 341
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H4
Tel: 613-947-4146
ppower@ainc-inac.gc.ca

Date Modified: 2009-03-26

