



Specific Claims Tribunal Canada

www.sct-trp.ca

[Français](#)

[Home](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Search](#)

[canada.gc.ca](#)

[Home](#) > [Departmental Reports](#) > [Reports On Plans And Priorities \(RPP\)](#) > [Reports On Plans And Priorities 2013-14](#)

The Tribunal

[Messages from the Chair](#)

[Members](#)

[Legislation](#)

[History](#)

[Annual Reports](#)

[FAQ](#)

The Procedure

[Rules of Procedure](#)

[Funding](#)

[Filing a Claim](#)

[Practice Directions](#)

[Forms](#)

[Information for Parties Appearing Before the Tribunal](#)

E-Filing

[Log in](#)

The Cases

[Claims](#)

[Notice of Case Management Conference](#)

[Notice of Hearing](#)

[SCT Decisions](#)

[Decisions from Higher Courts](#)

The Registry

[Departmental Reports](#)

Transparency

[Completed Access to Information Requests](#)

[Info Source](#)

[Proactive Disclosure](#)

2013-14 Report on Plans and Priorities

Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal

Table of Contents

[Deputy Head's Message](#)

[Section I: Organizational Overview](#)

[Raison d'être](#)
[Responsibilities](#)
[Strategic Outcome and Program Activity Architecture \(PAA\)](#)
[Organizational Priorities](#)
[Risk Analysis](#)
[Planning Summary](#)
[Expenditure Profile](#)
[Estimates by Vote](#)

[Section II: Analysis of Program Activities by Strategic Outcome](#)

[Strategic Outcome](#)
[Program Activity: Registry Services](#)
[Planning Highlights](#)
[Program Activity: Internal Services](#)
[Planning Highlights](#)

[Section III: Supplementary Information](#)

[Financial Highlights](#)
[Future-Oriented Financial Statements](#)
[Tax Expenditures and Evaluations Report](#)

[Section IV: Other Items of Interest](#)

[Organizational Contact Information](#)

Deputy Head's Message

I am pleased to present the Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal's 2013-14 Report on Plans and Priorities. It demonstrates our constant commitment to the provision of an administrative infrastructure to the Specific Claims Tribunal (the Tribunal) while safeguarding the Tribunal's independence from the executive branch of government.

Since the Tribunal officially opened its doors, over thirty-five (35) claims have been accepted and filed by the Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal (the Registry). With the number of claims currently filed, together with the increasing number eligible to be filed, this year will undoubtedly prove to be interesting as we expect to see more case management conferences and some final hearings in a few claims.

We will maintain our focus on further developing the technological infrastructure required to support the processing of claims in a timely and cost-effective manner and manage our resources in order to fully support the Tribunal in meeting its mandate. We will also work towards implementing further enhancements to our service delivery model.

In an effort to preserve the Registry's workforce, we will continue to invest in our employees by providing them opportunities to develop their skills and acquire the level of experience necessary to support the Tribunal Members and assist parties in processing their claims.

The Registry was established in 2008 and its five-year funding was scheduled to sunset on March 31, 2013. The Registry continues to work with Central Agencies to obtain Cabinet approval to secure funding for 2013-14 and future years.

I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead in supporting the Tribunal in its adjudication of specific claims.

Raynald Chartrand, CMA
Deputy Head and Registrar
Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal

Section I: Organizational Overview

Raison d'être

The Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada is responsible for this organization. The Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal is constituted under the *Specific Claims Tribunal Act* (which came into force on October 16, 2008) to manage the administrative affairs of the Specific Claims Tribunal. The Tribunal is an adjudicative body with the express mandate of deciding First Nations' specific claims including claims related to non-fulfillment of treaties, fraud, illegal leases and dispositions or inadequate compensation for reserve lands or other assets.

Responsibilities

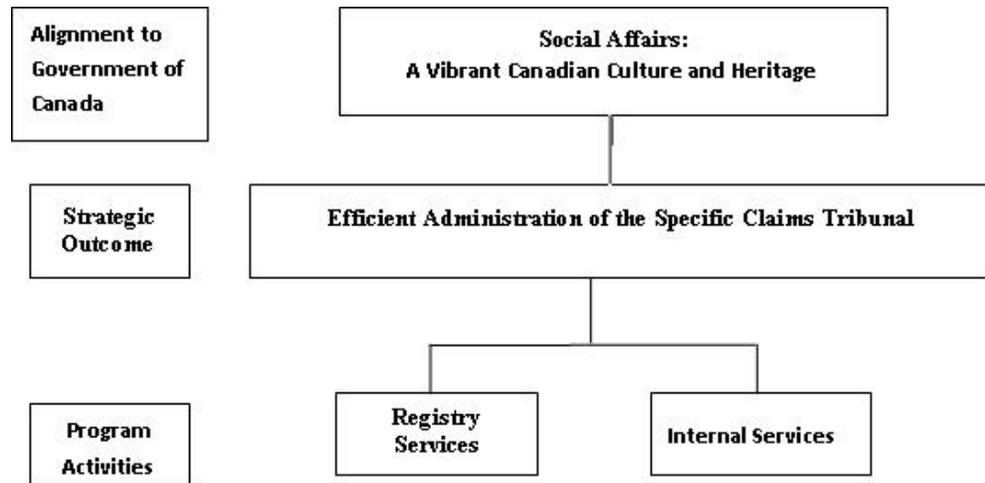
The purpose of the *Specific Claims Tribunal Act* is to resolve outstanding grievances and to encourage reconciliation between First Nations and the Crown.

The *Specific Claims Tribunal Act* provides for an administrative infrastructure in support of the work of the Specific Claims Tribunal through the Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal. The Registry is designated as a government department under Schedule I.1 of the *Financial Administration Act* and therefore must adhere to federal public administration policies including the preparation of this Report on Plans and Priorities. This report pertains to the activities of the Registry in support to the Tribunal, not to the Tribunal claims themselves.

The Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal supports all aspects of the Tribunal's work to ensure that the Tribunal can hold hearings. The Registry is also the repository for filing claims and all documents and orders for all claims brought before the Tribunal.

Strategic Outcome and Program Activity Architecture (PAA)

The chart below illustrates the framework the Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal is using to ensure that its program activities contribute to its strategic outcome.



[[text version](#)]

Organizational Priorities

Priority	Type ¹	Strategic Outcome
Provide the Tribunal with the infrastructure required to hear claims in a timely and cost-effective manner	Previously committed to	Efficient administration of the Specific Claims Tribunal
Description		
Why is this a priority?		
With claims now being filed with the Tribunal, it is imperative that the Registry provides the Tribunal with the support it needs with respect to human resources and technology so that it can efficiently process claims.		
Plans for meeting the priority		
Staffing key support positions and implementing the necessary technological tools will enable the Tribunal to hear claims expeditiously, either locally or remotely, while maintaining travel-related expenditures to a reasonable level.		

Priority	Type	Strategic Outcome
Implement and continue to upgrade its electronic registry	On-going	Efficient administration of the Specific Claims Tribunal
Status		
Why is this a priority?		
An efficient electronic registry allows claimants to file documents electronically through the Tribunal website and allows Tribunal Members immediate access to case documents from their respective Chambers across Canada. Having all claim documents filed with the Tribunal, posted on our website, informs the public and potential claimants of the status of claims.		
Plans for meeting the priority		
We will enhance our document management system in light of requirements identified over the first eighteen months of operation. We will continue to use the website as our		

key communication tool with our stakeholders and the public.

Priority	Type	Strategic Outcome
Delivery of training including: cultural, values and ethics training and professional development.	On-going	Efficient administration of the Specific Claims Tribunal
Status		
Why is this a priority?		
<p>Providing learning and developmental opportunities to staff is important for maintaining a competent workforce and is a key factor in employee retention. Registry staff who are in contact with claimants must exercise their duties in a culturally respectful manner and in a way that respects the values and ethics of the public service.</p>		
Plans for meeting the priority		
<p>Emphasis will be placed on providing employees exposure to Aboriginal culture and on encouraging employees to take charge of their careers and professional development.</p>		

Risk Analysis

The Registry has ongoing planning challenges as its activities are driven by external demands that it can only react to rather than strategize for. A claim is eligible to be filed with the Registry by a First Nation only once the claim has been submitted to the Specific Claims Branch at Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) and has gone through its specific claims process. Currently, there are over several hundred claims eligible to be filed with the Tribunal. Over thirty-five claims have been filed to date and additional claims will continue to become eligible to be filed in the current and future years. The decision to file a claim rests entirely with the First Nation.

This situation poses a significant challenge for the Registry as it must have sufficient human and financial resources to support the work of the Tribunal. Securing the funding to support such operational requirements without being able to predict the number of claims that will be filed and the level of financial and human resources required to process them is a risk for the organization.

Based on the limited experience acquired with the filing and processing of claims since the Tribunal announced the opening of the Registry in June 2011, it is estimated that between fifteen and twenty claims could be processed in a given year with the current level of financial resources.

The Registry will closely monitor the intake of claims and the costs associated with processing them to ensure it manages within its parliamentary authorities.

Planning Summary

Financial Resources (\$ thousands)

Total Budgetary Expenditures (Main Estimates) 2013-14	Planned Spending 2013-14	Planned Spending 2014-15	Planned Spending 2015-16
1,006	1,006 See note ²	See note ²	See note ²

The Tribunal is fully operational and the hearing of claims will continue to take place over the course of the year. The Registry was established in 2008 and funding was provided until the end of 2012-13. An advance of one million dollars (\$1M) was provided for 2013-14.

Human Resources (Full-Time Equivalents-FTEs)

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
See note ²	See note ²	See note ²

The Tribunal is fully operational and the hearing of claims will continue to take place over the course of the year. The Registry was established in 2008 and funding was provided until the end of 2012-13.

Planning Summary Table

(\$ thousands)

Strategic Outcome	Program Activity	Actual Spending 2010-11	Actual Spending 2011-12	Forecast Spending 2012-13	Planned Spending			Alignment to Government of Canada Outcomes
					2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	
Efficient administration of the Specific Claims Tribunal	Registry Services	1,392	1,826	1,867	805 See note ³	See note ³	See note ³	A vibrant Canadian Culture and Heritage
Sub-Total		1,392	1,826	1,867	805 See note ³	See note ³	See note ³	

Planning Summary Table for Internal Services

(\$ thousands)

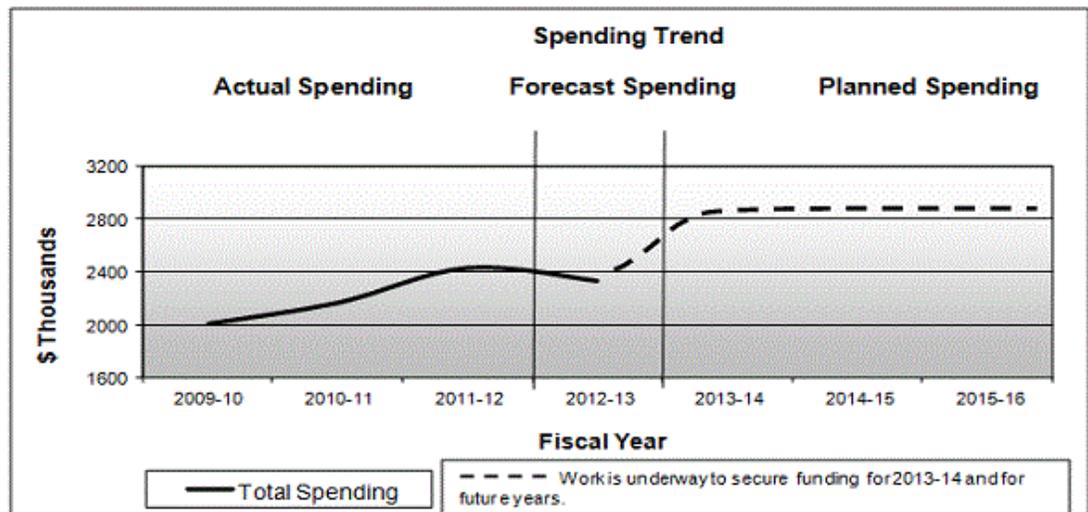
Program	Actual Spending 2010-11	Actual Spending 2011-12	Forecast Spending 2012-13	Planned Spending		
				2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Internal Services	773	608	467	201 See note ⁴	See note ⁴	See note ⁴
Sub-Total	773	608	467	201 See note ⁴	See note ⁴	See note ⁴

Planning Summary Table for Internal Services

(\$ thousands)

Strategic Outcome, Program and Internal Services	Actual Spending 2010-11	Actual Spending 2011-12	Forecast Spending 2012-13	Planned Spending		
				2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Total	2,165	2,434	2,334	1,006 See note ⁴	See note ⁴	See note ⁴

Expenditure Profile



[\[text version\]](#)

The Tribunal will hold numerous hearings and case management conferences during this fiscal year and additional claims will undoubtedly be filed. Taking into consideration that the

Registry cannot predict its workload but can only react to it, vigilant forecasting and monitoring of claim intake will take place to ensure that the Tribunal has sufficient resources to carry out its mandate.

Estimates by Vote

Changes to the presentation of the Main Estimates publication will begin in 2013-14 and may extend to 2014-15. For information on our organizational appropriations, please see the 2013-14 Main Estimates publication.¹

Section II - Analysis of Program Activities by Strategic Outcome

Strategic Outcome - Efficient Administration of the Specific Claims Tribunal

Program Activity: Registry Services

Program Activity Description

Facilitates timely access to the Specific Claims Tribunal through client service, quality of advice, efficient and timely processing and unbiased service delivery.

Financial Resources (\$ thousands)

Total Budgetary Expenditures (Main Estimates) 2013-14	Planned Spending 2013-14	Planned Spending 2014-15	Planned Spending 2015-16
805	805 See note ⁵	See note ⁵	See note ⁵

Human Resources (Full-Time Equivalents-FTEs)

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
See note ⁵	See note ⁵	See note ⁵

Program Activity Expected Results	Performance Indicators	Targets
Excellent client service and efficient processing of documents and claims.	On a scale of 1 to 10, satisfaction rate of clients of at least 8 with respect to services offered by the Registry. Percentage of documents received are posted on the website within 2 business days of receipt. Average direct cost of processing claims.	80% of clients report "excellent" levels of satisfaction. 80% Baseline to be established at the end of fiscal year 2013-14.

Planning Highlights

This year, additional resources will be allocated to the processing of claims as we already have several ready to be heard. The experience gained through the processing of claims

during our first eighteen months of operation will allow us to better forecast our requirements for ongoing financial resources.

Program: Internal Services

Program Description

Internal Services are groups of related activities and resources that are administered to support the needs of programs and other corporate obligations of an organization. These groups are: Management and Oversight Services; Communications Services; Legal Services; Human Resources Management Services; Financial Management Services; Information Management Services; Information Technology Services; Real Property Services; Material Services; Acquisition Services; and Travel and Other Administrative Services. Internal Services include only those activities and resources that apply across and organization and not to those provided specifically to a program.

Financial Resources (\$ thousands)

Total Budgetary Expenditures (Main Estimates) 2013-14	Planned Spending 2013-14	Planned Spending 2014-15	Planned Spending 2015-16
201	201 See note ⁶	See note ⁶	See note ⁶

Human Resources (Full-Time Equivalents-FTEs)

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
See note ⁶	See note ⁶	See note ⁶

Planning Highlights

This program activity is intended to establish expectations for internal services and to monitor overall service performance of the Registry. The Registry intends to follow the Management Accountability Frameworkⁱⁱ management practices to act in the best interests of the organization, its members, its employees and its stakeholders.

Section III - Supplementary Information

Financial Highlights

Future-Oriented Condensed Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position

For the Year ended March 31

(\$ thousands)

	\$ Change	Forecast 2013-14	Estimated Results 2012-13
Total Expenses	(1,310)	1,405	2,645
Total Revenues	0	0	0
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	(1,310)	1,405	2,645
Departmental net financial position	(125)	606	731

Future-Oriented Condensed Statement of Financial Position

For the Year ended March 31

(\$ thousands)

	\$ Change	Forecast 2013-14	Estimated Results 2013-14
Total net liabilities	15	585	570
Total net financial assets	3	274	271
Departmental net debt	12	311	299
Total non-financial assets	(113)	917	1,030
Departmental net financial position	(125)	606	731

Future-Oriented Financial Statements

The Registry's Future Oriented Financial Statements can be found on the Specific Claims Tribunal's website. ⁱⁱⁱ

Tax Expenditures and Evaluations Report

The tax system can be used to achieve public policy objectives through the application of special measures such as low tax rates, exemptions, deductions, deferrals and credits. The Department of Finance publishes cost estimates and projections for these measures annually in the *Tax Expenditures and Evaluations*^{iv} publication. The tax measures presented in the *Tax Expenditures and Evaluations* publication are the sole responsibility of the Minister of Finance.

Section IV - Other Items of Interest

Organizational Contact Information

For further information please contact:

Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal
Enterprise Building, Box 31
400 - 427 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7Y2

Telephone: 613-947-0751

Specific Claims Tribunal's website: www.sct-trp.ca

Endnotes

ⁱ The 2013-14 Main Estimates, <http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/ems-sgd/esp-pbc/me-bpd-eng.asp>

ⁱⁱ The Management Accountability Framework, <http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/maf-crg/index-eng.asp>

ⁱⁱⁱ The Registry of the Specific Claims Tribunal's Future Oriented Financial Statements, www.sct-trp.ca

^{iv} The Tax Expenditures and Evaluations, <http://www.fin.gc.ca/purl/taxexp-eng.asp>

Note¹: Type is defined as follows: **previously committed to** - committed to in the first or second fiscal year prior to the subject year of the report; **ongoing** - committed to at least

three fiscal years prior to the subject year of the report; and **new** - newly committed to in the reporting year of the RPP or DPR.

Note²: The Registry was established in 2008 and funding was provided until the end of 2012-13. The Registry continues to work with Central Agencies to obtain Cabinet approval to secure funding for 2013-14 and for future years.

Note³: The Registry was established in 2008 and funding was provided until the end of 2012-13. The Registry continues to work with Central Agencies to obtain Cabinet approval to secure funding for 2013-14 and for future years.

Note⁴: The Registry was established in 2008 and funding was provided until the end of 2012-13. The Registry continues to work with Central Agencies to obtain Cabinet approval to secure funding for 2013-14 and for future years.

Note⁵: The Registry was established in 2008 and funding was provided until the end of 2012-13. The Registry continues to work with Central Agencies to obtain Cabinet approval to secure funding for 2013-14 and for future years.

Note⁶: The Registry was established in 2008 and funding was provided until the end of 2012-13. The Registry continues to work with Central Agencies to obtain Cabinet approval to secure funding for 2013-14 and for future years.