Beef Canada — Settlement Summary

Last Modified on 11/15/2026 5:01 pm EST

Beef Canada Class Action Settlement (JBS & National Beef)

Summary

Class actions were filed in British Columbia and Québec alleging that major beef suppliers conspired to unlawfully fix or control the supply and/or price of beef sold in Canada. Settlements have been reached with two defendants — JBS (CAD $7,498,700) and National Beef (CAD $495,000) — covering Canadian residents who purchased qualifying beef products for resale or personal use after January 1, 2015. The settlements are subject to court approval, and no claims distribution process has been established yet; further notice will be provided when distribution is ready.

Announcements

July 2026: Settlement approval hearings have been scheduled in two jurisdictions:

- **British Columbia:** September 10, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., 800 Smithe Street, Vancouver, British Columbia.
- **Québec:** December 1, 2026 at 9:15 a.m., 1, rue Notre-Dame Est, Montréal, Québec.

The courts will determine whether the settlements are fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of class members. **Settlement funds will not be distributed until the class actions are fully resolved** and courts approve a distribution process. Further notice will be provided at the time of distribution.

Opt-Out Deadline has passed: The opt-out deadline was August 10, 2026. FRS staff should be aware this window has closed.

BC Comment/Objection Deadline has passed: The deadline to comment or object for class members outside Québec was September 9, 2026. The Québec comment/objection deadline is November 30, 2026, and the Québec approval hearing is December 1, 2026.

Settlement Amount

- **JBS Settlement:** CAD $7,498,700
- **National Beef Settlement:** CAD $495,000
- **Total Combined Settlement:** CAD $7,993,700

Class counsel will request court approval of legal fees equal to **25% of the Settlement Amounts**, plus disbursements and applicable taxes, to be paid out of the settlement funds. Per-claimant recovery estimates are not yet available. No claims filing process or distribution timeline has been established at this time.

Class Period

January 1, 2015 through the date the BC Action is certified for settlement approval.

Filing Deadline

No claim filing deadline has been set. The settlement website states that settlement funds will not be distributed at this time and that a claims process will be announced in the future. FRS should monitor this settlement for updates

on when a claims process opens.

Who Qualifies

Settlement Class Members are all persons in Canada who purchased qualifying **Beef** for resale or personal use between **January 1, 2015** and the date the BC Action is certified for settlement approval, excluding Beef Products and beef purchased from the food service industry.

There are two sub-classes:

- **BC Settlement Class:** All persons in Canada (other than Québec Settlement Class members) who purchased qualifying Beef for resale or personal use during the class period.
- **Québec Settlement Class:** All persons who purchased qualifying Beef in Québec during the class period.

For purposes of this settlement:

- **"Beef"** means the raw portion of cattle carcasses intended for human consumption, not purchased from the food service industry.
- **"Beef Products"** means products not purchased from the food service industry that contain beef as one ingredient among others — *except* where all non-beef ingredients were introduced through mechanical blade/needle tenderizing, brine injection, massaging, aging, chemical/enzyme tenderizing, vacuum tumbling, marination, and/or seasoning. (Such mechanically/chemically treated items *are* included in the class as qualifying "Beef.")

Who Is Excluded

- Persons who purchased beef from the **food service industry**.
- Purchasers of **Beef Products** (multi-ingredient products containing beef, as defined above, excluding those treated only through the listed mechanical/chemical processes).
- Class members who validly **opted out** of the class actions on or before August 10, 2026.
- The defendants and their affiliates, officers, directors, employees, and legal representatives (standard exclusions implied by the nature of the settlement).

How to File

No claims process is open at this time. The settlement website states that settlement funds will not be distributed until the class actions are fully resolved and courts approve a distribution process. FRS should take the following steps:

- Monitor the settlement website at **www.beefclassaction.ca** for announcements regarding when the claims process opens.
- Register for updates on the settlement website to receive notifications directly.
- When the claims process is announced, contact the Settlement Administrator:
  - **Phone:** 1-888-808-5840
  - **Email:** info@beefclassaction.ca
- Do not contact the court directly; all inquiries must go to the Settlement Administrator or Class Counsel.

Defendants

The class actions allege that companies selling beef in Canada participated in an unlawful conspiracy regarding the supply and/or price of beef sold in Canada. The two settling defendants are:

- **JBS** — agreed to pay CAD $7,498,700 and to provide cooperation to plaintiffs in pursuing claims against non-settling defendants. JBS receives a full release of claims in the class actions upon settlement approval.

- **National Beef** — agreed to pay CAD $495,000 and to provide cooperation to plaintiffs in pursuing claims against non-settling defendants. National Beef receives a full release of claims in the class actions upon settlement approval.

The settlements are **not admissions of liability, fault, or wrongdoing** by either JBS or National Beef. Additional (non-settling) defendants remain in the class actions, and further recoveries may be pursued against them.

Case History

- **January 1, 2015:** Start of the class period — alleged conspiracy regarding beef supply and/or pricing begins.
- Class actions commenced in **British Columbia** and **Québec**, covering all Canadian provinces and territories.
- Settlements reached with **JBS** and **National Beef** (exact dates of settlement agreements not specified on the website; settlement agreements available in the Documents section).
- **Notice Approval Orders** issued by British Columbia courts (separate orders for JBS and National Beef settlements) and by the Québec court.
- **August 10, 2026:** Opt-out deadline (now passed).
- **September 9, 2026:** Comment/objection deadline for class members outside Québec (now passed).
- **September 10, 2026:** Settlement approval hearing in Vancouver, British Columbia.
- **November 30, 2026:** Comment/objection deadline for Québec class members.
- **December 1, 2026:** Settlement approval hearing in Montréal, Québec.

Source

- Beef Class Action Home Page: **www.beefclassaction.ca**
- Beef Class Action Documents Page: **www.beefclassaction.ca/documents**

Last Updated

2026-11-15

Reviewer Flags

- **Changes from previous version:**
  - **Announcements section:** Added a new bullet noting that the BC Comment/Objection Deadline of September 9, 2026 has passed and flagging the upcoming Québec comment/objection deadline (November 30, 2026) and Québec approval hearing (December 1, 2026). This contextualizes where the settlement currently stands as of the November 15, 2026 update date.
  - **Case History section:** Added "(now passed)" notations to the August 10, 2026 opt-out deadline and September 9, 2026 comment/objection deadline entries for clarity.
  - **Last Updated date:** Updated from 2026-09-22 to 2026-11-15.
  - All other content is unchanged from the prior published version.
- **Source pages for this update:** Home Page confirmed all existing key dates, settlement amounts, class definitions, and contact details remain current. Documents Page confirmed the same set of available court documents with no additions noted.
- **Timing flags as of 2026-11-15:** The BC settlement approval hearing (September 10, 2026) has occurred, but no outcome or court order has been posted to the settlement website based on the source pages provided. FRS staff should monitor for a BC approval order and watch for the Québec hearing outcome on December 1, 2026. The settlement website does not yet reflect any post-hearing status.
- **No claims process open:** There is still no filing deadline or claims form available. This article should be updated as soon as a distribution/claims process is announced.
- **Per-claimant estimate:** Still not available on either source page.

- **"Beef Products" definition is complex:** The inclusion/exclusion logic remains technical. FRS staff reviewing client eligibility should consult the Long Form Notice document for additional clarity.