Member of Parliament Dennis Bevington questions the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Bernard Valcourt on the Personal Credits for former Indian Residential School students.

October 30, 2014

Mr. Speaker, the deadline for the Indian residential school personal credit for educational programs and services is tomorrow, yet out of around 80,000 former survivors who are eligible, only 10,000 have applied. This is pushing leaders like Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus to ask the government for an extension of the deadline.

Will the minister heed this call? Will he work with other signatories to the agreement and get the deadline extended so that more survivors can access compensation for these large sums of money that are owed to First Nations peoples?

Hon. Bernard Valcourt (Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development)

Mr. Speaker, although reminder notices were mailed to close to 75,000 of those recipients and although there has been an email and social media campaign to inform them, yes, indeed, we are going to work with the partners in the agreement to try to get an extension.