

# Winnipeg Free Press

## Laid-off call centre workers in Oshawa, Ont., launch class-action lawsuit

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TORONTO - Former employees of call centres in Ontario who claim they were fired without receiving their last paycheque have filed a class-action lawsuit against the company they used to work for.

IQT Solutions Ltd. announced it was laying off about 600 workers at its offices in Oshawa, Ont., in July when it ended its Canadian operations.

Former employees Bob Brigaitis and Cindy Rupert have filed the \$30-million lawsuit against the company's shareholders affiliated companies and its directors on behalf of the laid-off Ontario workers.

They are seeking to recover \$20 million in wages and severance they say are owed as well as \$10 million in aggravated and punitive damages.

IQT has not responded to media requests since the layoffs took place and their website is no longer operational.

The lawsuit contains allegations not yet proven in court.

The company also laid off 450 workers in Laval and 140 in Trois Rivieres, Que.

Some of the Oshawa employees had worked for the company for 10 years when they arrived at work on July 15 to learn they had been dismissed without pay and would not be receiving their last paycheque, the employees' lawyer said in a release.