



Student Education Experience Call to Action



Message from the Adoption Council of Canada

Children and youth in or from the child welfare system often identify the importance of finding stable, caring and nurturing lifelong connections. That is why the Adoption Council of Canada is committed to working together with the Ottawa community to improve the outcomes for children and youth in or from Ontario's child welfare system.

The Adoption Council of Canada has launched a Call to Action to ensure children and youth, and those that work to support them, have access to the appropriate services needed in order to create more opportunities that lead to permanent connections and if possible, family.

Here are a few free, simple ways that you can help.



How You Can Help!

1. **Write, call or meet with your MPP to increase funding to all forms of permanency including legal custody.** Children's Aid Societies need more dollars earmarked for permanency.

To find your MPP's contact information, visit: https://lop.parl.ca/sites/ParlInfo/default/en_CA/

2. **Consider fostering.** Open your home to children and youth that enter or stay in care. Foster parents help children and youth develop in a nurturing and stable environment. Family-based care is the best option for at-risk children and youth.

If would like to know more about how to foster, call: 613-747-7800 or visit <https://goo.gl/OGP0ox>

3. **Consider adopting from your local Children's Aid Society** to create a stable, lifelong connection for a child, teen, or young adult.

To learn more about adoption from foster care in Ottawa, call 613-747-7800 or visit <https://www.casott.on.ca/en/adoption/>

5. **Contact your federal MP and ask them to support the creation of a Children's Commissioner.** We need to know how Canada's children are doing.

To find your MP, go to <https://goo.gl/GmqnOO>

How You Can Help!

6. **Write to the Prime Minister or your MP** and ask them to support the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations concerning child welfare.

Read the TRC's Call to Action here: http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf

7. **Write to your federal MP or donate to** the Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa. Help EFRY create safe, family spaces for women to be able to reunite with their children and to reintegrate back into society after serving time.

To find your MP, go to https://lop.parl.ca/sites/ParInfo/default/en_CA/

To contact EFRY, visit: <https://efryottawa.com/>

8. **Donate to the Adoption Council of Canada, become a member (free), and follow us on Twitter @adoptioncanada and Facebook.com/acc.cac.** Support us as we raise awareness about the 30,000 children and youth available for adoption across Canada - 7,000 children in Ontario alone.

Visit www.adoption.ca or contact 613-680-2999.

9. **Donate new boxer underwear, egg cartons, and non-perishable items** to the Youth Services Bureau.

To donate, contact Savanna Schiavo at 613-729-0577 ext. 1260.

For information on other ways to give visit: <https://www.ysb.ca/other-ways-to-support/>

10. **Donate clothing or toys** to Minwaashin Lodge.

For further information, contact Florence Hiltz at sacredchild@minlodge.com or 613-741-5590 ext. 227.

10. **Volunteer** at the Adoption Council of Canada, the Ottawa Children's Aid Society, Elizabeth Fry Society, Youth Services Bureau or Minwaashin Lodge.