

LA CHARTE
CANADIENNE
DES ENFANTS



CANADIAN
CHILDREN'S
CHARTER

Report on the National Summit for the Canadian Children's Charter

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Child and youth delegates pictured with Sophie Grégoire Trudeau, Sara Austin (Children First Canada) and Lisa Lachance (Wisdom2Action)

**See the list of participants on page 30*

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The art work on pages 4-6 was created by children and youth from





Present Situation for Canada's Children



While Canada is one of the most prosperous and democratic countries in the world, the wellbeing of Canada's children lags far behind. Currently Canada is ranked 25th out of 41 affluent nations, according to UNICEF's child wellbeing report card. Canada's future begins with children, and we must take urgent action to invest in our youngest citizens.



In 2016, Children First Canada issued a landmark report called "The Kids Are Not Alright". In partnership with the Angus Reid Institute and several national charities, children's hospitals and research centres. The report painted an alarming picture about the state of childhood in Canada and busted myths about what it is like to grow up in our country.

The results are staggering:

- Nearly 1 in 5 Canadian children live in poverty
- 1 in 4 indigenous children live in poverty
- Toronto has child poverty rates of 1 in 3
- Nearly 1 in 5 teens has considered suicide in the past year
- 1 in 3 Canadians have experienced some form of child abuse
- Over 1 in 3 people requiring food assistance are children
- More than 1 in 3 Canadian kids are obese or overweight
- One in seven people using shelters are children



Art Courtesy of Dare Arts Youth

The report also revealed the huge inequities facing Canada's children:

- Children from all walks of life are affected, but specific groups of children are particularly vulnerable, including: indigenous children, refugee children and youth in care.
- UNICEF ranks Canada as one of the most unequal places to raise a child, placing 26th out of 35 wealthy nations for "fairness for children".





Need for the Canadian Children's Charter

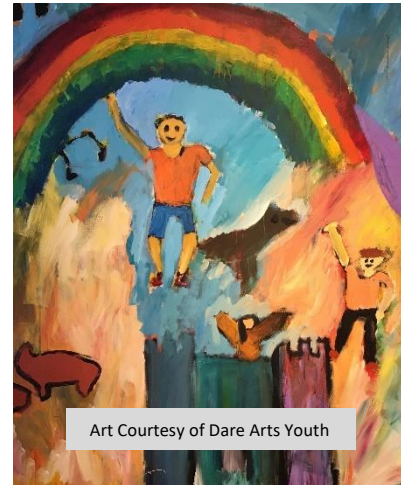


Every child has rights, and every Canadian has a role to play in fulfilling the rights of children.

In 1991, Canada ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), binding our country under international law to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of children to survival, development, protection and participation.



Canada must report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2018 on the status of Canada's children, and the efforts taken to fulfill its obligations under the CRC. This moment in time presents all Canadians with the unique opportunity to reflect on progress made towards the fulfillment of children's rights, to identify the gaps that remain, and to create a plan of action to ensure every child in Canada can achieve their full potential.



Art Courtesy of Dare Arts Youth




In addition to the duties enshrined in the CRC, Canada has also committed to the following laws and policies to protect the rights of children:

- Optional Protocols 1 and 2 (Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict and Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography)
- A Canada Fit for Children: a National Plan of Action
- Children: the Silenced Citizens – a Report by the Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights
- Jordan's Principle (Private Member's Motion M-296, 2007), calling on the government of first contact to ensure First Nations children can access public services on the same terms as other children
- House of Commons All-Party Resolution to End Child Poverty by the Year 2000.

Canada has also ratified or acceded to specific treaties that recognize the unique rights of specific peoples:


- Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Persons
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination


- 
- Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees




There is no shortage of promises and legally binding duties that enshrine the rights of Canada's children. What we need now is concrete, urgent action to fulfill Canada's obligations to respect, protect, and fulfill the rights of children.

Canadians strongly support action to improve the lives of all our children. The results of the Kids Are Not Alright survey revealed that:


- 
- Three-quarters of Canadians (73 % of adults and 77 % of children) say that young people in Canada need more support to safeguard their wellbeing and fulfill their potential;
 - Children ranked bullying, mental health and better support for those living in poverty as their top concerns, and adults named mental health and prevention of child abuse as the two areas in most need of action.
 - Nearly 9 in 10 Canadians say that investing in children will pay off and save the need for additional expenditures in the future.



Achieving the vision of the Canadian Children's Charter will require concerted effort on the part of all Canadians, at an individual and societal level, including: all levels of government; child and youth serving organizations such as charities, children's hospitals, and schools; the private sector; parents and other caregivers; and children themselves.



Efforts to improve the lives of children must occur within a nation-to-nation framework, respecting the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination and the enjoyment of their unique rights as enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Several First Nations have already taken steps to create their own Children's Charters, and these plans must be considered as a part of a wider effort across Canada to improve the lives of children.



Together, all Canadians must rise to the collective challenge to invest in Canada's children, and take urgent action to close the gaps.



What is a Canadian Children's Charter?



The Canadian Children's Charter is a vision and plan of action to make Canada a world-leading country for kids. Children's charters have been created around the world as tools to build awareness of children's rights, establish a national vision for the life that every child deserves, and to engage key stakeholders such as children's charities, government, and children themselves to create a plan to achieve that vision.



Children's charters represent a shared commitment to respect the rights of children and promote children's wellbeing with support from families, parents, guardians, governments, and the local community, including civil society organizations and the private sector.

A Canadian Children's Charter founded on principles of respect for the rights of children, mutual responsibility and accountability will allow for the best possible outcomes.



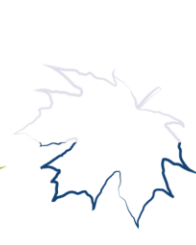
The Canadian Children's Charter incorporate statements that pertain to children's rights to a good quality of life, housing, inclusion, education, health, recreation, family support, and safety, and adopts anti-discrimination language that protects children on the basis of gender, ability, ethnicity, culture, religion, and family background.

The creation of a Canadian Children's Charter provides a unique opportunity to galvanize a country-wide effort to engage Canadians in understanding the rights of children, and build the social and political will for action to truly make Canada a world leading country for children.



The Canadian Children's Charter was created with input from hundreds of children and youth from across the country who contributed their ideas through online forums and a survey, and drafted by the child/youth and adult participants in the National Summit that took place in Ottawa, November 20-22, 2017. It is a call to action containing 12 key areas of focus identified by the children and youth.

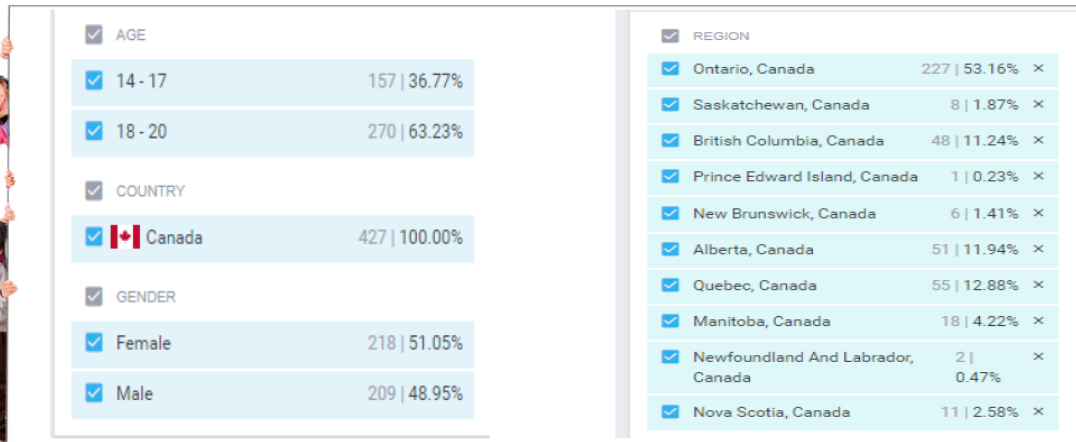
The vision of the Canadian Children's Charter is to raise public awareness and mobilize action on the part of every Canadian to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of children. Together, we can make Canada the best place in the world for kids to grow up!



What are Children and Youth Saying: A National Survey

Leading up to the National Summit, Children First Canada surveyed children and youth across the country. We asked for their input on the urgent issues that require action to make Canada a world-leading country for kids. Here are the results:

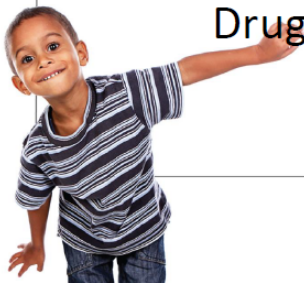
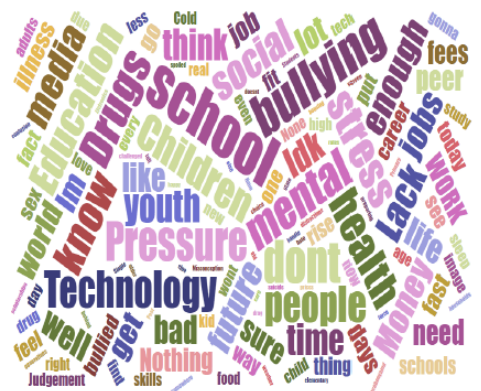
Survey Participants



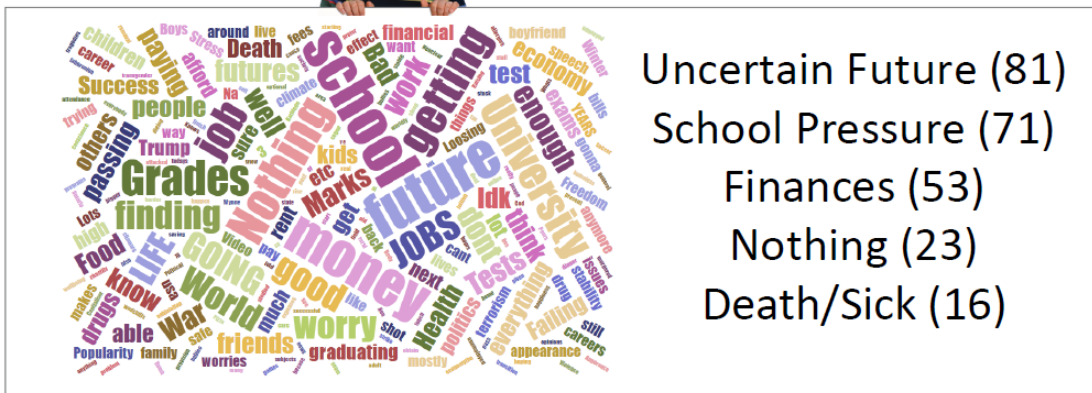
What are the best things about growing up in Canada?

What are the biggest challenges facing children and youth today?

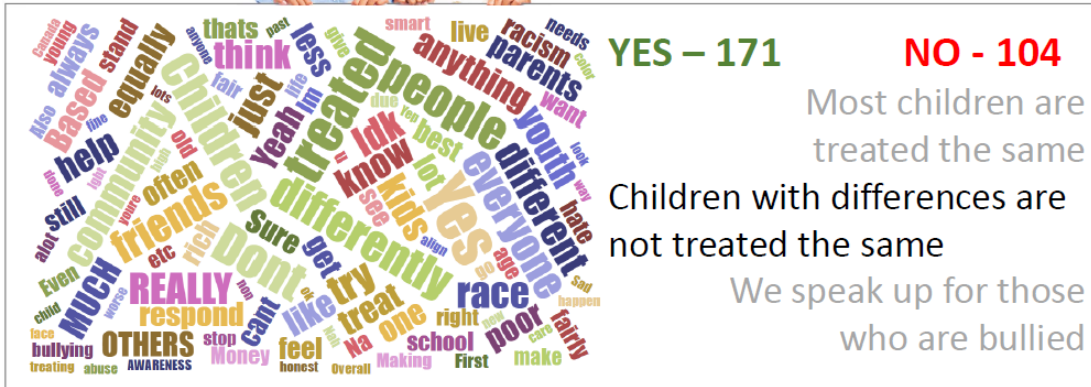
- Mental Health & Stress (56)
- Succeeding in School (46)
- Discrimination/Bullying (45)
- Managing Social Media (36)
- Drugs & Alcohol (25)
- Economy (23)



- Uncertain Future (81)
- School Pressure (71)
- Finances (53)
- Nothing (23)
- Death/Sick (16)




What do you and your friends worry about?



Are some children and youth treated differently than others in your community?

What should we do to make Canada the best country in the world for kids and teens to live in?



<p>Systematic racism against the indigenous people, also find out the cause of suicide rates among the youth, better living conditions and a wider range of job opportunities for immigrants.</p>	<p>Treat them right, listen to them, talk to them, don't be rude, build somewhere safe for them</p> <p>Canada is already a more accepting country than others, but making it even more accepting and diverse would be amazing.</p>
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What should we do to make Canada the best country in the world for kids and teens to live in?

Focus more on the health of children rather than grades and school achievements

Improve mental health programs, cover prescription medications, meet the needs of at-risk youths.

We should teach people to treat children and teens better and respect them since a lot of adults think teens and children are not as smart as them

Manufacture love and positivity throughout the country. Make it easier for youth to succeed in life.



If families are tighter and looking out for each other more

Less poverty and less inequality.

Children have a voice more than they do now

There is no way to tell. Society is in too much disarray at this time.

If we could jump ahead 5 years into the future, how would we know that Canada is a better place for children and youth ?



That they have affordable housing and living

We don't know just
gotta wait and see

Kids will enjoy school and
focus less on what society
says how they should act and
dress

Young entrepreneurs, people working towards their dreams, more
togetherness in society

If we could jump ahead 5 years into the future, how would we know that
Canada is a better place for children and youth ?





NATIONAL SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN: DAY 1



Blanket Exercise

Elder Elaine Kicknosway and her son Theland Kicknosway opened the National Summit by facilitating the youth delegates through the [Blanket Exercise](#).



“The Blanket Exercise” is a teaching tool to share the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. Developed in response to the 1996 Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, which recommended education on Canadian-Indigenous history as one of the key steps to reconciliation, the Blanket Exercise covers over 500 years of history in a one and a half hour participatory workshop.



Blanket Exercise participants take on the roles of Indigenous peoples in Canada. Standing on blankets that represent the land, they walk through pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization and resistance. They are directed by facilitators representing a narrator (or narrators) and the European colonizers. Participants are drawn into the experience by reading scrolls and carrying cards which ultimately determine their outcomes. By engaging on an emotional and intellectual level, the Blanket Exercise effectively educates and increases empathy. Ideally, the exercise is followed by a debriefing session in which participants have the opportunity to discuss the experience as a group. This often takes the form of a talking circle.



Youth delegates were moved and deeply engaged with the process. They walked away expressing a deeper understanding of Canadian-Indigenous history and a commitment to ensuring the Canadian Children’s Charter called for reconciliation with Canada’s First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples.





NATIONAL SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN: DAY 2



What Did the Youth Delegates Say: World Café Discussion

The second day of the Summit started with all participants sitting in a large open circle for a ceremonial smudging with Elder Elaine Kicknosway. Youth then engaged in a World Café exercise to discuss their rights, how some children and youth are treated differently, and what is needed for Canada to be the best place for children and teens to grow.



World Café is a method used to facilitate larger group dialogue and knowledge sharing. Seated around round tables, with a “host” at each one, the small group discussions begin with each table answering a particular question. After an allotted amount of time, each member of the group moves to a different table where a different question is discussed. At the end of the small group discussions individuals are invited to share insights or results of each small group by reporting to the larger group. The goal of the World Café is to facilitate collective discussion to give everyone an opportunity to contribute and learn from one another.



A number of thematic priorities emerged for the youth to explore. They worked together and individually to determine if there were any big issue items missing for their list. After a productive morning identifying challenges, a visitor arrived with a powerful message of hope, empowerment, and the importance of youth voices.

The following questions and responses were collected from the Summit World Café:

What do you think are the most important issues facing children and youth in Canada?

- Teachers are unaware of the vastly different indigenous identities
- Put cultural stereotypes on minorities
- Those with mental disabilities are made fun of, called derogatory terms. They are seen as outcasts
- Hierarchy based on social determinants – popularity and sports
- People who don't achieve well academically are stigmatized
- Schools have become less open to accepting different opinions on controversial issues
- A lot of youth are facing mental health issues under the radar and are not receiving proper help for it
- Poverty/Hunger
- Mental health
- Eating disorders
- Bullying/peer pressure
- Substance abuse
- Neglect
- Not being able to fulfill their basic needs (food, water, & Health)
- Addictions
- Lack of inclusive curriculum
- Equality





Are some children and youth treated differently in your community? Yes

- Girls
- LGBTQ
- Indigenous People
- Colour
- Disability
- Religion
- Social anxiety
- Racial profiling
- Bullying
- Stereotyping
- Lack of indigenous acknowledgement
- Foster care system
- Educational bias
- Homophobia
- Racism = Prejudice + Power
- Bullying based on physical qualities

How to respond?

- Start a discussion club at school
- Be open about it
- Try and understand the other's perspective
- Reach out to others
- Host open discussions
- Create new friendships
- Teach about acceptance in schools
- Become an advocate
- Share your story
- Recruit celebrities as spokespeople





Visit with Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau

The youth delegates thoroughly enjoyed a visit from Sophie Grégoire Trudeau on Tuesday. Mme Grégoire Trudeau shared her personal experiences and struggles as a youth and how she embarked on a journey of self-exploration that led her down a path of recovery and healing. She spoke of the need she sees in Canada and around the world for children to be empowered to know themselves and share their voice.




Mme Grégoire Trudeau spent the majority of her time with the youth giving them the opportunity to share their stories and ask questions. We heard from several youth delegates who shared passionately and eloquently about the struggles they have faced or observed in their communities and the change they hope to help make.

Youth shared stories of cyber bullying and negative social media encounters. Mme Grégoire Trudeau advised delegates to create a distance between the criticism and who they are. Mme Grégoire Trudeau encouraged youth delegates to take up self-exploration as a way to know themselves better and practice self-care in the face of those who would criticize. She told them that caring for oneself is one of the toughest things you can do. Through self-exploration, youth can turn their pain into an opportunity to be bring light to their communities.

Youth delegates shared their desire to see their schools, communities, and Canada become a more inclusive place where every child is safe, heard, and supported to succeed. Mme Grégoire Trudeau challenged the youth to look at their specific communities to see where the gaps are, start small by finding even one person who would be an ally, and expand from there on filling the need they each identified. She said that society needs to stop ranking each other and instead link together, something these youth delegates are poised to facilitate.


Youth were encouraged to hear from Mme Grégoire Trudeau and know that their government cares about the voices and wisdom of Canada's children and youth.

Reviewing priorities from across Canada




Youth delegates reviewed the priority areas gathered through the online survey and focus group processes through a gallery walk process. Small groups of delegates reflected on each theme and how it affected them personally and what they saw in their communities. Youth delegates then were able to choose one theme they were passionate about to review all the input thus far and develop content for the Charter. Youth delegates reflected their calls to action in words, theatre, spoken word and visually.


Visit to the Prime Minister's Office




On Tuesday afternoon, youth delegates were invited to the Prime Minister's Office to meet with Youth Secretariat and Parliamentary Secretary for Youth and Intergovernmental Affairs, Peter Schiefke. Seated around a large wooden table and spilling into a second row of chairs, youth delegates were eager to tell government stakeholders about the work they were doing on the Canadian Children's Charter.



Youth delegates Hannah Ruuth and Sanaya Polobotu explained that delegates had started to identify key tools and supports for success to which every child in Canada should have as protected rights. Staff members of the Youth Secretariat asked delegates to name the success indicators/tools they had identified as important and very quickly became busy taking notes. Key examples included accessible mental health services, quality education, ending bullying, as well as child participation and youth engagement.



Parliamentary Secretary Peter Schiefke joined the round table and shared with delegates about the Prime Minister's belief that youth are not the leaders of tomorrow but they are leaders today. He challenged each youth delegate to contact their MP and ask for a meeting with them to explain the issues they had discussed and what they were taking away with them from the National Summit.



Youth delegates quickly pointed out to the Parliamentary Secretary that it often takes many attempts to get a meeting or audience with their MPs and not all Canadian youth have the time or resources to do so. Parliamentary Secretary Peter





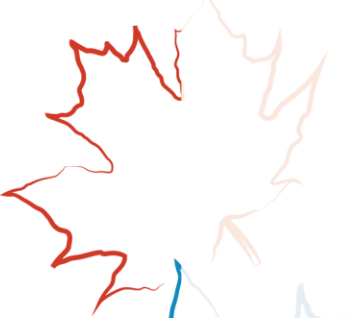
Schiefke asked them to be persistent and know that their voices are important and need to be heard on behalf of others.



When given the opportunity to ask him questions, youth delegates did not hold back in asking Parliamentary Secretary Peter Schiefke how the current government would make sure that youth voices would continue to be heard and given priority for years and governments to come.



The child and youth delegates posed numerous questions and pushed for the creation of opportunities for children's voices (those under 15 years old) to also be heard and taken into account. The delegates made the most of their time having the ear of the Parliamentary Secretary and clearly communicated their vision and hopes for the future of Canada and the Canadian Children's Charter.



NATIONAL SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN: DAY 3

On the final day of the summit, adult allies from many sectors joined the youth delegates. Elaine Kicknosway opened the discussions in a welcoming ceremony. All delegates were then invited to participate in “fishbowl” exercises where young people were asked to reflect on challenges in their own communities while adults listened. Adults were asked to reflect on what they saw the role of all Canadians was in addressing these challenges.

Youth delegates then presented the draft Charter in words, visuals, spoken word and theatre. All delegates were invited to reflect on two of the draft themes in depth and have inter-generational conversations about what the key themes and priorities for action in an open space approach, where delegates were able to choose which themes they focused on.

As the draft Charter was being finalized, youth and adult delegates were invited into courageous conversations about the roots of many challenges in Canada, such as colonialism, sexism and racism and their continued impact as barriers to change and equality. Delegates reflected on what they saw in their own communities and how they could create change.

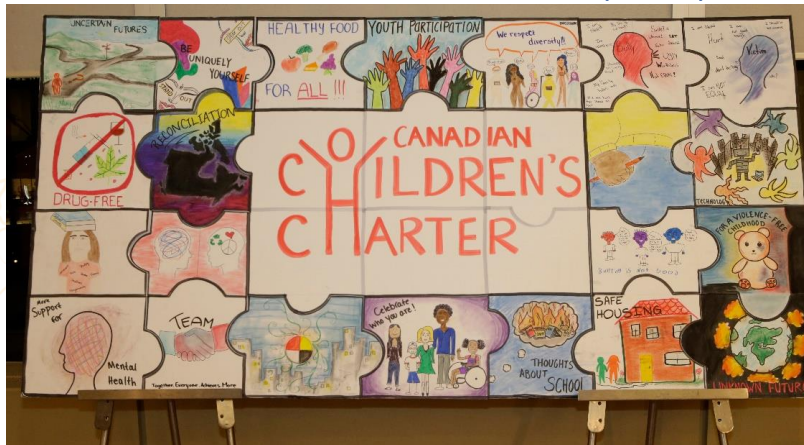
Press Conference to Release the Draft Canadian Children’s Charter

As the National Summit was wrapping up, three of the young delegates (Toney Bedell, Reem Al-Ameri and Roman Wolfli) joined Sara Austin (Founder and Lead Director, Children First Canada), in hosting a press conference in the Parliamentary Press Gallery. Together, they presented the draft Canadian Children’s Charter to national media and responded to questions.



A summary of the media results is included later in this report.

Celebration of the Canadian Children's Charter (Draft)



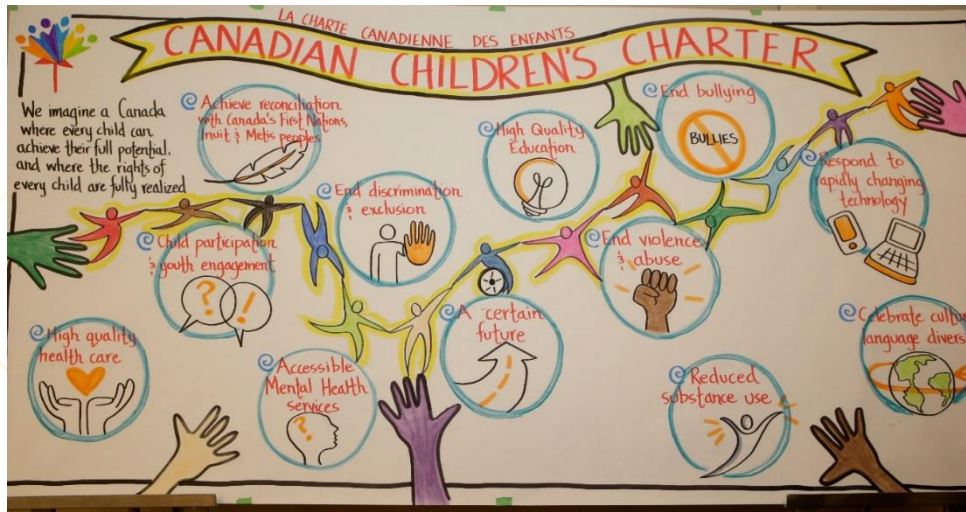
On Wednesday November 22nd, child and youth delegates, adult allies and parliamentarians gathered to celebrate the launch of the first draft of the Canadian Children's Charter. The room was full of excitement as the child and youth delegates interacted with other guests and shared the incredible progress made during the Summit.

The youth delegates presented the draft Charter in three different formats:

Two large panels were presented, depicting the draft Charter in a visual format (see photos on this page and the page following). Attendees of the reception were invited to take a look at how youth delegates had used their creativity to represent the twelve calls to action.

Using skits, delegates outlined a few key issues addressed by the Charter, including ending abuse and neglect, child participation and youth engagement, and ending bullying. Finally, one by one and with great passion, different youth delegates read a portion of the proposed calls to action. Tony Beddell, a youth host and delegate concluded the presentation by inviting others to add their voice to the draft Charter that it might be a living document that is shaped by the voices of more children and youth from across Canada.





Attendees heard remarks from Senator Jim Munson and Parliamentary Secretary Peter Schiefke. Senator Munson congratulated the youth delegates on their hard work during the National Summit and echoed Children First Canada's call to the Government of Canada to name a Commissioner for Children in order to advance child protection and wellbeing in Canada. PS Schiefke offered words of congratulations and pride for the youth delegates. Telling the other attendees in the room about the insightful conversation he had the day before with delegates, PS Schiefke took the time to encourage one young delegate to pursue further engagement in politics in hopes that one day he might even be Prime Minister. PS Schiefke reiterated the words of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau that youth are not leaders of the future but of today.



The reception for the Canadian Children's Charter was truly a celebration of the hard work that happened over the three days of the National Summit. Yet in her concluding congratulations to youth delegates, Founder and Lead Director of Children First Canada, Sara Austin, encouraged adult attendees in the room to lend their support to the call to action from the child and youth delegates, and to jointly commit to the ongoing work of making Canada the best place in the world for children and youth to grow up. The celebration was a beautiful start to the journey towards a Canadian Children's Charter.



Canadian Children's Charter: A Call to Action (Draft)



IT TAKES A NATION

Achieving the vision of the Canadian Children's Charter will require concerted effort on the part of all Canadians, at an individual and societal level, including: all levels of government; child and youth serving organizations such as charities, children's hospitals, and schools; the private sector; parents and other caregivers; and children themselves.



Efforts to improve the lives of children must occur within a nation-to-nation framework, respecting the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination and the enjoyment of their unique rights as enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Several First Nations have already taken steps to create their own Children's Charters, and these plans must be considered as a part of a wider effort across Canada to improve the lives of children. Together, all Canadians must all rise to the collective challenge to invest in Canada's children, and take urgent action to close the gaps.



A CALL TO ACTION

We imagine a Canada where every child can achieve their full potential, and where the rights of every child are fully realized.

We call upon all Canadians to rise to the collective challenge to invest in Canada's children and take urgent action to close the gaps.

We need to be able to realize our full rights and all Canadians need to support children in advocating for their rights. Every adult can be an ally.


We note the following issues that require urgent action so that every child in Canada can thrive.

1. Child Participation & Youth Engagement

We envision a Canada where children's voices are empowered and children are valued as equal citizens, decision makers and leaders in Canadian society.

We call for the following:

- Children have a clear voice and opportunity to lead in their schools, families, governments and communities


- 
- Governments at all levels have processes and structures in place to gather input from children of all ages
 - Communities to share responsibility for equitable involvement of all children and youth




2. High quality health care

We envision a Canada where children are able to access high quality health care no matter where they live or when they need it.

We call for the following:

- 
- Children have access to the right health care providers where they live (in person or online) when they need it
 - Health care is provided free from stigma and discrimination
 - Children are able to access all recommended medical treatment regardless of cost and location

3. Accessible Mental Health Services




We envision a Canada where children are able to access the mental health education, services and treatment they need, when they need it, without facing stigma.

We call for the following:


- Health care providers, educators, parents and other supportive adults have access to training that improves their knowledge about mental health
- Mental health literacy is part of all school curricula, starting in pre-school
- Mental health services and treatment are accessible to every child in Canada, whenever and wherever they need it, including in-person and online


4. End discrimination & exclusion



We envision a future where every child's differences are valued, accepted and respected, and every child is empowered to celebrate who they are.

We call for the following:

- 
- Education in schools, health care and other systems that teaches an inclusive view of history, our current society, and the value of diversity in society
 - Programs that teach children how to advocate for equality issues
 - All systems in society foster and live the values of inclusion through processes, systems, resources, and infrastructure, to make inclusion sustainable
 - Governments should identify measurable outcomes for inclusion and diversity, and report on them


- 
- Create inclusive community forums that enable diverse communities to have conversations that create action to address discrimination and exclusion




5. A stable and secure future

We envision a Canada where every child has a clear and attainable future.

We call for the following:


- 
- Address the social determinants of health and poverty that undermine many current efforts
 - Families and communities where children are supported by and connected to many people in their lives
 - The policies of government and the private sector affect children in all spheres of life, including social, economic, environmental, and financial. Consider children in all policy making and measure the impacts on children
 - Every action taken for the benefit of Canadians needs to consider the best interests of children
 - Children have a right to participate in the decisions affecting them



6. Quality education

We envision an education system where schools are a truly safe space for all and offer quality education regardless of location.

We call for the following:

- 
- Children should be able to go to school in their home community and receive a high quality education
 - More accessible support and resources in every school focusing on action regarding discrimination and exclusion
 - Educators and students have access to support that lessens the stress and pressure young people feel related to education
 - Better support for career and transition planning for young people
 - Accessible education and post-secondary education with adequate financial support
 - Access to French or English education no matter location
 - Support for First Nations, Inuit and Metis schools and communities to provide instruction in the language of their community
 - Create more community-based learning environments
 - More inclusive approaches that support different learning styles



7. End Bullying

We envision a country where young people and adults know how to foster healthy relationships and how to address bullying when it happens.

We call for the following:

- Educators need further training and education to address bullying so that all schools provide consistent approaches
- All people involved in bullying receive support – bullies, victims and bystanders
- There needs to be adequate resources to support victims of bullying



8. End Violence & Abuse

We envision a country where children grow up free from all forms of violence and abuse, and are protected when needed.

We call for the following:

- Adults have access to education and training about parenting, violence and abuse and how to respond
- Young people have education and awareness about abuse to reduce stigma and to know how to find support
- Adults and organizations that support children need to fulfill their duty to protect children from violence and abuse, including but not limited to systems of education, child welfare, and health care
- Youth have a right to having their voice in their care
- All Canadians have access to ongoing education against all forms of violence, abuse and harassment



9. Respond to rapidly changing technology

We envision a Canada where we are ready for technology that will constantly and rapidly change throughout our lifetimes.

We call for the following:

- Broadband access for all so that we all benefit from education and employment opportunities
- Support for young people and adults to learn how to safely use social media and technology positively
- Responsive legal frameworks that protect young people online



10. Reduced substance use

We envision a Canada where substance use is lowered and stigma is reduced so children and



families that need help will seek help.

We call for the following:

- Programs that address the social determinants of substance use and misuse
- Accessible and effective prevention and rehabilitation programs because prevention is better than enforcement
- Youth-led programming such as peer support
- A commitment to harm reduction in all substance use education and programs that contributes to ending stigma
- Better education for parents and educators about substance use so that children learn about it at school and at home and not through social media

11. Celebrate cultural & language diversity

We envision a Canada where children, their families and communities can express their culture and language in an accepting and inclusive environment.

We call for the following:

- Media that represents the diversity of Canadian people and communities
- Opportunities for experiential learning amongst cultures and communities
- Promotion of multiculturalism as a Canadian value

12. Achieve Reconciliation with Canada's First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples

We envision a Canada where everyone understands their role in reconciliation and takes action accordingly.

We call for the following:

- A true commitment to nation-to-nation relationships
- Schools, communities, governments and systems all identify the Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls to action for which they are responsible and undertake these
- Increased education in schools, communities and systems about Indigenous history, language, culture and current treaties
- Recognition that diverse First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities need equitable support and solutions as diverse as they are.



Media Stories

The National Summit and the release of the draft Canadian Children's Charter generated a total of 261 stories being published or broadcast, reaching a total audience of nearly **52 million readers!**

Here is a sample of articles published about the Canadian Children's Charter and the National Summit.

DATE	OUTLET	HEADLINE
Nov. 11	Calgary Herald	Calgary youngster to help frame children's charter
Nov. 13	CBC Calgary	Calgary teen tapped to help develop Canadian Children's Charter
Nov. 13	CBC Radio One Calgary	The 180 – Interview with Toney (not online)
Nov. 17	CBC Halifax Radio	Information Morning – Interview with youth, Callum Lovelace (not online)
Nov. 17	Radio Canada	A children's charter planned to stem poverty, abuse, suicide RCINet.ca
Nov. 20	CTV (across all provinces)	CTV National News with Sandie Rinaldo Also appeared on: BNN, CTV News Channel CP24, CTVNews.ca
Nov. 20	Cowichan Valley Citizen	Too many Cowichan children struggle: advocates
Nov. 20	Huffington Post	National Children's Commissioner Could Make Canadian Kids More Resilient
Nov. 21	CTV News Channel	CTV National News with Lisa LaFlamme 24News.ca
Nov. 21	National Post	New housing strategy could cut into child poverty rates, groups say
Nov. 22	CPAC	PrimeTime Politics
Nov. 22	iPolitics AM	Trudeau in TO to unveil housing plan, hit by-election hustings in Scarborough
Nov. 22	Metro News	Kids Push for Charter of their own
Nov. 22	HillTimes.com	Youth in Ottawa to draft first Canadian Children's Charter
Nov. 23	APTN	Youth in Ottawa draw up a Children's Charter
Nov 28	Chronicle Herald	Listening to kids offers Canada its best bet
Dec. 12	Huffington Post	Canadian children need protection from our government
Dec 18	Chronicle Herald	Local teen goes to Ottawa



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We would like to offer a big thank you to all of our sponsors for their commitment to making Canada the best place in the world for kids to grow up. Your generosity made the National Summit and the draft of the Canadian Children's Charter possible!



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Youth Sponsors



Thank you to all of the organizations that sponsored children and youth to attend the National Summit! Your support assisted nearly 40 young people from coast to coast to coast to take part in creating the draft Canadian Children's Charter.





National Summit Participants



Adult Host Team:

Sara Austin, Children First Canada
Lisa Lachance, Wisdom2Action
Pamela Lovelace, Wisdom2Action
Corrie Melanson, See Meaning
Elaine Kicknosway, Elder in Residence
Theland Kicknosway, Blanket Exercise
Faciliator



Youth Host Team:

Alassua Hanson
Hannah Ruuth
Kiah Henneke- Flindall
Lara Wong
Reem Al-Ameri
Sanaya Polobotu
Toney Beddell

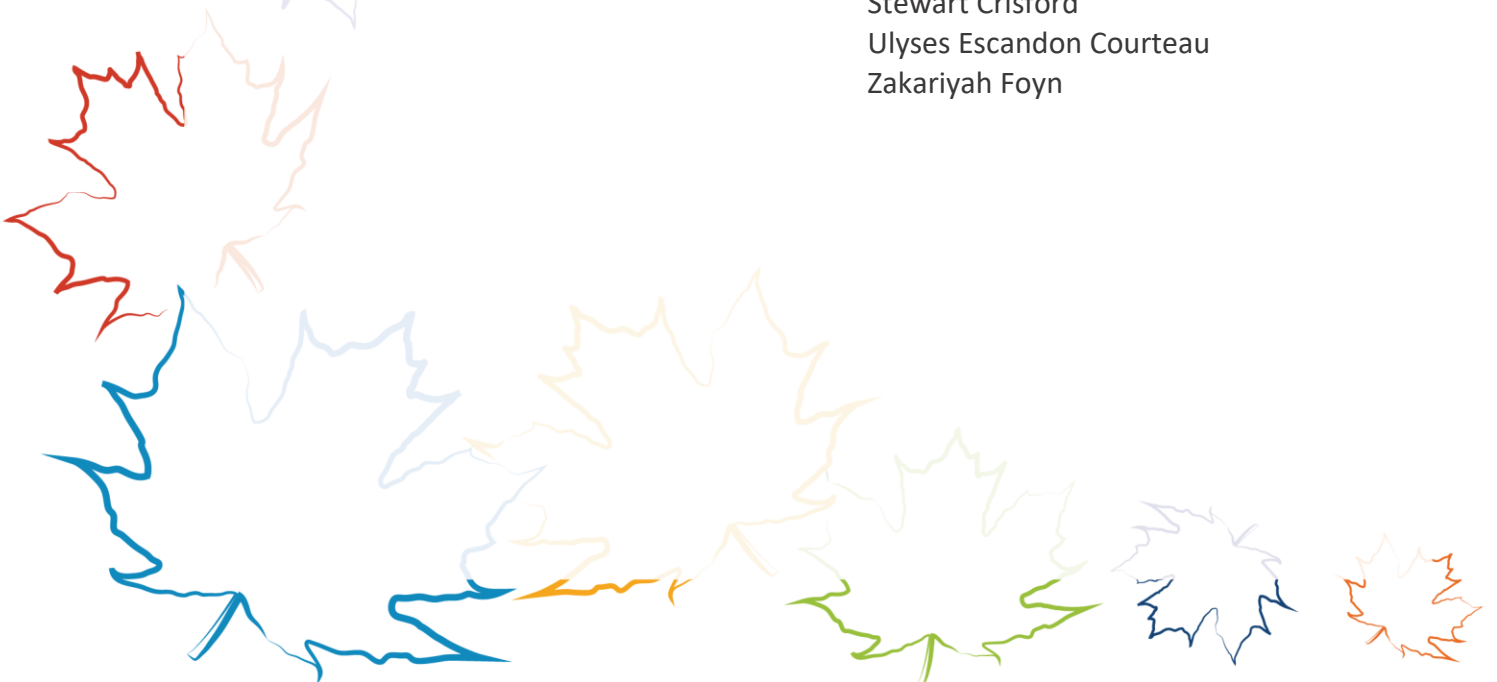


Special Guests:

Mme Sophie Grégoire Trudeau
Parliamentary Secretary Peter Schiefke
Senator Jim Munson

Youth Delegates

Amina Sanogo
Ariana Boyer
Arielle Lok
Ben McLaughlin
Brady Sager
Callum Lovelace
Chloe Nadon Sabourin
Eunice Yong
Heather Mary Manning
Jhaidyn Ritchie
Jonah Sider-Echenberg
Justin Moore
Justine Carifelle
Luca Ramelli
Lyza Ells
Matthew Reid
Miranda Campbell
Morgane Lasalle
Ren Ramos
Rewan Karam
Roman Wolfli
Shannon Lamont
Shelby Broughton
Stewart Crisford
Ulyses Escandon Courteau
Zakariyah Foyn



Adult Delegates

Aaron Taylor, PM Youth Council

Alex Munter, CHEO

Alexandra Taylor, Global Public

Alison Haggerty, Niagara Region Public Health

Andrea Chrysanthou, Global Public Affairs

Andrew Biteen, Rideau Hall Foundation

Angela Simo Brown, LoyaltyOne

Anna Mary Campbell

Anne Minh Quach, Member of Parliament

Antoine Beaudouin, House of Commons

Becca Sawyer, Children First Canada

Brenda Ritchie, Chaperone

Chloe Petat, House of Commons

Christiane Fox, Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental
Affairs and Youth

Claire Farid, Family Children and Youth Section, Family
Law and Policy Unit

Clayton Rowe, Children First Canada

Colleen Bob, Nova Scotia Ombudsman's Office

David Burt, Scouts Canada

Deb Dorner, Volunteer Chaperone

Deborah Morrison, Experiences Canada

Desiree Bombenon, Children First Canada (Board)

Dorothy Dalton-Smith, Volunteer Chaperone

Élène Bérubé, Justice Department Human Rights Law

Emily Gruenwoltdt, CAPHC

Erin Brady, General Counsel, International Human
Rights Law

Gabe Batstone, Teagan's Voice

Gail O'Brien, Children First Canada (Board)

Georgina Black, KPMG

Gord Phaneuf, Child Welfare League of Canada

Gregory Gillespie, Employment and Social Development
Canada

Helena Daly, Volunteer Chaperone

Jessica Pancoe, Kids Help Phone

Joan Mullin, Volunteer Chaperone

Joanne Gosselin, Volunteer Coordinator

Jody Lundigran, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada

Joyce Leung, Support Worker

Julie Clauss, House of Commons

Kam Tello, Mental Health Commission of Canada

Katie Fleming, CCSA

Kelly Legris, Kel Consulting (Event Manager)

Kimberly Conboy, Justice Canada

Lila, Pauktuuit Inuit Women of Canada

Lindsay Patrick, Children First Canada (Board)

Liz O'Neil, Volunteer Chaperone

Lucya Yuzk, Volunteer Chaperone

Manosila Yoganathan, Youth facilitator

Marie Vadronicle, House of Commons

Marion Williams, Canadian Paediatric Chairs

Mary Ellen Agnel, Volunteer Chaperone

Mary- Ellen Rayner, Sandbox Project

Mary Jo Haddad, Children First Canada (Board Chair)

Matthew Enticknap, Public Health Agency of Canada

Mayeti Payeti

Michael Ungar, Dalhousie University

Mona Lawson, Volunteer Chaperone

Monique Jericho, Chaperone

Nancy Good, Volunteer Chaperone

Narpinder Rehallu, Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship
Centre Society

Natasha Beeching, Youville Centre

Natasha Hope Morano, DareArts

Pamela Lovelace, Wisdom2Action

Paula Robeson, Frayme

Philip Cartwright, Global Public

Peter Schiefke, Member of Parliament, Parliamentary
Secretary of Youth & Intergovernmental Affairs

Rosann Thorne, Volunteer Chaperone

Sandra Ramelli, Chaperone

Sarah Arden, Telus

Sarah Loughton, Children First Canada (Board)

Wanda Thomas Bernard, Senator

Jim Munson, Senator

Sian Foyn, Chaperone

Stoney McCart, Students Commission

Sylvia Pascua-Matte, PM Youth Council

Valerie McMurtry, Children's Aid Foundation

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