

Saskatchewan Advocate Celebrates Children and Youth on National Child Day

SASKATOON – **November 20th is National Child Day**, a day dedicated to celebrating children and their rights, and an opportunity to raise awareness about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

The UNCRC is an international treaty ratified by Canada in 1991. It outlines the rights of all young people under 18 and sets out the obligations of governments to ensure these rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled. Although not incorporated into provincial law, the Saskatchewan government made a commitment to the UNCRC when it adopted the Saskatchewan Children and Youth First Principles in 2009.

Recognizing the importance of youth voice and input, the Advocate for Children and Youth office created a Youth Advisory Council. "The young people on our Council have provided significant and important insight and contributions to our office's mandate over the last few years that we hope continue to make a difference to the lives of children and youth in Saskatchewan. They have shared feedback on projects and initiatives, and helped develop our awareness campaign for National Child Day over the past few years," stated Broda.

On this National Child Day, while celebrating and honouring children and youth, the Advocate reflects on the ongoing challenges young people and their families face in Saskatchewan. "It has been extremely challenging for many young people in this province, and we must commit to hearing and incorporating their voices where decisions are being made that affect them," said Broda.

"Let's come together as a community to celebrate and support the children and youth of Saskatchewan, and to advocate for their rights to be fully recognized and protected," stated Broda.

Learn more about National Child Day at:

<https://www.saskadvocate.ca/public-education/national-child-day/>

The Advocate for Children and Youth is an independent office of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. She leads a team of professionals who work on behalf of the province's young people independent and apart from government. The office's vision is that the rights, well-being, and voices of children and youth are respected, valued, and supported to assist young people to reach their full potential.

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