



MEDIA STATEMENT November 20, 2019

Advocate for Children and Youth Celebrates National Child Day and the 30th Anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

SASKATOON– The Saskatchewan Advocate for Children and Youth, Lisa Broda, acknowledges and honours children and youth across Saskatchewan on National Child Day.

National Child Day is celebrated on November 20th each year to commemorate the adoption of the *United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child* (UNCRC) by the UN General Assembly in 1989. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the UNCRC. Canada committed to respecting the rights of children when it ratified the UNCRC in 1991.

Today is a day where we reflect on the progress that has been made in Saskatchewan, and in Canada, since that time. However, it is also an opportunity to raise awareness about upholding the rights of children, and how there is still more to be done.

“National Child Day is a day to celebrate children and youth, but we should have the rights of young people top of mind year-round,” said Broda.

Broda and the staff at the Advocate office look forward to celebrating children and youth, and encouraging them to be active participants in decisions about their lives. Children are our future and are at the heart of change, leading the way on many important issues. Their voice matters and we must listen. “Our children deserve to be – and have the right to be – supported, protected and included when decisions are made that directly impact them,” said Broda.

Young people have a right to live a full life and we must do all we can to ensure they develop to their full potential. Broda stated that, “While we are making advancements in ensuring that children’s rights are at the fore, there is much more work to do and this is the time we can encourage others to learn more about what this day really means.” To learn more about the UNCRC please visit <https://www.unicef.ca/en/policy-advocacy-for-children/about-the-convention-on-the-rights-of-the-child>

The Advocate for Children and Youth is an independent officer of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. She leads a team of professionals who work on behalf of the province's young people. Our vision is that the rights, well-being and voice of children and youth are respected and valued.

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For more information contact:

Kelli Thompson
Communications Coordinator
(306)-933-6700