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WEEKLY Communiqué

STFC Supporting Caregivers throughout BC's Interior

EGALE CANADA REPORT:
RIGHTS, SAFETY, AND BELONGING: PUBLIC PERSPECTIVES ON 2SLGBTQI INCLUSION IN CANADA

"Advocating for 2SLGBTQI rights in Canada remains essential to safeguarding fundamental human rights and ensuring that progress toward equality is defended. Although Canada has achieved significant milestones, such as the legalization of same-sex marriage and the inclusion of gender identity and gender expression in federal human rights protections, and recent policy developments. Continued advocacy is critical to ensuring that 2SLGBTQI individuals, particularly vulnerable young people, are treated with dignity, have access to appropriate healthcare and safe educational environments, and that Canada upholds its broader commitment to equality, inclusion, and the protection of minority rights.

Report Summary

Canadians broadly recognize that 2SLGBTQI rights are human rights, with strong agreement that fair treatment regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation, access to healthcare, and protection from hate and discrimination are fundamental to an inclusive society. The findings show clear concern about the role of misinformation in fueling hate, while also revealing a gap in public confidence around identifying and responding to misinformation. Across this report, Canadians express support for inclusion in healthcare, schools, and recreational spaces when issues are framed around fairness, safety, medical autonomy, and young people's wellbeing. At the same time, many believe Canada still has work to do before 2SLGBTQI people can feel fully safe and free to be themselves. This points to an important opportunity for continued public education, advocacy, and policy leadership to protect rights, reduce harm, and strengthen belonging for 2SLGBTQI communities across Canada."

IT'S SUMMER TIME

IN PERSON

KAMLOOPS

FOSTER PARENT DROP-IN

Wednesdays

9:00am - 11:00am

At the Loft (2nd Floor of grey building)

VIRTUAL

WEST KOOTENAY

FOSTER PARENT DROP-IN

Fridays

10:00am - 12noon

Zoom ID: **250 608 7674**

DON'T LOOK AWAY 2 YEARS LATER

"Two years ago, Don't Look Away – How One Boy's Story Has the Power to Shift a System of Care for Children and Youth asked the government and legislative assembly of British Columbia to do something difficult. It asked us to sit with discomfort. To acknowledge where systems failed children. And to act – collectively, urgently, and differently. At the centre of that report was Colby, an 11-year-old boy whose life and death revealed not only individual failures but the deep structure of a system that was never intentionally designed to nurture children to thrive. His story illuminated both the light, love, connection, and resilience, and the shadow, violence, fragmentation, and missed opportunities within his family's life and within systems. We said then that Colby was not an outlier. Today, we must say that again."

"The heart of a foster parent is the size of an ocean, with room for waves of every child's emotions." Unknown

BOOK CORNER

HAS YOUR CHILD BEEN TRAUMATIZED?:
HOW TO KNOW AND WHAT TO DO TO PROMOTE HEALING AND RECOVERY

By Melissa Goldberg Mintz (2022)
"When your child has been through an upsetting or stressful event, it can feel overwhelming. Is your child traumatized? Are new behaviors normal, or signs of PTSD? What can you do to make your child feel safe again? Psychologist Melissa Goldberg Mintz knows what is needed to support a traumatized child--and she knows that loving parents play the most important role. In this wise and authoritative guide, Dr. Goldberg Mintz shares specific, critical information and insights into what trauma looks like at different ages, why some kids exposed to the same event react very differently, how to help your child through trauma triggers, when to seek professional help, and more. She provides crucial tools for ensuring that your child doesn't feel constrained by fear--and can face future challenges with hope and resilience."

CANFASD
WHAT IS FASD ADVOCACY?

By canfasdblog on Jul 15, 2026
"Individuals with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) often face barriers when accessing education, healthcare, employment, and community services. Advocacy helps bridge that gap. Advocacy means taking action to support your own needs, rights, and interests – or those of someone you care about. For people with FASD, advocacy can make a meaningful difference by helping them receive the accommodations, services, and understanding they need to succeed.

Strong advocacy also encourages collaboration between families, educators, healthcare providers, employers, and community organizations. When everyone works together, individuals with FASD are more likely to experience positive outcomes at school, at work, and in everyday life. Advocacy isn't about confrontation. It's about communicating respectfully, sharing information, and working together to find practical solutions."

Read the full article at **CANFASD ADVOCACY**

Connect with us... SUPPORT TO FAMILY CARE NETWORK PROGRAM

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Interior Community Services
Enriching Lives, *Strengthening Communities*

Need resources or information? Check out our website!

Are you wanting more info about upcoming training in your area, helpful resources or info about our program? Find all this and much more at our website:

www.icsfp.info/resources

Foster Parent After Hours Support Line

Hours: Mon to Fri: 4pm to 12:45am
Sat, Sun & Stat holidays: 8am to 12:45am

1-888-495-4440

PROVINCIAL CENTRALIZED SCREENING

in the event of an EMERGENCY or CRISIS occurring after regular office hours:

1-800-663-9122