

Sandy Kitchen

From: Jennifer Astrologo
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 12:48 PM
To: Sandy Kitchen
Subject: FW: Resolution to support sustainable funding for Child Advocacy Centre's
Attachments: Windsor Essex Child Youth Advocacy Centre.pdf; Signed letter.pdf

From: Tammy Fowkes [<mailto:tfowkes@amherstburg.ca>]

Sent: December-15-16 1:44 PM

To: Brenda Andreatta; Brenda Percy; Jennifer Astrologo; Laura Moy; Mary Masse; Robert Auger; Wayne Miller; Mary Brennan

Subject: Resolution to support sustainable funding for Child Advocacy Centre's

Good afternoon,

Amherstburg Town Council, at its meeting of November 14th, 2016, passed the following:

That Administration BE DIRECTED to send a letter to the Windsor Essex Child/Youth Advocacy Centre in support of sustainable funding for Child Advocacy Centre's.

Please be advised that I have sent the attached signed letter from Mayor DiCarlo to the Minister of the Attorney General and the Minister of Children & Youth Services, as well as Tracey Ramsey and Taras Natyshak.

Regards,
Tammy

Tammy Fowkes

Deputy Clerk

Town of Amherstburg

271 Sandwich St South, Amherstburg, Ontario, N9V 2A5

Tel: 519-736-0012 x2216 Fax: 519-736-5403 TTY: 519-736-9860



5 Bloom Provincial Award (2015)...see you at the Nationals!



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September 27, 2016

Yasir Naqvi
Ministry of the Attorney General
720 Bay Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9
attorneygeneral@ontario.ca

Michael Coteau
Minister of Children & Youth Services
77 Wellesley Street West, PO Box 156
Toronto, ON M7A 1N3
mcsmin@mcys.gov.on.ca

Re: A Provincial Initiative to support sustainable funding for Child Advocacy Centre's

Please accept this letter of support regarding sustainable funding for Child or Child and Youth Advocacy Centre's across the province.

Child and Youth Advocacy Centre's provide support for victims of child abuse and trauma and have a unique way of managing child victims' needs and promote investigative excellence while also addressing and preventing longer-term impacts of child abuse at the outset.

Although many current CYAC's have received financial support through the Federal Government and continue to seek additional funds through local fundraising efforts, the fact that the provincial government does not provide any sort of sustainable funding to these organizations results in a wide variance as to what resources are available for children.

We recognize that the provincial government ministries sustain programs and funding for child welfare, health, police and public safety, but question why they would not provide the same to CYAC's that provide all of these services.

Apparently, Alberta is the only province in Canada that currently provides sustainable funding for CYAC's. Through the Children's First Act, the Province of Alberta reallocated dollars from various ministries including child welfare, social services, policing and health services to provide core services to child victims through CYAC's without requiring new funding. We are hoping that the Province of Ontario would consider allocating these funds in the 2017 Budget.

Our children, are our future, we stand together with the Mayor's of many other communities across the province in supporting this initiative.

Sincerely,



Aldo DiCarlo, Mayor,
Town of Amherstburg.

WINDSOR ESSEX CHILD/YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE

c/o Lynda Ware, Chairwoman
32 Melrose Ave., Leamington, ON N8H 2J2
lynda.ware@opp.ca / 519-326-2544 x.7281



Date: September 29th, 2016

Mayor Aldo DiCarlo
Town Of Amherstburg
271 Sandwich St, S
Amherstburg, Ontario N9V 2A5

Attention: Mayor Aldo DiCarlo

RE: A Provincial Initiative to support sustainable funding for Child Advocacy Centre's

Child and Youth Advocacy Centre's (CYAC) have been established in many communities throughout Canada in response to a Federal Government Victim Strategy to support communities who wish to create or enhance a child advocacy centre.

A CAC is a community-based program, designed to meet the unique needs of the particular community in which it is located. Consequently, no two centres are alike but each CAC has a number of elements in common, including;

- A multi-disciplinary team that includes law enforcement, child protection services, prosecution, mental health services, victim advocacy services and the child advocacy centre;
- Child focused setting;
- Forensic interviewing;
- Victim advocacy and support, including court support;
- Specialized medical evaluation and treatment;
- Specialized trauma-focused mental health services;
- Cultural competency and diversity;
- Case review and tracking;

Training and education for professionals working with child abuse victims and community education and outreach are also considered to be important activities that CAC undertake.

Many programs throughout Ontario have been able to take advantage of this Federal funding to establish a CYAC's in their communities but they are now struggling to find any sort of sustainable funding.

Recently, Walter Sendzik, the Mayor of St. Catharines and the Provincial Child and Youth Advocate, Irwin Elman, have decided to champion this cause and push the Province to reallocate dollars from multiple ministries in the 2017 budget cycle to support the sustainability of CYAC's across the province.

WINDSOR ESSEX CHILD/YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE

c/o Lynda Ware, Chairwoman

32 Melrose Ave., Leamington, ON N8H 2J2

lynda.ware@opp.ca / 519-326-2544 x.7281



They believe that communities deserve to have CYAC's as a basic aspect of service delivery to young victims and that this should not be done in isolation from government sustainability of this model. They see this as an excellent opportunity for all initiatives connected with the Ontario Network of CYAS's to stand together and ask the Mayors of all municipalities to join them in pushing for this provincial commitment as it would help leverage their discussions with Minister Couteau. It is for this reason that we are writing to you today.

The Windsor Essex Child Advocacy Steering Committee has been meeting for over 2 years now with the hope of establishing a Child and Youth Advocacy Centre for this region. We are currently seeking funds to run a pilot project that would demonstrate the value of this type of collaboration. We truly hope that you will agree to send a letter of support on behalf of our community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynda Ware". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Chairperson

Lynda Ware

Windsor Essex Child/Youth Advocacy Centre