



**Ontario Association of
Residences Treating Youth**

Centre of Excellence for Residential Care in Ontario

January 5, 2015

Christine Gaitens
President of the Board
Ontario Association of Child and Youth Counsellors

To the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Counsellors,

Thank you for your letter dated November 18th, 2014. We understand your concern that without regulation of the child and youth care profession, the very children and youth whom we all aim to support are put at risk. We fully support your effort to have the profession regulated so that standards are set for the training, skill set and experience of child and youth care practitioners. Regulation is important to ensure that only trained professionals are able to provide service under this title and that those who receive services are protected.

We firmly believe that legislation would require the provision of consistent high quality care to children and youth with accountability for child and youth care practitioners and we support your efforts to petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to pass and enact a Bill to regulate the profession of child and youth care in Ontario.

We understand that you are currently implementing a professional certification program to ensure a standardized set of competencies and qualitative standards as a part of your push towards becoming a legislated profession and would like to offer our assistance in this endeavor. Please let us know if there are any opportunities to provide input or advice into this process.

We would be pleased to meet with you to engage in further dialogue regarding the need for regulation and to discuss our common goals as we work towards the betterment of our child welfare system.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Harris', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rebecca Harris
Executive Director

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