



Student Support Services and Care
5050 Yonge Street, 2nd Floor Toronto, ON M2N 5N8
Telephone: 416-395-3903 Fax: 416-393-8959

October 5, 2015

Christine Gaitens, President of the Board
Ontario Association of Child and Youth Care
c/o Ryerson University, 350 Bond Street, Toronto, ON M5B 2K3

RE: Support to the OACYC in its efforts to ensure that child and youth care becomes a legislated and regulated profession in Ontario

Dear Ms. Gaitens,

I am writing in support of your efforts to ensure that child and youth care practice in Ontario becomes a legislated and regulated profession. As the Executive Superintendent of Student Support Services & Care at the Toronto District School Board, I understand the significant role that child and youth care practitioners play on the multi-disciplinary team in the educational setting. The Child and Youth Workers and Child and Youth Counsellors are skilled, committed professionals providing direct support to some of our most vulnerable children and youth. They are part of Professional Support Services, working alongside our Social Workers, and Psychologists.

The Toronto District School Board has high standards and expectations of our staff. We hire only qualified staff and expect that they will meet the complex needs of our students and their families as we strive to provide the best opportunities for academic success and support mental health and wellbeing. Child and Youth Care Practitioners are the only group of professionals in our department that remain unregulated. Regulation will help to ensure that all of our professional staff are accountable to the public and committed to adhere to a code of ethics.

The Provincial government has acted in the best interests and the safety of the public when it regulated Early Childhood Educators in the province. It is my belief that child and youth care practitioners should be regulated to clearly identify their roles across sectors, to ensure confidence in the team providing services to children and youth and to ensure that the best interests of the public are addressed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'S. Spyropoulos'.

Sandy Spyropoulos
Executive Superintendent
Student Support Services and Care