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To Whom It May Concern:

The Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba Inc. (IRCOM) strongly endorses the *Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth* which supports and promotes the evidence-based position that the physical punishment of children and youth plays no useful role in their upbringing and poses only risks to their development.

IRCOM works with newcomer families, primarily refugee newcomers, in the inner-city of Winnipeg. Our mission is to strive to empower newcomer families to integrate into the wider community through affordable transitional housing, programs, and services.

This statement is very consistent with the work we do engaging newcomer parents, providing them with skills and knowledge as well as cultural brokering, so that they can find alternate means of communicating with, supporting and providing guidelines for their children without resorting to physical punishment.

Sincerely,

Shereen Denetto

Interim Executive Director

Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba