



SCHOOL OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE
FACULTY OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

June 06, 2016

RE: JOINT STATEMENT ON PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Dear Dr. Ensom:

The School of Child & Youth Care at Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada hereby endorses the *Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth*. The *Joint Statement* has been reviewed by all faculty members of the School and support for endorsing this statement was unanimous.

As a research-focused academic unit with a strong commitment to Children's Rights, Child and Youth Well-being, and Child and Youth-centered policy development, the School is very pleased to endorse the *Joint Statement* as it reflects our values as well as our research findings. Our School is the largest and only university-based program training child and youth care practitioners in Ontario at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. It is incumbent upon us to demonstrate the strongest possible commitment to protect the safety and well being of young people and to ensure that their voices are reflected in their active participation in research, policy and practice. We want to set a standard for being with vulnerable young people that is firmly rooted in ethical practice, respect for the dignity, knowledge and wisdom of young people themselves, and a categorical endorsement of a children's rights perspective in all aspects of child and youth care practice.

The School of Child & Youth Care strongly advocates in favour of relational practices with young people. It is our belief that education, social development and personal growth are best furthered when young people and adults are committed to engaging one another through genuine, respectful and authentic relationships that are rooted in mutual respect and capitalize on the immense learning and growth opportunities embedded in daily life events.

We congratulate those who have actively contributed to the development and dissemination of the *Joint Statement* and once again affirm our endorsement.

On behalf of the School of Child & Youth Care,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Gharabaghi".

Dr. Kiaras Gharabaghi, Ph.D
Director, School of Child & Youth Care
Ryerson University