



September 8, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Office of the Prime Minister  
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Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

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**Re: Children's Commissioner for Canada**

Dear Prime Minister,

We are writing to you with a shared conviction rooted in our faith and our collective responsibility to protect and uplift the most vulnerable among us—our children.

We call upon the federal government to establish an independent, nonpartisan Children's Commissioner for Canada. We stand united in this call, believing it is both a moral and practical imperative to protect and uplift children – who are among the most vulnerable persons among us. This would ensure that the needs and rights of children are amplified and safeguarded at the highest levels of our society.

A Children's Commissioner would serve as a dedicated advocate, giving voice to children across our country and to those who speak on their behalf. This office would help ensure that children's interests are considered in all matters of public policy—whether related to education, housing, food, healthcare, online protection, or child safety.

According to the 2025 International Summit on Children's Rights, every child has a right for protection and care. As Christian faith communities, we are guided by the belief that every child is a precious gift. Children have the right to a family and are deserving of care, dignity, and opportunity. Scripture reminds us to prioritize children's well being, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:14). Our faith compels us to act in love in the best interests of children, protecting their well-being and nurturing their potential.

The latest UNICEF Canada Report Card 19 reveals that Canada currently ranks 30th out of 38 wealthy nations for children's well-being, a troubling position marked by high rates of child poverty, food insecurity, and serious gaps in access to healthcare and mental health support.

Establishing a Children's Commissioner would also be in line with other calls the government has already received, for example Calls for Justice 12.9 of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: *We call upon the federal government to establish a National Child and Youth Commissioner who would also serve as a special measure to strengthen the framework of accountability for the rights of Indigenous children in Canada.*

Further, a Children's Commissioner would strengthen Canada's fulfillment of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified in 1991. The United Nations Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, along with UNICEF and other Canadian organizations, has consistently encouraged the government to establish a Children's Commissioner to help ensure all children are safe, cared for, and valued regardless of background or circumstance.

We urge you to act without delay and to mandate the establishment of an independent Children's Commissioner. By doing so, Canada would take a significant step toward ensuring that all children—regardless of background or circumstance—are heard, valued, and protected.

We look forward to your leadership on this vital issue and stand ready to support efforts that advance the rights and well-being of children across our nation. We would be pleased to meet with you or your designate to discuss this vital issue. The Associate Secretary, Justice and Peace, Karen Puddicombe ([puddicombe@councilofchurches.ca](mailto:puddicombe@councilofchurches.ca)) will be in touch with your staff regarding next steps.

Please be assured of our daily prayers for you and your government's work for justice for all in Canada.



Rev. Amanda Currie  
President

cc. The Honourable **Pierre Poilievre**, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada  
**Yves-François Blanchet**, Leader of the Bloc Québécois  
**Don Davies**, Interim Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada  
**Elizabeth May**, Leader of the Green Party of Canada  
The Honourable **Anna Gainey**, Secretary of State (Children and Youth)  
The Honourable **Mandy Gull-Masty**, Minister of Indigenous Services  
The Honourable **Patty Hajdu**, Minister of Jobs and Families

The Honourable **Majorie Michel**, Minister of Health  
**Senator Rosemary Moodie**  
**Senator Julie Miville-Dechêne**

*The Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) is a broad and inclusive ecumenical body representing 26-member churches including Anglican-Lutheran; Eastern and Roman Catholic; Evangelical; Free Church; Eastern and Oriental Orthodox; and Historic Protestant Christian traditions.*

*Together these member churches comprise 85% of the Christians in Canada. The Canadian Council of Churches was founded in 1944.*