

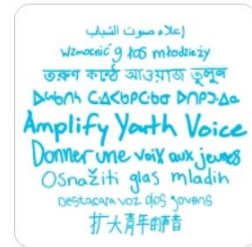


SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF TORONTO

Statement Re: Closing the Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children & Youth December 3, 2018

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto have sent the following email to Ontario's Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs.

As a congregation of women religious who aim to help those struggling in today's world, we are deeply concerned about the Ontario Government's decision to close the Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth.



By closing the Child Advocate Office, the government is shutting down a vital partner and voice for children and youth, including First Nations children and those with special needs. Without this Agency in place, there is a distinct possibility that abused, neglected and victimized children will fall through the cracks. The proposed economic benefit (if any) is not worth the well-being of even one child.

Since arriving in Toronto in 1851, the Sisters of St. Joseph have worked to recognize and meet the needs of vulnerable people, including children. We urge the Ontario Government to re-think its decision and keep the Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children & Youth intact and fully functional.

Yours truly,

Sister Georgette Gregory on behalf of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto

Response

We received the following response on Wednesday, December 5:

Thank you for your written submission on Bill 57, An Act to enact, amend and repeal various statutes.

I confirm receipt of your submission. It has been distributed to all Members of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs.

Please be informed that the submission will become a Committee exhibit and will form part of the permanent public record of the Committee.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the number below.

With kind regards,

Tanzima Khan | Procedural Services Assistant
Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs