

Subject: FW: Request for Support - FW: Letter from the Honourable Katrine Conroy

From: MCF Info MCF:EX [<mailto:MCF.Info@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: November 3, 2017 4:14 PM

To: WebInfo

Subject: Letter from the Honourable Katrine Conroy

Ref: 234366

His Worship Mayor Ted Schaffer and Council
City of Langley
E-mail: info@langleycity.ca

Dear Mayor Schaffer and Council:

As the new Minister of Children and Family Development, I am honoured and delighted to proclaim November as Adoption Awareness Month. This annual proclamation offers an opportunity to celebrate the many families in the province who have opened their hearts and their homes through adoption, and to highlight the need for more families to consider adopting.

In your community and across the province, there are young people hoping for a permanent home to call their own. There are approximately 1,000 children and youth in foster care waiting for a permanent home. Some are part of a sibling group, some have special needs, and some are teens. Regardless of their personal circumstances, each and every child deserves a family to belong to, a stable place to grow up, help and guidance preparing for the challenges of adulthood, and someone to rely on for support, encouragement and love.

There are many ways to celebrate adoptive families and help raise awareness of the need for more adoptive families in British Columbia. Your council could proclaim Adoption Awareness Month in your community, you could create an adoption display in your office, use a copy of the Provincial Proclamation, invite Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) Adoption Social Workers to set up an information booth, have your community newspaper feature articles on adoption and invite local adoptive parents to a “meet and greet”. If you are interested in exploring these ideas please contact MCFD staff at: MCF.AdoptionsBranch@gv.bc.ca.

The Adoptive Families Association of British Columbia (AFABC) has been supporting adoptive families in British Columbia for forty years. The AFABC’s representative for your area can provide you with information on events in your community and on adoption in general. Their contact information, as well as contact information for the four licensed adoption agencies in British Columbia, can be accessed at: <http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/adoption/index.htm>.

Last year the Ministry of Children and Family Development launched the *Adopt BC Kids* Web site; the portal allows citizens to complete an adoption application online 24/7. Since its inception, more than 340 prospective adoptive families have registered on *Adopt BC Kids* and 97 families have submitted applications to adopt. Please take a look at the site and encourage community members who are interested in adopting a child in foster care to register at www.gov.bc.ca/adoptbckids.

On behalf of the Ministry of Children and Family Development, thank you for helping us raise awareness about adoption and working with us to find homes for British Columbia’s children and youth.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Katrine Conroy
Minister of Children and Family Development

Sent on behalf of the Minister by:

