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April 13, 2015

Christine Gaitens, President of the Board
Ontario Association of Child and Youth Councillors
c/o Ryerson University
350 Victoria Street
Toronto, ON M5B 2K3

Subject: Letter of Support

Dear Ms. Gaitens:

I am pleased to provide a letter of support as your association and members strive to achieve the recognition of a regulated profession, with all of the rights and responsibilities that this confers.

Both in my former role as the Executive Director of the Youth Services Bureau (YSB) and now as President and CEO of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO), I have always been impressed by the dedication and commitment of Child and Youth Counsellors. Your work really does change the trajectory of young people's lives.

At CHEO, the CYC's play a crucial role serving as members of interdisciplinary mental health teams – being present and making a difference at some of the most crucial moments in young people's lives. The time and effort developing their particular education and experiential credentials to become child and youth care practitioners is key to programs and policy development. There is a need for this profession to become regulated to ensure the vulnerable population they serve benefit from consistent training and professional standards across many different kinds of settings.

You have my ongoing support as you continue the path towards implementation of your professional certification program and ultimately becoming a regulated body. Your voices must be heard advocating as the province develops policies.

Yours truly

Alex Munter
President & CEO

Cc: Elaine Trigg

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