

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

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Dear Board of Directors:

As Assistant Deputy Minister and Provincial Director of Child Welfare, I am honoured to once again acknowledge November as Adoption and Permanency Awareness Month. This month of recognition encourages us to reflect on those families in our province who have opened their hearts and lives to children and youth as permanent members of their family, and I ask that you help promote awareness for children and youth who are still waiting for permanent homes.

Permanency is transformational for everyone involved. Adoption and Permanency Awareness Month is about celebrating the devoted families created when people open their hearts and commit to sharing their lives with a vulnerable child or youth. They offer a welcoming stability, ensuring children and youth have the foundation they need to build the lives they dream of. That is why Adoption and Permanency Awareness Month is also about recognizing the children and youth who are still waiting for permanent, stable, and nurturing homes.

I encourage you to share the following resources with your community members who are interested in becoming an adoptive or permanent family in British Columbia:

- [Adopt BC Kids - Province of British Columbia](#) - an online portal that provides British Columbians wishing to adopt children and youth from foster care with information and guidance throughout their adoption application.
- [Ways to Adopt in BC - Province of British Columbia](#) provides information on adoption in British Columbia, such as infant adoption, relative and step-parent adoption, and adopting a child or youth from another country.
- [Belonging Network](#) (formerly Adoptive Families Association of BC) provides information and support services for families who wish to adopt now or in the future.

Please join us in celebrating November as Adoption and Permanency Awareness Month to recognize all the families that have provided children and youth with the care, compassion, and lifelong commitment of a permanent home, and to honor those who may choose to do so in the future. On behalf of the Government of British Columbia, thank you for your continued leadership in supporting adoptive families in your community.

Sincerely,

Cory Heavener
Assistant Deputy Minister
Provincial Director of Child Welfare

Sent on behalf of the Assistant Deputy Minister by:



Client Relations Branch
Executive Operations
Ministry of Children and Family Development