

WORLD-CHANGING KIDS

Writing Letters for Reconciliation

Online Meet-up: Thurs, Aug 12, 5:00-6:00 pm EST
for kids ages 7-13 and their families



Topic: Changes to Child Welfare Services

WORLD-
CHANGING
KIDS

Step One:

- Date
- Contact Info
- Greeting

August 12, 2021

The Right Honourable
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1P 5K9

Dear Prime Minister,

Step Two:
First Paragraph –
State your
purpose for
writing the letter.

I am writing to demand that your government commit to reducing the number of Indigenous children in care.

I am writing to demand that your government commit to completing the first Call to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report: Reducing the number of Indigenous children in care.

Step Three:
Second Paragraph –
Explain why reducing
the number of
Indigenous children in
child welfare services
is important to you.

There are now more Indigenous children in care across the country than were ever in residential schools at any one given time.

Census data shows that more than half of the children in Canadian foster homes are Indigenous, despite them making up less than 8% of the country's child population. In Manitoba, approximately 90% of children in care are Indigenous.

The outcomes for kids in the child welfare system, Indigenous or not, are not good. In British Columbia, kids in care are more likely to wind up in jail than they are to graduate high school. Across Canada, kids in and from the foster care system make up 60 per cent of homeless youth, and a third of our homeless adults.

Step Four: Third Paragraph – Include clear requests

I am asking you to require that all child-welfare decision makers consider the impact of the residential school experience on children and their caregivers.

I demand that you ensure that social workers and others who conduct child-welfare investigations are properly educated and trained about the history and impacts of residential schools.

I call on you to provide adequate resources to enable Indigenous communities and child-welfare organizations to keep Indigenous families together where it is safe to do so, and to keep children in culturally appropriate environments, regardless of where they reside.

Step Five:

Final Paragraph – ask questions, request a response

Will you commit to making this a priority? How will you ensure that you are moving faster to reduce the number of Indigenous children in care? Please respond with answers to these questions.

Step Six:
Closing – include
your name, age and
address at the end
of the letter.

Sincerely,

Signature

Name

Age

Street Address

City, Province Postal Code