

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Directors of Education  
Executive Directors of Children's Aid Societies

**FROM:** Mary Jean Gallagher  
Chief Student Achievement Officer of Ontario  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Student Achievement Division

Janine Griffore  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
French Language, Aboriginal Learning and Research Division

**DATE:** April 9, 2015

**SUBJECT:** **Invitation to the Supporting Educational Outcomes of Students  
in Care Symposium**

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On behalf of the Ministry of Education, it is our pleasure to invite you and your staff to attend the **Supporting Educational Outcomes of Students in Care Symposium**.

This inaugural symposium is an opportunity to bring together educators, and Children's Aid Society (CAS) staff to network, strengthen partnerships, and identify shared priorities for improving teaching and learning, addressing achievement gaps, and sharing best practices for supporting the well-being and educational outcomes of Ontario's students in the care of, or receiving services from, CASs.

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 12, 2015  
**LOCATION:** Toronto Congress Centre, 650 Dixon Rd., Toronto.  
**TIME:** 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

Last fall, in a package of resources sent to you by the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, you received a Capacity Building Series special edition monograph on *Improving the Educational Outcomes of Children and Youth in Care*:

[http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/CBS\\_ImproveEducation.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/CBS_ImproveEducation.pdf)

Further, a number of you sent staff to the Crown Ward Education Championship Teams' February 19<sup>th</sup> provincial meeting for the launch of the Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA) template. The meeting was very successful and provided an opportunity for partners to focus on their local protocols and access financial support to facilitate protocol development provided by the Ministry of Education.

The symposium is another opportunity for bringing together educators and CAS staff for continued collaboration and networking. The one-day program which will feature a variety of plenary sessions including a keynote speaker on the new neuroscience of well-being and learning, a youth panel, and workshops highlighting work on the innovative programming pilots for secondary students in care, and a “think tank” on approaches for elementary students in care.

Further information, including the program and on-line registration, will be available April 15<sup>th</sup> to April 28<sup>th</sup>. Please note that there is no registration fee for the symposium. Expenses will be reimbursed according to Ministry of Education guidelines and supply teacher costs will be included.

For any other queries about the symposium please contact Carmen Maggisano at [carmen.maggisano@ontario.ca](mailto:carmen.maggisano@ontario.ca) or by phone at (416) 325-2671 or Gurjit Gill at [gurjit.gill@ontario.ca](mailto:gurjit.gill@ontario.ca) or by phone at (416) 212-3363.

We hope to see you at the symposium.

Sincerely,

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Mary Jean Gallagher, ADM

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Janine Griffore, ADM

Attachment: Draft Symposium Flyer

c: Mary Ballantyne, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Children’s Aid Societies  
Steven Vanloffeld, Executive Director, Association of Native Child and Family Services Agencies of Ontario  
Kathy Verduyn, Director, Field Services Branch, Ministry of Education  
Jennifer Morris, Director, Child Welfare Secretariat, Ministry of Children and Youth Services  
School Board Student Success Leader  
School Board Mental Health Lead