

From: MCF Info MCF:EX <MCF.Info@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2020 10:33 AM
To: INFO <info@tol.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] E-mail from Cory Heavener, Provincial Director of Child Welfare

VIA E-MAIL
Ref: 244644

His Worship Mayor Jack Froese and Council
Township of Langley
E-mail: info@tol.ca

Dear Mayor Froese and Council:

What a year so far! With a global pandemic being the centre of attention for most of this year, I am happy to move the focus back to a familiar month of gratitude. I am pleased to announce that October will once again be declared Foster Family Month in British Columbia. It is my particular honour this year to celebrate the 30th year of Foster Family Month proclamations. Some members of your community have been foster parents for those 30 years, and some are brand new. All are critically important to the health and safety of our province's most vulnerable children.

As the Provincial Director of Child Welfare, I am pleased to acknowledge, with deep gratitude, the many caregivers who have given their time and love to raising young people in British Columbia. This month, we recognize their dedication to improving the lives of those children who need them, and who may continue to need them as they grow.

This year has been challenging, both globally and provincially. I know that the pandemic has been difficult for most British Columbians, and most certainly for these caregivers, who have taken on the additional challenge of conducting visits with social workers and families virtually. Last year, Government announced an increase to the Family Care Rate in February, and although this will have helped to lessen the stress of this year for caregivers, we know there is more work to do. The pandemic has shown us that we need to continue being creative in finding solutions to support caregivers, children, and families.

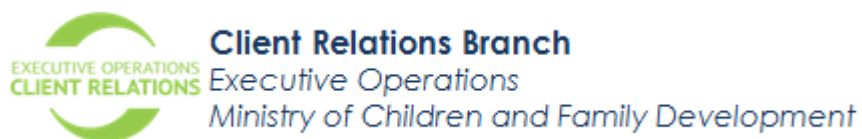
Please join me in celebrating October as Foster Family Month to show those in your community how important the role of a caregiver is. Please make time to honour the incredible individuals and households who are dedicated around the clock to ensure children and youth in care are safe and cared for. Although the global pandemic has halted in-person festivities, I invite you to find new ways to champion and promote the hard work of these caregivers in your community.

On behalf of the Government of British Columbia, thank you for your continued support in recognizing the extended family and foster caregivers in your community.

Sincerely,

Cory Heavener
Provincial Director of Child Welfare

Sent on behalf of the Provincial Director by:



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