

There can be **NO KEENER REVELATION** of **A SOCIETY'S SOUL** than the way in which it **TREATS ITS CHILDREN** — NELSON MANDELA

CHILD WELFARE MATTERS IN ONTARIO: KEY FACTS *

\$1.4 billion
Child Welfare budget envelope

38
Non-Indigenous Children's Aid Societies

→ 3
faith-based agencies

11
Indigenous Well-Being Societies

167,733
Calls and referrals with concerns about the safety and well-being of children and youth in Ontario

82,687
Investigations

In 97%
of investigations children remain with their families

43,129
Families provided with ongoing protection services

85%
of children are discharged from care within 36 months

12,794
Monthly average number of children in care

4,872
Monthly average of children who were permanent wards of the crown

775
Adoptions last year

23%
of children needing out of home placements live with kin families

5
Significant system transformation initiatives including:

→ 1.
Addressing overrepresentation and inequity of outcomes for African Canadian families

→ 2.
Reconciliation framework with Indigenous communities

→ 3.
New education curriculum and authorization process for child protection workers

→ 4.
Province-wide information system which will be fully implemented by 2020

→ 5.
Shared Services program that will reduce fragmentation and improve sector capacity across the province

* Data Sources: Ministry Quarterly Reports, 2016-17; Ontario Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect, 2013; Child Welfare Performance Indicators

About the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS)

For over 100 years, OACAS has been enhancing and promoting the welfare and well-being of children, youth, and families in Ontario. OACAS works to create a highly effective system of services for children which has the confidence of Ontario families and communities.


ONTARIO PROVINCIAL ELECTION 2018

CHILD WELFARE VOTES

✓	SOCIAL SERVICES Ensure equitable access to health and mental health social services so struggling families get the early help they need.
✓	MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES Ensure that adults and children experiencing mental health challenges receive the right supports at the right time so that child welfare services are not needed.
✓	RECONCILIATION Restore jurisdiction for child welfare to Indigenous communities and ensure families have the services they need to care for their children.
✓	CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE SERVICES Invest in culturally appropriate and specialized care services in Indigenous communities so that youth do not have to travel 2,000km to receive treatment.
✓	CPIN Fund the new provincial Child Protection Information Network so that service dollars can maximize direct services.
✓	INFORMATION MANAGEMENT Fund the disclosure and privacy of records for all those receiving child welfare services.
✓	CYFSA: AGE OF PROTECTION Give 16 and 17-year-olds the help they need to stay safe by fully funding Ontario's new age of protection.
✓	KINSHIP Support grandparents and extended family willing to step up for kids when their caregivers are struggling.

ON JUNE 7, THE CHILD WELFARE SECTOR WILL VOTE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES. TOGETHER WE CAN BUILD A STRONGER ONTARIO.

OUR FUTURE – OUR VOTE!



CHILD WELFARE 2018: THE LANDSCAPE IN ONTARIO

2000km

how far some Indigenous youth
must travel to receive mental
health services

CHILD

89%

of children who receive CAS services
live in families that are struggling to
meet their basic needs ¹

FAMILY

53%

of families receiving CAS services live in
socio-economic hardship ²

46%

of families receive CAS services
because of adult mental health issues
(including addictions) ³

COMMUNITY

76%

of families surveyed say it is difficult
to know where to get help for mental
health challenges ⁴

185,000

families are on wait lists for affordable
housing in Ontario ⁵

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

40%

of Indigenous children live in poverty ⁶

43%

of First Nation people on reserve live in
homes that need major repairs ⁷