

JOB DESCRIPTION – CHILD AND YOUTH MEMBERS

BACKGROUND

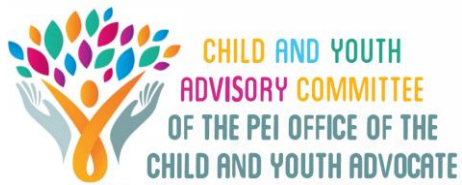
Founding Youth Members were invited to take part in the PEI Children & Youth Table upon recommendation of then adult members and fellow youth in the spring of 2020. A job description was requested from youth and therefore developed by Founding Youth Members. As the group has evolved to become the Child and Youth Advisory Committee of the PEI Child and Youth Advocate, updates to the job description were made most recently in January of 2021.

QUALITIES

Child and Youth Members will have an understanding and ability to address the serious topics of the Child and Youth Advisory Committee of the PEI Child and Youth Advocate; seeing topics through the lens of youth's own experiences and/or empathy for other children and youth. Having a passion for the rights of children and youth, a willingness to be a voice for others, to seek others' input, is what is most important. Child and Youth Members will be within the age range of service for the *Child and Youth Advocate Act* at the time they begin their term.

ROLE

- Offer ideas and opinions about topics related to the protection and welfare of children and youth in Prince Edward Island, including promoting the rights of children and youth
- Participate in discussions with staff of The Office of the Child and Youth Advocate / PEI, as needed for meetings and consultations
- Attend meetings and consultations on a regular basis
- Suggest agenda items for meetings, share in the facilitation of topics, chair meetings and/or lead discussions as needed
- Contribute to reports as needed, i.e. to The Office of the Child and Youth Advocate, to government
- Participate in national and/or international conversations or consultations as needed
- Maintain regular communications with designated staff of the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate in order to be effective in the role
- Contribute actively. Child and Youth Members not demonstrating engagement will have a check-in with a staff member to ensure continuing in the role is something that is feasible and wanted



TERMS OF SERVICE

- Child and Youth Members may serve a Term of two (2) years
- Orientation will typically be a duration of one (1) month at which time Child and Youth Members can make a decision to continue
- There will be an understanding that life circumstances may affect the ability to continue; breaks away from serving will be considered as needed
- Upon completion of the two (2) year Term, Child and Youth Members may offer to serve for one (1) additional year
- Exceptions can be considered to all elements of Terms of Service upon a consensus of current Youth Members and consultation with the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate / PEI

RECRUITMENT

Both staff of the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate / PEI and Child and Youth Members will play an active role in recruiting new Child and Youth Members as needed. New Child and Youth Members will be determined by the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate / PEI and agreed upon by consensus of current Child and Youth Members.

SUPPORT

- Staff of The Office of the Child and Youth Advocate / PEI are available for Child and Youth Members to prepare, research, and debrief topics pertaining to the work of the Advisory Committee
- Group communication channels will be made available for regular contact between meetings
- Meeting time before formal meetings to review topics, discuss the agenda, plan facilitation and/or chairing roles is available
- Meeting time after formal meetings to debrief as needed is available
- If needed, referral services to further debrief topics will be made
- Assurance that no Child and Youth Member will disclose or share the identity of fellow Child and Youth Members publicly without prior informed consent from that Child and Youth Member; with the knowledge Child and Youth Members are welcomed to share their appointed role.

Approved by consensus of Child and Youth Members January 13, 2021