



## A VOICE FOR YOUTH IN CARE | UNE VOIX POUR LES JEUNES PRIS EN CHARGE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Youth in Care Canada

Ottawa, Ontario

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### Youth in Care Canada Releases Report from First-Ever Gathering of First Nations Youth Advisors

Youth in Care Canada is thrilled to announce the release of our latest report: *Justice, Equity and Culture: The First-Ever YICC Gathering of First Nations Youth Advisors*. YICC hosted their first-ever national gathering of 16 First Nations youth in/from care from across Canada on October 25, 2019. These Youth Advisors shared their stories, grew their networks, and learned about and discussed major issues First Nations youth in care face, including the need for long-term reform of First Nations child welfare policy, access to Jordan's Principle, and preliminary thoughts on financial compensation from lawsuits and tribunal orders.

The Youth Advisors recommend that:

- There must be safety around compensation;
- There must be mental health supports and navigational assistance to help youth apply for compensation;
- There must be continued support after compensation;
- There must be restitution for children and youth who have died while in care or due to their experiences in the child welfare system, and
- Financial training for youth receiving compensation should be offered.

YICC would like to give a big thank you to the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society, who made this gathering possible. As well, YICC would like to thank Gabrielle Fayant for organizing and facilitating the gathering, as well as producing the report. The Assembly of First Nations, Leah Gryfe of Leah Gryfe Designs, and Sue Sullivan also provided much appreciated support in completing this project. Last but not least, we would like to thank and acknowledge all the Youth Advisors who made this gathering so amazing!

The report is available at this link: <https://youthincare.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/YICC-Gathering-of-First-Nation-Youth-Advisors-Final-Report-Nov-22-2019.pdf>

For any inquiries, please email us at [info@youthincare.ca](mailto:info@youthincare.ca)

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About Youth in Care Canada: Youth in Care Canada (YICC) is a national, charitable organization driven by youth in and from Canada's child welfare systems. YICC exists to voice the opinions and concerns of youth in and from care and provides resources and support to help them achieve their goals. Learn more at: [www.youthincare.ca](http://www.youthincare.ca)