



SASKATCHEWAN

advocate

a Voice for Children and Youth



We Can Help

1-800-322-7221

www.saskadvocate.ca

Our vision is that the rights, interests and well-being of children and youth are respected and valued in our communities and in government legislation, policy, programs and practice.

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Who We Are

The Advocate for Children and Youth is an independent officer of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. He leads a team of regional advocates, investigators, and administrative, research and communication professionals who work on behalf of the province's young people.

What We Do

Our mandate is defined by *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*. We do:

- **ADVOCACY** on behalf of children and youth receiving services from the Government of Saskatchewan.
- **INVESTIGATIONS** into any matter concerning or services provided to children and youth by any provincial ministry, direct or delegated agency, or publicly-funded health entity.
- **PUBLIC EDUCATION** to raise awareness of the rights, interests and well-being of children and youth.
- **RESEARCH AND ADVISE** any minister responsible on any matter relating to the rights, interests and well-being of children and youth.

The Advocate does not have jurisdiction over decisions made or services provided by local school boards, municipal or federal governments, police or courts, decisions of Cabinet, private companies or individuals.

Who Can Call

Anyone can call us if they have a concern about a child, youth or group of children and/or youth receiving services from a provincial ministry, direct or delegated agency, or publicly funded health entity. Children and youth are encouraged to call on their own behalf.

Children and youth in care or custody of the province have the right to:

SHARE their thoughts and feelings
CONNECT with family, community and culture
RESPECT from caseworkers and caregivers
ACCESS recreation, education and health care

How We Help

We will listen to the complaint, ask questions to clarify the situation, and review the steps already taken to resolve the issue. We might offer information or referrals to other agencies or ministries to help you to advocate for yourself and/or for the child or youth.

Advocacy by us on behalf of a child or youth is usually initiated at the request of the young person. We will work directly with them to negotiate a resolution to the matters raised with the service provider, caseworker and/or caregiver. We may also formally investigate the concern if required.

If a child or youth is unable to provide direction, we will work to ensure that he or she receives the services and quality of care they are entitled to by legislation and policy.

All contacts with us are confidential.

