



Social Development  
and Seniors

Développement social  
et Aînés



Office of the Minister

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February 26, 2026

Marvin M. Bernstein  
Office of the Child and Youth Advocate  
119 Kent Street – BDC Place, Suite 500  
Charlottetown PE C1A 1N3

Dear Mr. Bernstein,

Thank you for your thoughtful letter and for your continued advocacy on behalf of children and youth in Prince Edward Island. I appreciate the clarity with which you have outlined the concerns regarding ambiguity in the current duty to report provisions, and I agree that ensuring absolute clarity in this area is essential.

I also want to express my appreciation for the strong and constructive working relationship our organizations have established over the years. Your office's consistent partnership and steady leadership have been invaluable in supporting improvements across the child and youth serving system, and we remain committed to building on that shared foundation.

I want to assure you that our department shares your commitment to strengthening the child protection framework and removing any uncertainty that may exist surrounding reporting obligations. Since September 2024, Mike Henthorn and his Child Protection team have led 100+ mandatory-reporting sessions – including with your office and with education leaders, principals, vice-principals, and guidance counsellors. We are fully prepared to work with the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate and to proceed with urgency and diligence in support of introducing possible amendments to the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act*. In addition to the legislative changes, we are also prepared to explore complementary measures aimed at reinforcing clarity - such as possible updates to policy, protocols, additional training sessions, and additional public communications related to Duty to Report requirements.

We welcome a dialogue with your office to identify and prioritize these areas in a thoughtful and collaborative way. I am confident that, just as we demonstrated throughout the development of the Act, our collective efforts will continue to strengthen this legislation. We are pleased to sit down with you as soon as possible to discuss these next steps in greater detail. My office will reach out to coordinate and arrange a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Thank you again for your dedication to ensuring the safety, rights, and well-being of children and youth across our province.

Sincerely,

Barb Ramsay  
Minister

/pdw

c: Doriann Macmillan, Deputy Minister