

National Alliance for Children and Youth



The National Alliance for Children and Youth is a member-led organization that create opportunities to connection, while working to ensure the voice of the children and youth serving sector is part of the national dialogue.

NACY  **ANEJ**
National Alliance for
Children and Youth L'alliance nationale pour
l'enfance et la jeunesse

Who we are

Born out of a vision for a stronger, more connected, coordinated sector, the National Alliance for Children and Youth in a network of diverse organizations from the children and youth serving sector. A member-led organization, NACY works to amplify the voices its members on the national stage, while providing opportunities for its workforce to come together to learn, share and grow as we work together to improve outcomes for young people.

NACY believes it is time we reimagine how the sector can work in partnership with community by bridging the gap between public, private and non-profit sectors. By breaking down silos we can strengthen the children and youth sector by addressing shared priorities that lead positive impacts for the sector, and young people across Canada.

Vision

A Canada in which all young people are thriving

Mission

01

To ensure a strong voice of the children and youth sector at a national level.

02

To promote public awareness and understanding on issues that matter to the children and youth sector

03

To strengthen the sustainability of the children and youth sector.

04

To facilitate convening opportunities for individuals and organizations in the sector



Where we are

✓ Partnerships

- Established strong partnerships with member organizations.
- Connected member organizations to leverage resources to deliver programming for young people.
- Building relationships with corporate partners.
- Leveraging NACY members to amplify to role of NACY as a convener of the sector.



✓ Advocacy

- Built a strong working relationship with the Minister of Women, Gender Equality and Youth.
- Amplified messaging around the need for collective data on the children and youth sector
- Pushed for greater need for mental health supports for frontline workers.
- Saw NACY members amplify the need for a sector wide data project through their inclusion of NACYs pre-budget consultation request.
- Release first set of Policy Recommendations in last fall 2021.

✓ Convening

- Connecting the Sector 2022, the official re-launch of the NACY biennial conference in April 2022
- Reconvening of the CEO Roundtable
- Establishment of a NACY GR & Policy table. Policy table informed NACY's first Pre-Budget Consultation Submission in Fall 2022

✓ Professional Development

The solutions offered need to be based on sound market decisions so that they can have an impact.



Where we're going



Taking a multi-sectoral approach to supporting young people in our communities

We know that government is a crucial partner in the sectors work with young people. We also know that the change in those systems take time and that we need change now. To that end in tandem with our continued efforts to engage government in meaningful dialogue, we will also be working with the private sector and foundations to reimagine funding systems that best serves fundees.

Building our Community

We are stronger when our voice are many, and we are more effective in directing change when we use that voice in tandem with our own efforts. Over the next year we will expand our community to include more intersectional representation and more representation across provinces and territories.

Respect

The children and youth sector is a critical part of our communities. The people that work in these spaces are valued members of society. The young people we serve are our future. We will continue to fight for the recognition this sector deserves, and to help the public understand it value in our society.

Connecting the Sector

Led by our membership we will continue to bring the sector together. This will include the fermentation of the CEO Roundtable under the NACY banner, the growth of the Policy Committee, the continuation of monthly coffee shops, webinars and trainings.

In Fall 2024, we will reconvening as a sector for our 2nd Biennial Connecting the Sector Conference.



Policy Priorities

01 To ensure meaningful engagement with the children and youth sector.

- For the Minister of Youth to engage in meaningful dialogue with the children and youth sector.
- To support convening efforts to bring together leaders from across the sector
- To engage representatives from the government in NACY events and consultations.

02 To invest in youth serving organizations, so we can invest in youth

- Continued investment in Youth Employment Services to ensure youth serving organizations (YSOs) can provide meaningful employment to youth.
- Investment in children and youth serving organizations to enhance existing employment programs and/or create new training programs.
- Funding to develop innovative program for children K-6 that focuses on recouping the hard and soft skills lost through the pandemic.

03 To shift the narrative around funding

- Broader consultation with the children and youth sector on funding priorities and funding reform.
- Greater consultation between the sector and federal government in developing new funding design strategies.
- Ensure new funding programs value existing programs, infrastructure and expertise as well as provide capacity for innovation and growth.

04 To increase capacity for mental health supports for children and youth

- Funding for mental health training for staff and volunteers
- Funding for children and youth organizations to hire or connect with mental health professional, social works and/or elders to ensure an interdisciplinary approach to healing and a continuum of care for young people in need.
- To ensure funding for staffing includes funds allocated for health benefits, including Employee Assistant Programs.

Mapping the Sector

We know data is a strong tool to help us understand our work in communities, this is why in October 2022, we submitted a request to fund a Mapping the Sector project. This project is aimed to help us understand the overall needs of the sector, identify successes, and support a strategy for a Canada in which all young people can thrive.

A \$10 million over 4 years investment for a comprehensive Mapping of the Children and Youth Sector

Both the Youth Policy and the commitments to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals clearly outline where we want Canada's children and youth to be. What is not clear is the aggregate of how Canada's youth serving organization are currently contributing to these goals, and what our benchmarks for success will look like.

This project will:

- Identify benchmarks for success
- Understand how investments are being distributed, used and their ROI
- Identify exemplary programs and expertise
- Understand the number of young people being served national
- Collect data on the number of children and youth serving organizations in Canada
- Identify service gaps
- Raise awareness of the SDGs and Youth Policy, and contribute to meeting those goals
- Create opportunities for better collaboration

The NACY Network

SUPPORT

By being part of NACY, you are supporting the continued advocacy for sector priorities and supporting the recognition of the children and youth sector as an essential part of our communities.

Connect to like-minded organizations to work together to move the sector forwards. The NACY Team is here for YOU! Let us help you build stronger relationships across sectors

CONNECT

DISCUSS

Share your experiences, and contribute to the national dialogue on sector issues.

NACY commits to helping members promote events, research, policy and more.

PROMOTE

INFORM

Be the first to know what is going on in the sector, with regular newsletters, access to professional development opportunities and more!



Be A Part of Change

Become a member today

Founding

For members able to make a larger investment into the National Alliance for Children and Youth. Priority recognition on all printed material, invitations to partner consultations as application.

Engaged

For members looking to make a larger commitment to NACY about the regular membership fees, but are unable to contribute at a Founding Level. These members commit to supporting NACY through in-kind supports.

Full Members

Full members are voting members, which access to all the member benefits. Membership fees are accessed annually based on annual revenues.

Affiliate Members

Non-voting members, which may include individual memberships, students memberships etc. Affiliate members have access to all the benefits as full members

Emerging Members

An opportunity for youth, youth-led, volunteer-run and/or incorporated organizations/groups and individuals.

For more information contact laurakathler@nacy.ca

Staff

Laura Kathler – Executive Director

Might Gouta – Program Assistant (Art of Work)

Board of Directors

Sharif Mahdy (Chair) – Students Commission of Canada

Deborah Morrison (past-Chair) – Experiences Canada

Sarah Attia – Muslim Association of Canada

Matthew Chater – Big Brothers Big Sisters Canada

Owen Charters – BGC Canada

Marie Christian – Voices: Manitoba Youth in Care Network

Dennis Stuebing (Secretary) – Wisdom2Action

Orville Wallace – Youth Justice Network of Toronto

Founding Members

BGC Canada Big Brothers Big Sisters Canada Shad Canada Experiences Canada
Students Commission of Canada Pathways to Education Children's Aid Foundation of Canada Kids Help Phone

Engaged Members

Junior Achievement LiveDifferent People for Education TakingItGlobal
UNICEF Canada Plan International Canada Muslim Association of Canada

Members

4-H Canada Children First Canada FRAYME/CADRE Starling Community
United Nations Association in Canada Wayfinders Manitoba Wisdom2Action
YWCA Canada Young Canadians Roundtable on Health Voices: Manitoba's Youth in Care Network

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