

SOCIETY FOR  
**children  
and youth**  
OF BC

Andrea Lemire |  
andrea@scyofbc.org |

**Plan:**

- Introductions
- UNCRC & UNPD
- Advocacy
- Next Steps
- Success Stories

?

Together


Thank you!



we can improve the  
lives of children  
and youth in BC

You!


Introductions



What you would like  
to get out of  
today's session?


**About SCY**

.. advocate for children  
through **increasing understanding,**  
and **building capacity**  
to **uphold** children's rights...



**About SCY**

- Information
- Resources
- Dialogue



### What do children need?

To feel dignity

In terms of external support?

### Children's needs & the UNCRC

Match the articles!

Is there anything missing? superfluous?

### Children's Rights: Framework to Action

- International
- Wholistic
- Positive Outcomes
- Rights = Responsibility

### Children's Rights: Guiding Principles

- Non - discrimination
- Survival & Development
- Best Interest
- Participation & Evolving capacity

### Rights: Mechanisms

- Declaration of Human Rights
- Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) & on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPD)
- International Law
- Canadian Law
- International Law

### Children's Rights: Guiding Principles


- Non - discrimination
- Survival & Development
- Best Interest
- Participation & Evolving capacity

### Persons with Disabilities: Guiding Principles

- Non-Discrimination
- Full participation (opportunity & accessibility)
- Respect for dignity
- Evolving capacity

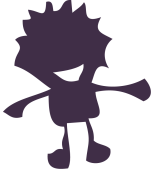
### Specific Articles

UNCRC: Articles 2, 3, 23, 28, 29, 31

 UNPD: Articles 7, 9, 19, 24

### And now what?

Advocacy...

 1 example:  
role/relationship  
action(s)  
Keep the outcome to yourself!


### Advocacy is...

- Self Advocacy
- In your personal capacity
- In your professional capacity


### Advocacy means...

- To promote and uphold equality and human rights
- To raise and shape public awareness
- To monitor and evaluate existing policies and programs
- To guide legal challenges and court decisions
- To make claims on public authorities to protect and promote the rights of all persons

### Planning for Action




- Identify problem & the ask
- Clarify rights (layers)
- Meet with decision makers
- Connect with allies
- Determine appropriate steps
- Set dates/priorities
- Assign responsibility

**Other supports** 

Parents	Representative for Children and Youth of BC
Office of the BC Ombudsperson	Teachers, Social workers, Neighbours, Children!

**Success stories** 

2012 Canada's Federal Court ruled in favour of further investigation into allegations the Federal Government discriminates against First Nations children by providing less child welfare benefits to those on reserves.	In Howard v. University of British Columbia (1993), the British Columbia Council of Human Rights found that the University of British Columbia discriminated against Nigel Howard because of his disability by failing to provide him with the required academic accommodation of a sign language interpreter. The Council ordered the University to provide Mr. Howard with interpreter services and to refrain from committing the same or a similar violation of the Act in future.
Your successes?	



SOCIETY FOR  
**children  
and youth**  
OF BC

Andrea Lemire |  
andrea@scyofbc.org |