January 14, 2019

Dr Joan Durrant and Mr Ron Ensom
Coalition on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth

Re: Endorsement of Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth

Dear Dr Durrant and Mr Ensom,

On behalf of the GlobalChild team, I am pleased to convey a strong endorsement for the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth.

GlobalChild is an international project with a team of child rights and child development scholars and advocates. Our team has embarked on the task of developing a comprehensive child rights monitoring platform, in which violence against children is a key component. Our mandate is to promote the health and developmental outcomes for children by ensuring the fulfillment of their rights. A convincing body of evidence indicates the damaging effect of physical punishment on many aspects of child development, while it is also a clear violation of children’s rights under article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. We see this Statement as fully aligned with our mandate and therefore express our strong support of this initiative.

We appreciate and acknowledge the amount of work and level of dedication put into this Joint Statement. Please let us know if we can support this initiative in other ways to improve the health and development of children in Canada.

Sincerely, Ziba.

Dr Ziba Vaghri
Recipient of the 2014 Scholar Award of Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR)
Director of GlobalChild Program
Assistant Professor
School of Public Health and Social Policy
University of Victoria
T 250-472-4900

www.globalchildnetwork.com

We acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen-speaking peoples on whose traditional territories the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and the WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.