



Saskatoon  
Open Door  
Society

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April 6, 2016

Coalition on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth  
CHEO, Partnership and Advocacy  
401 Chemin Smyth Road,  
Ottawa  
ON, K1H 8L1

**Re: Letter of Endorsement - Joint Statements on Physical Punishment of Children**

On behalf of Saskatoon Open Society, I am pleased to endorse the Canadian Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth. This joint statement under the guidance and direction of Ron Ensom from the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) and Joan Durrant from the Department of Family Social Sciences, University of Manitoba, is an important vehicle for a national knowledge mobilization, as it advocates for public policies that affect the health and well-being of children, and their families.

Saskatoon Open Door Society exist to welcome and assists refugees and immigrants to become informed and effective participants in Canadian Society, and to involve the Saskatoon community in their hospitable reception and just acceptance in their community. Most of our clients come from different parts of the world, with diverse needs and challenges. Some come to Canada to seek safety from wars and other devastating effects such as famine and disasters, while others come because of economic reasons. To effectively support newcomers in their settlement and integration process, we are always looking for partnerships and information. This endorsement will provide more information on effective parenting programs and positive discipline training in Canada "On the basis of the clear and compelling evidence – that the physical punishment of children and youth plays no useful role in their upbringing and poses only risks to their development - parents should be strongly encouraged to develop alternative and positive approaches to discipline".

Sincerely,

Ali Abukar  
Executive Director