

Ron Ensom, MSW, RSW
1858 Sharel Drive
Ottawa, ON

Dear Mr. Ensom,

The Department of Psychiatry at University of Toronto strives to provide the best care to today's patients and to transform the understanding and treatment of mental illness and addiction for the patients of tomorrow. As one of the largest Departments of Psychiatry in the world, we serve as a catalyst for progress, mobilizing partners and resources to improve the outcome of those living with mental illness.

The Department of Psychiatry at University of Toronto endorses the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth. We agree that there is compelling evidence that the physical punishment of children and youth plays no useful role in their upbringing and poses risks to their development. It is of particular concern to our mandate that physical punishment of children and youth increases their risk of mental illness and addiction.

Endorsing the Joint Statement aligns with our goal of preventing mental illness by improving social determinants of health.

Sincerely,



Benoit H. Mulsant, MD, MS, FRCPC
Professor and Labatt Family Chair, Department of Psychiatry
University of Toronto