

**The Child and Youth Care Association of Alberta**  
**President's Annual Report**  
**2022-2023**

The Child and Youth Care Association of Alberta (CYCAA) and its Board of Directors had a busy and successful year, starting with the last Annual General Meeting in October 2022 at the National Conference in Canmore. The conference was a huge success. We hosted over 300 people in the beautiful Alberta mountains as we were collectively just coming out of a two-year pandemic. There were many fantastic workshops and presentations, and the CYCAA generated some revenue after all the expenses were finalized.

Our association is now a founding member of FICE Canada, a national section of FICE International (International Federation of Educative Communities). FICE Canada is committed to learning from international colleagues and contributing to the future of FICE-International as a strong voice and effective organization for the well-being of children, youth, and families, especially those with special needs or in various forms of distress. To learn more, please visit the website <https://ficecanada.ca/about-us>

The CYCAA's online learning and professional development program has generated increased interest nationwide. Enough requests have warranted expanding our learning platform to manage out-of-province participation. With that has been the development of a second website for out-of-province professional development.

The CYCAA president and vice president -north, attended a meeting with the Deputy Minister of Children's Services (Lisa Sadownik) and the Assistant Deputy Minister (Leann Wagner) at their request to discuss the role of the CYCAA and the current climate of the profession of child and youth care. They were interested in issues and concerns facing child and youth care counsellors, certification, training, staff turnover, and professional regulation.

As president of the CYCAA and as a child and youth care academic, I have been asked to sit on the Align Board of Directors. This allows for ongoing collaborative work with Align and the agencies employing child and youth care counsellors in Alberta. Align held a golf tournament in the summer. We sent six people (5 board directors and one general CYCAA member chosen by a draw of people who put their names in) to attend and represent the CYCAA among the agency executive directors. This was an excellent opportunity to network and discuss issues impacting child and youth care counsellors.

The Association of Counselling Therapy of Alberta continues to work towards regulating the professions of child and youth care, counselling therapy, and addiction counselling. On December 5, 2023, the NDP questioned the matter at the legislative assembly, asking the UCP why this had not been proclaimed. They also brought forward the petition that many of us signed. It has been five years, almost to the day, that the bill was unanimously passed. Yet, the UCP keeps stalling. If you are interested in watching the recording, it is accessible here

<https://assemblyonline.assembly.ab.ca/Harmony/en/PowerBrowser/PowerBrowserV2/20231205/-1/17210>

Introduction of guests: 1:38:42

Question at 2:13:00

Petition at 2:46:50

Many thanks for your continued support of the CYCAA.

Michelle Briegel  
President