Zine & Control of the State of

Amplifying Voices of Youth From Care

ISSUE #15 **APRIL 2024** PHOTO BY Dominic Bear We respectfully acknowledge that we reside on Treaty 6 Territory; traditional lands of many First Nations & Metis people & we are committed to learning the true history of Canada & the true meaning of truth & reconciliation.

WHO

Youth in care speaking out & making a difference.

WHAT

A zine to amplify our voices & raise awareness.

WHEN

We publish around the 15th of every month.

WHERE

We are based in Edmonton but are for youth from care everywhere.

WHY

Because we can. Our voices have been silent for too long.



www.zineandheard.ca editor@zineandheard.ca Instagram @zine and heard Facebook _penny.frazier.75 Call or text: 780-221-6124

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Editor

Penny Frazier
Cover Story
@callmeconz999
What's Inside
ALL STARZ Zine Project
Creating Hope Society
Jodie The Poet
Laura Beveridge
@punk_indigenous
Rainnah Lily Gosselin
Youth in Care Chronicles



If the government is a parent, then how it treats its child should be how we judge it above all things.

Lemn Sissay
Author. Speaker.
Former Youth In Care.

I was gonna be all nice but.....nah.

I was gonna just talk about some things I'm grateful for and I'm still gonna do that but first I have to talk about things that aren't so nice. If you have been reading this zine long enough you have seen the words ...RAISE THE AGE. LOWER THE STATS... about 50 or 60 times. Simply put - Alberta needs to raise the age of youth in care being eligible for financial supports back to age 24 where it was before they lowered it to age 22 to simply save \$14 million a year. Simply a money grab to put towards cleaning up some abandoned oil wells, building a new arena in Calgary, or bolstering a cringy ad campaign. Not exactly sure, but this decision puts around 500 more Alberta youth at risk of becoming homeless every year. This we know. So do they.

The GOA have recently invested \$23 million into raising foster care rates and \$66 million into supporting families and that's great, but they have yet to admit they made a grave error in lowering the age of eligibility for youth in care to receive financial supports from age 24 to age 22 back in 2021. They have yet to admit that the TAP (Transition to Adulthood Program) on which they have spent at least \$70 million was very hastily put together and it shows. They have yet to admit this was a cruel and unnecessary decision to save \$14 million that has, as predicted by experts who were ignored and research that went unheeded, caused immeasurable harm to youth including homelessness, serious injury, and death.

Workers are leaving their Child & Family Services jobs in droves. I heard from a caseworker the other day who said: I just can't do this anymore. I'm done. I'm out. This person has been in the field for many years and did exceptional work. An article by CBC in March 2024 quoted an unnamed Alberta caseworker: "I've had different positions within the department and I've never seen it this bad," Another admitted that: "We are leaving kids in horrible situations. We've done so much damage." Another: "People are drowning ... we just don't have the time. You know, I just feel bad for these [children]." And another: "In this situation, we aren't able to do the preventative work that is required to keep children safe in their homes with their guardians. Instead, we are letting things fester and get worse before we get to it." The article goes on to say that In Edmonton, almost two-thirds of child intervention practitioners have assigned cases above provincial benchmarks and that according to data provided by AUPE, over 12% of child intervention practitioners in Calgary are on long-term disability or stress leave.

As I write this, the old Boyle Street Community building has been demolished and their future is still in limbo, the Bissell Center could be closing on April 30th, and I am not sure that Old Strathcona Youth Society has found a new home. It's a very sad time in Edmonton and across the province. Especially for kids in care and the ones who age out of care and find themselves alone and unhoused with few resources available to meet their needs.



But, I'm grateful for all of you that care.
I'm grateful we might get a new NDP leader
who can kick some ass. And, I'm grateful
for this zine so we can kick some ass too.
As always - thanks for the support.

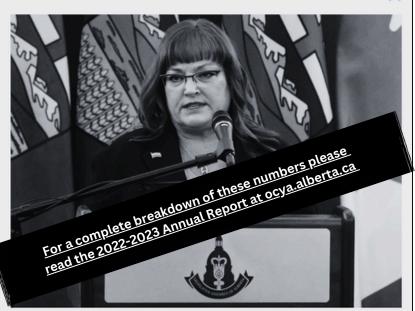
Penny Frazier, Editor

Office of child and youth advocate reports 81 total deaths in 2022-'23

"This represents a massive 29.4 per cent increase in deaths of children in care over last year. This is an outrage"

Published Nov 28, 2023 · Last updated Nov 30, 2023 · 3 minute read

11 Comments



Terri Pelton was appointed Alberta's child and youth advocate on April 5, 2022. PHOTO BY SUPPLIED

NOWHERE TO TURN: ALBERTA'S DISMAL HISTORY OF SUPPORT FOR YOUTH IN TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD - A.C. AND J.F. V. ALBERTA

Sarah N. Kriekle CITED: (2023) 28 Appeal 1

Workloads at Children and Family Services delaying assessment of vulnerable kids, say staff

Province says most staff are assigned appropriate number of case files



Failure to invest in Indigenous youth aging out of care could cost economy billions, report says

'Unmitigated disaster'

According to critics, TAP was not available as SFAA participants were cut off, and it has left behind those who are most vulnerable.

"They did not have an alternative program in place," said lawyer Avnish Nanda in an interview. "They developed the TAP program and it has been an unmitigated disaster.

"It has forced ... people who otherwise would have been through the SFAA progrজা, taken care of, supported, led to an independent self-sustaining life in adulthood, to homelessness, to substance use ... to overdose, death.

"Overall, the number of deaths have gone up significantly, but that (over 18) age group is where we've seen a huge increase. So these are all young people who are on this (SFAA) program - that just speaks to their incredible vulnerability. and how fragile this period of time is," said Pancholi, adding that other provinces recognize that and are moving to extend similar supports

British Columbia, in its budget released in February, extended support for youth aging out of care until the age of 27.

Children's Aid Foundation of Canada poll shows path to independence for young people in Canada vastly different than for

youth leaving care (Toronto, ON - November 15, 2022) - Most Canadians (88%) believe that youth leaving government care at the age of 18 need more support than they currently receive, according to a new Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of Children's Aid

"The implementation of TAP, with no consultation from youth, the front-line workers or community did harm for this population of complex and troubled youth "Compth caid" "The implementation of TAP, with no consultation from youth, the front-line workers or community did harm for this population of complex and troubled youth," Smyth said. "I have community did harm for this population of complex and ahandoned heard this from all three groups. The youth feel hetrayed and ahandoned community did narm for this population of complex and troubled youth, 3 heard this from all three groups. The youth feel betrayed and abandoned. "I would anticipate we're going to see an uptick in homelessness in the youth and mental health

services with youth patting in trouble with the law with addictions hereuse I think a lot of them "I would anticipate we're going to see an uptick in homelessness in the youth and mental health services with youth getting in trouble with the law, with addictions, because I think a lot of them services with youth getting in trouble with the law, with addictions, because I think a lot of them services with youth getting in trouble with the law, with addiction will go back to using their old coping mechanisms," Smyth said.

Life after foster care in Canada

Kids who grow up in the system are not expected to do well. That's a big part of why they



'Terrible consequences:' Jane Philpott on Indigenous children in foster care

Overrepresentation of First Nations kids in the system is 'not that different' from the legacy of residential schools, says the Indigenous services minister

By Kyle Edwards January 16, 2018

Youth who were in care nearly 200 times more likely to be homeless: Globe & Mail study

(We could go on.)

The Angels That Walk Among Us

They are not just in heaven
They're in cars and on bus
They're living right next door
They are the angels among us

They go above and beyond

Just to make our life better

If you happen to be cold

They'll just give you their sweater

A hot meal in your belly is insulation against the cold Just as kind words and smiles Keep us from getting too old

When you're at the end of your rope
Broke and alone in your shell
Out comes that walking angel
Letting you know there's
Something better than hell

They just show up when you need them
With no worries or fuss
Helping us carry our loads
They are the angels that walk among us.

Written by Jodie The Poet for the Edmonton Water Warriors
January 30, 2024



My Home

My Home rests on four walls.

The first wall is filled with photos and art created throughout my life, casting shadows from the light above occasionally flooding me with nostalgia.

The second wall holds cards, from anniversaries, holidays, past relationships.

All Written sentiments are hard to get rid of. Who would I be if not reading and reminiscing?

The third wall carries my trinkets. Things | have accumulated over my life that | can't imagine myself without, ask about any of them and |'ll give you that part of me.

The fourth wall is connected to my bed. My place of comfort, love, and serenity. My Home has never stayed in one place for very long as stability was not a viable option, My Home has travelled to many walls yet one thing always remained. Me.

I am My Home, I will always keep my memories on me, perhaps things of value from my past self because I couldn't be Who I am today Without being Who I Was. One day my home Will be more than four Walls, it Will be my connection to the land I reside on. My Home Will

be filled with love, patience, and family that I call my own, I will be able to live without restraint knowing I can always return to My Home.



Rainnah Lily Gosselin

Superman was a foster child. Harry Potter was a foster child.

Jane Eyre was adopted. Luke Skywalker was fostered.

The fostered, adopted, and orphaned child is central to popular culture. What is it about them which makes them perfect characters for writers to use in adventures?

I'll tell you what it is.

It's that outside of having a family, they have to search for who they are and how they connect with the world, and they have no family to calibrate that. And therefore, they fully realize their potential.

This challenge to society from the child who has no family shows how society is inhibited in caring for its most vulnerable for all kinds of reasons.

So ask yourself: Why do we think of them as a problem waiting to happen rather than as a solution?

Lemn Sissay
Author. Speaker. Former Youth In Care.



Lemn Sissay is a best selling author from the UK who spent his entire life in care. A celebrated poet and playwright, he is passionate about raising awareness around children in the care system. In January 2016, Sissay wrote an article in The Guardian about Foundling Museum's "Drawing on Childhood" exhibition in which he noted: How a society treats those children who have no one to look after them is a measure of how civilized it is.

Kids in Care: Let's Start a Revolution!

Laura Beveridge TEDxGlasgow Watch on YouTube



"I felt isolated and alone in a system that controlled more than it cared. And I was angry. So angry, that I had to go back into that care system as a worker. But the minute I stepped back into that system as a worker, I'm told to never share that I too had been in care. And I did what I was told because I was scared and I let fear win. But let me ask you: Do you think the suffragettes let fear win when they were campaigning for the right to vote? Or do you think Rosa Parks, when she campaigned for civil rights let fear win? Or do you think the people in the LBTQ movement let fear win? Fear doesn't have to win. These are people who stood their ground because they believed in equality. That's all we want; an equal chance at life. The care system is costing us billions. For what? For that? That is why we need this revolution. We need to own our identity and stop apologizing for who we are. We need to innovate, take risks, because you might just save a life. We need communities to own us, and not judge us anymore. And we need people like Wendy to love people like me. I want you to be part of this revolution so go out there and do something, and make care incredible for every young person out there, every child, because they need love."

We need communities to own us, and not judge us anymore.

MMIW <u>@callmeconz999</u>

(OFFICAL MUSIC VIDEO) Directed by: Sonikhiphop

I wrote that song in school. I was sitting in there listening to a bunch of beats on YouTube and one came on and I just kept listening to it. Then I heard this woman's voice in the background on that song and I was playing it and rewinding it over and over. Then I downloaded the beat onto my phone, went to class and wrote it in one hour. Then I went and recorded it all in one hour. When teachers heard that song, when students heard that song, they were crying.

I have a lot of people around me who are dealing with their experience in residential schools, the 60s, 90s and 80's scoops, the child welfare system. That's why they come to me because they know I feel that too. I go to social class and I hear the story about the Indigenous people.

I go to Indigenous Studies class and I hear about the Indigenous people and then somebody after class comes and talks to me about it and it's just triggering to the brain so I write songs about it.

WHEN TEACHERS HEARD THAT SONG, WHEN STUDENTS HEARD THAT SONG, THEY CRIED.



The music video was quite a lot of work and a lot of thought went into it. I wanted to find women from three generations of our people. The oldest woman is my high school counsellor and my elder. She's everybody's elder. Her name is Marjorie. You can go talk to her and be with her. She'll show you Neechi teaching. She'll talk to you about what problems you're feeling.

EVERY
GENERATION
HAS HAD
FAMILY
MEMBERS
WHO HAVE
BEEN
MURDERED
OR GONE
MISSING.
EVERY SINGLE
GENERATION.



Every generation has had family members who have been murdered or have gone missing. Every single generation. And it is still happening today. It's a really sad world because it should not be happening anymore.

We shot the video at Fort Edmonton Park and when we were done, I got everybody to leave the church because I was emotional. I kind of just sat there, prayed, and didn't keep it as a negative emotion. I kept it as a positive. A joyful emotion of doing something for women. I'm doing something for

people instead of just doing nothing. I felt like this is something I've never talked about until now and there needs to be more music out there about this issue.



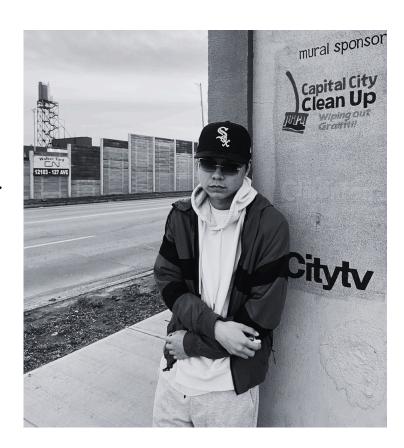
WATCHTHIS VIDEO
ON YOU TUBE
AT
CALLMECONZ999

MUSIC SAVES MANY, MANY LIVES

I started rapping and creating music and getting to know what rapping was around the age of 9. When I started creating and recording and doing the actual thing I was around 12 to 13. I was just doing it on a phone and a pair of dollar store headphones on a random app. I would just try to find a way to do it. I never knew about actual recording studios and places you can record with professional players. I was like, OK well, I'm going to try this and then certain apps helped me through it. Even to this day, I still record with my phone.

In regards to inspiration to get into it, it wasn't anybody in my life to begin with - it was just other rappers that I was listening to. Mainly indigenous rappers. I used to listen to a lot of Edmonton rappers because I noticed they were going through the same struggle as me. The police brutality, the CFS struggle. I also listened to mainstream artists. They used to talk about mental health, addiction with drugs, and the heartbreak of relationships. Once I started showing that I was writing and making music my uncle came out and he was like, Hey, I was writing music too for the longest time and I used to rap back in the day. Even my mushum too. My mushum was a country music artist too and had a band called Fourth Generation. They were from the Alexander First Nations - Sandy Beach area. He was supposed to go on a lot of tours and all that. I used to see him sing all the time and I used to have a guitar when I was little kid. So I also took some inspiration from that and turned it into something of my own.

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One of my favorite artists is Juice Wrld because of what he rapped about. My main sound mainly comes from his style. That's why I've got 999 at the end of my name because he always said that it's the flip of 666 - so like take something negative and turn it into a positive. So I just took that mode after he passed away. A lot of people try to hate on me and take the 999 away, but I'm like no, it's just the inspiration of it. I'm like, it's not a copy. It's not an impersonation. It's not any of that. It's inspired by someone I admire. That's what they always told their friends to do - take whatever you're doing and turn it into something of your own - because you guys are going to be big someday too. So I took his words to heart and I'm going to do it.

My words mainly come out of freestyle. It is right off the dome. I do officially write some songs. Like MMIW - I sat down and wrote because I had to figure out the articulation of it. But if I'm feeling my mental health or if I'm feeling like I'm not going to get up out of bed, I'm going to get up and go to the mic. If I don't want to go outside, I'm going to go to the mic. If I don't want to talk to somebody about my problems, I'm going to go freestyle and just talk to the mic. Music saves lives. Music saves many, many lives. It saved mine. If I didn't have my music I hate to say it but I'd be into the street, alcohol and drugs to deal with my pain, for sure. That's the reason why I make music because a lot of people feel the same way I do and they don't want to talk to anybody about it. So I'm going to be the person they can listen to and maybe feel better.

MUSIC SAVES
LIVES. MUSIC
SAVES MANY,
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I've seen a lot of people die and almost die in my life. I saw my mother just pass away right in front of my eyes. They brought her back but a lot of people don't make it. It all comes from that stuff we keep inside and pack around. When I was younger, we almost got taken by CFS several times and the last time the social workers and cops came, my dad came down the driveway at the same time and saved us. He took us with him and I'm grateful for that. I know my life would have turned out a lot different if I was raised in care. I see what it has done to so many of my friends and family. I wasn't in the system myself but the experience of all the generations before me who were, impacted all of us. In regards to that, I have a song about Every Child Matters coming out soon. I am going to shoot the last of the music video this week and then let the editor do their work.

I also have an unreleased album called "The Mental" coming out. It talks about mental health and addiction and relationships and how to fix them. How to deal with everyday struggles when you don't want to get up out of bed when you just want to sit there and drink or you want to sit there and just smoke all day or whatever it talks about getting up and doing something different. So that's what comes back from the 999 stuff - take a negative and turn it into something positive no matter how deep it is. It's going to mess with you and it's can fuck with you for the rest of your life. But it's your thought and it's your choice to turn it into something positive or keeping something negative. The negative and positive, they're going to battle each other up til one gets up and hopefully it's the positive side.

ZevenGen Records is the name of the label we are working on getting off the ground. In 2023, me, Brian @northsidesmilez and Dom @lock3mc started thinking about names - like we sat there for days. We went to each other's houses for barbecues and talked about it, sat on the phone all day and night messing around talking about, you know - names. Me and Brian are also thinking at separate times about our Mushum being in a band called Fourth Generation from Alexander First Nations that recorded in Edmonton and Bonnyville back in

the day. He was going to be signed but life got in the way so I figured he would be really proud of us for whatever we are trying to do. At the same time I was telling Dom and Brian that people call this generation - Generation Z. So we took the Z and mixed it with the 7 to make it into us because we are the 7th Generation of today. And that became ZevenGen Records.

Our goal is to motivate kids to think about the effects of addiction, alcohol, drugs, violence, partying, you know.

50 YEARS OF HIPHOP CELEBRATION 2023 AT CO*LAB & TEE PEE TREATS



@northsidesmilez @callmeconz999 @lock3mc
The Roots of ZEVENGEN RECORDS

Find alternatives. You may live every day like it's your last cuz you never know when it's going to be your last but at the same time that's what's going to take you to your last if you do those things. I actually have a song called Last Day coming out soon.

A big part of what we want to do with ZevenGen Records is get the message out there. They say people cannot be saved unless they want to save themselves and I know that's true. You can try as much as you want to help someone with their mental health or whatever but at the same time we talk about it and I'm like hey, well, that's the 95% of the world. I still have that 5% to still do what I need to do. Create something cuz you never know who you're going to inspire, man. Other artists have done it. 2 Pac did it. Juice Wrld did it. And, not just rappers but other singers too. Look how many people Michael Jackson inspired. If they were able to make a change to something then I'm sure I can too. I was put here for a reason. So I'm going to take that reason I'm going to use it in whatever I'm trying to do and it's working. I have kids coming up to me every day. I have people texting me every day. Hey, I want to become a rapper. I want to do this. They tell me they record on a phone and I'm like - we're in the same boat my G! I'm always going to help because those people are the 5% I'm talking about. They listen to me, Brian and Dom. They say they want to learn from us because we motivate them and make them believe in themselves. You might not even hear it for like 10 years or 15 years, but some people are going to come back to you some day and say hey man, your music saved my life.

So, I'm praying that all of the artists and everybody that wants to be on this label and that everybody that wants to be incorporated gets their act together. I'm like boys, we all got this - we're all strong guys. We're all strong people. We're all dealing with different stuff but we can do this. So yeah, we'll be able to make this label and be artists and influencers who can make a difference.

OUR GOAL IS TO MOTIVATE KIDS
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YOU MAY LIVE EVERY DAY LIKE
IT'S YOUR LAST CUZ YOU NEVER
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TIME THAT'S WHAT'S GOING TO
TAKE YOU TO YOUR LAST TOO SOON.



With my Uncle, Brian - Calder 2024

When I'm writing a song and I just feel like I don't want to do this, I do it regardless because I'm thinking of the other people - for the children, for the young ones and the teenagers that are in jail - for the ones that are out in the streets and the homeless shelters right now or for ones that aren't going to

school that are barely even making it or the ones are just coming off drugs. You can take what feels like last days and last days and turn it into new days. Whatever you go through and whatever you're dealing with on a daily basis find something to help you get through it. Find a hobby. Could be anything positive. For me it's writing and making music. I write a poem about

my day, I write a song about what I'm going through. When I want to do something bad, I'll

sit there and think about myself and what's really important and write or rap. That's what keeps me out of trouble. We all need a hobby. Embrace positive. Fuck negative. Do something you love doing, smudge more, and try to find a good

balance in life.

People are always asking me what I'm doing next or dropping next and I've mentioned

a few things already but I also have a new song that is Part 2 of MMIW but the song is going to be called "Face Up". I'm going to make a music video for that too. I'll be having a new music video every month for this whole year. I'll also be performing at K Days this year so watch for that. I'll be performing the Calgary Stampede if I can get in and a bunch of other shows. Everybody just has to stay tuned to my Instagram and Facebook and all the social media platforms. That's my ending point, man. Thank you for your patience, everyone.

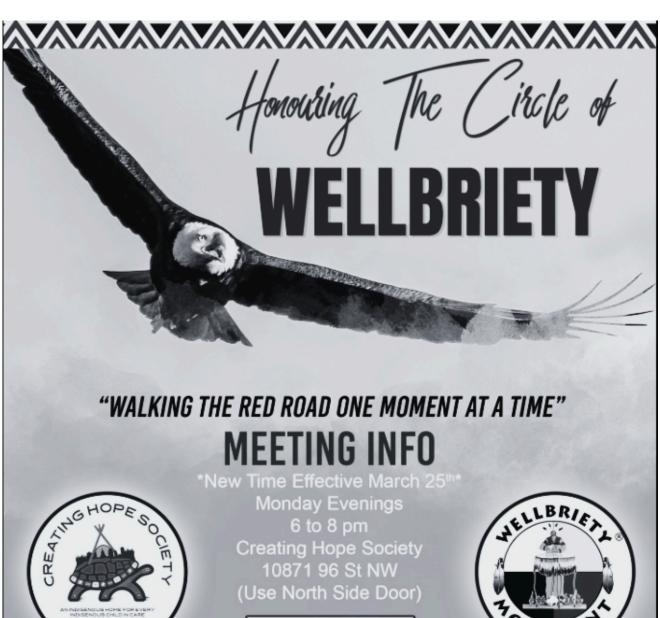
Love, Russell @callmeconz999



SUPPORT EDMONTON ARTISTS
FOLLOW @CALLMECONZ999
ON ALL PLATFORMS



A thousand words.







PLEASE NOTE, CIRCLES WILL NOT BE HELD ON HOLIDAYS.

CREATING HOPE SOCIETY

is pleased to host a NEW Red Road to Wellbriety sharing circles with meeting every Monday evening

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EDMONTON

NATIONAL RED DRESS DAY 2024

BRING 8AM - Pipe Ceremony at Park

SIGNS 10AM - Churchill Square, Edmonton, AB

RED

LIAM - Walk to Beaver Hills House Park

WE ARE

MMIWG25

PRAYERS FOR ALL

STOP MMEIP

LOVE



SUNDAY, MAY 5TH U

FORT MCMURRAY





National Day of Awareness for MMIWG

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls



If you haven't already left a message, sent an email or shared this post from @tawaw.outreach.yeg on Instagram, please consider doing so.

The Danger Cats are the sad clowns from Alberta who mock the murder victims of Robert Pickton, make fun of the children who never came home from residential schools, and won't accept why any of the above is wrong.

Tell The Comic Strip to stand behind their recent apology and stop supporting the blatant dehumanization of vulnerable women and innocent children.

When we talk about Red Dress Day and the meaning of it, we're not just talking about the dresses, we're talking about our missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two spirits and of course, our men and boys.

Why we speak out about this is to raise awareness and to put an end to discrimination, to violence against our women, children and our Two Spirited kin and to take action on looking for our loved ones and bring justice. The reason why the dress depicted in photos or drawings is red is because in many nations and tribes across Turtle Island, red signifies the spirit of the people who are missing or murdered. Those spirits see from the other side when we put out these dresses or posters and wear our ribbon skirts or have a red hand print on our face - the colour itself calls out to spirits to come home. Depending on who you ask and where it's being asked it tends to vary so please do ask your community. So when you see someone with a red handprint on their face it's not for style or to just randomly have on for pictures, it's to signify that the person who has the print on their face

are impacted directly by this ongoing genocide whether it be their friend or family members. It's so Important to keep talking about this as we're in 2024 and it's still ongoing all across Turtle Island.

No more Missing and Murdered relatives! Nikki <u>@punk Indigenous</u>



INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA

BIPHOBIA

TRANSPHOBIA

MAY 17

2024



GOOD NEWS!

With the support of Creating Hope Society and a helpful grant, we will be expanding on the small but mighty Zine & HEARD project and embarking on some new zine projects for the next year with cool youth in Edmonton. And we do mean cool. Looking forward to telling you more about The All Stars Zine Project when we launch on or around May 1st! BEYOND STOKED!!!





MIKEY & SAM DOUCET - BROTHERS REUNITED



"This is love, this is brotherhood, this is a hole healed that statistically should never be. March 16, 2024 will never be forgotten due to Bananas Foster and the Savannah Bananas organization."

@bananasfosterinc
@thesavbananas

I'm not sure I even have the describable words to write for this moment. Two lost and lonely siblings who experienced the greatest loss in their lives yet continued to do the right things in their own journeys.

The ideal role models in parental figures nonexistent, so we were destined to create a life we never had. The sadness associated with foster care and multiple placements dull the senses of what family really is or means. That does not mean that all hope and family are lost though. It just means that maybe we have to work harder than most to reconcile our childhoods.

Which is why last night gave peace in a way that has never been. To think that two former foster youth siblings can succeed and build a bond that will only cease now when we are no longer alive is miraculous.

This is love, this is brotherhood this is a hole healed that statistically should never be. March 16, 2024 will never be forgotten due to Bananas Foster and the Savannah Bananas organization.

I'll always cherish this day.

Mikey Doucet @mikeydoucet

THE 2024 SKATE ZINE IS GONNA BE ANOTHER JAW DROPPER!



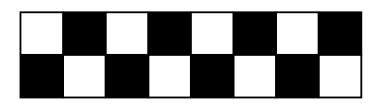
Get your skate stories, skate pics, skate art, skate events & all things skate to us by THE DROP DEAD DEADLINE ON MAY 3rd!

<u>editor@zineandheard.ca</u> or <u>@zine_and_heard</u>

FUNDRAISER FOR ZINE & HEARD COMING TO A YEG PUNK SHOW



~ WE ARE SMALL BUT WE ARE MIGHTY ~



DIAL 9-8-8 SUICIDE CRISIS LINE 24/7

INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS CRISIS LINE 24- HOUR 1-866-925-4419

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KIDS HELP PHONE - 24 HOUR

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> NACIS CRISIS LINE - 24 HOUR 780-422-2001

1-888-456-4566 24 HOUR
CMHA DISTRESS LINE - 24 HOUR
780-482-4357 (HELP)
KICKSTAND CONNECT

mykickstand.ca/online-care#resources

OFFICE OF THE YOUTH & CHILD ADVOCATE

If you have questions about your rights as a young person, need legal help, or need to speak out, we're here for you.

Talk to Us: Toll-free: (800) 661-3446

Monday - Friday 8:15 AM - 4:30 PM

NORTHERN ALBERTA Call: (780) 422-6056

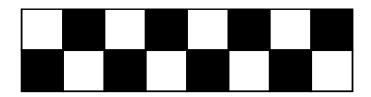
SOUTHERN ALBERTA Call: (403) 297-8435

ACCESS OPEN MINDS

ACCESS Open Minds Edmonton is a walk-in service for individuals 16-25 years old. Young people and their families can walk-in during open clinic hours and will be seen on a first come first serve basis.

MONDAY - FRIDAY 12:00-5:00PM 780-887-9781

NEED TO CONNECT? DIAL 211 24 HOURS



Less than .3%

of all Canadians have spent time in the child welfare system.

but over 65%

of all unhoused Canadians, over 65% of all Indigenous inmates, over 35% of all non-Indigenous inmates, and over 50% of all sex trafficked youth have spent time in the child welfare system.

Read that again.

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of all Canadians have spent time in the child welfare system.

but over 65%

of all unhoused Canadians, over 65% of all Indigenous inmates, over 35% of all non-Indigenous inmates, and over 50% of all sex trafficked youth have spent time in the child welfare system.

RAISE THE AGE. LOWER THE STATS.



Many thanks to the Friends of Zine & HEARD

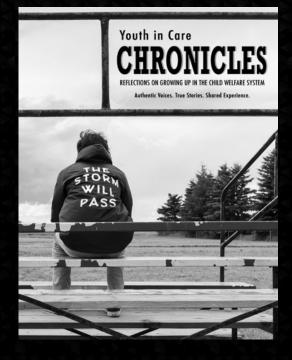
OFFICE OF THE CHILD & YOUTH ADVOCATE
CHIMO YOUTH RETREAT CENTRE
NANDA & COMPANY AMANDA QUILL
ANNE STEVENSON - WARD O-DAY'MIN COUNCILLOR
CAITLIN VERRIN MAGIC HOUR CREATIVE
DAVE HOUSEMAN JOE BUFFALO NIK KOZUB
BERNADETTE IAHTAIL & CREATING HOPE SOCIETY
OMAR MORENO GATEWAY ASSOCIATION CALGARY

DR. MELANIE DOUCET DELBURNE GHOST RYDERS **COLLEEN THOMPSON CLINT FRAZIER CADENCE LEADERSHIP & COMMUNICATION INC.** HIGHER KNOWLEDGE aka BRYANT DORAND VALISSA THOMSON **TOMMY TWO DOGS** JAN MASLYK ANONYMOUS X 7 CHEYANNE CARLSON-WHITE LYLE BELL **MARLEY-JAY** LOCAL 124 SKATEBOARDS & LONGBOARDS **JOEL PIPPUS** DIANA BATTEN, MLA. BUD FRASIER & THE ELECTRIC RAZORS P.E. K.P. L.U. KIM MCDONALD E.C. C.H. P.L. **ROWENA CUI MELISSA PETERS** MIKE GOSSELIN **VIVIAN TIDSBURY AMY THORSEN** K. MATHESON THE SUPPLE TRIBE CATHY MURPHY OPTIMAL PAINTING LTD. MACEWAN LIBRARY MARSHA PARADIS LEE BOWER EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARY TRISHA CARLETON SUE KIERNAN MICHAEL REDHEAD CHAMPAGNE

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Please contact editor@zineandheard.ca or visit www.zineandheard.ca/support for more information & thank you so much. We appreciate it.



18 former youth in care from Alberta tell their stories in YOUTH IN CARE CHRONICLES: Reflections on Growing Up in the Child Welfare System

Available at
<u>Amazon</u>
&
<u>Audreys</u>

All proceeds go to fund projects for youth in care.

Jeannine Nicole Ermineskin



You are not forgotten



If you have any information about Jeannine, please contact the Edmonton Police Service at 780-423-4567 or Edmonton Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or **submit your tip online**. Please reference the EPS file number when possible.

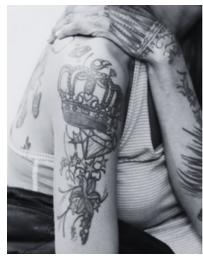
Jeannine Nicole ERMINESKIN

Age:38 at time of disappearance Height:5'8" Weight:134LB EPS File #:CA22-213918

On January 6, 2022, Jeannine Ermineskin was seen for the last time in Edmonton's downtown area. Jeannine has blue eyes and brown hair that has been died blond or pink in the past. She was last seen wearing a black jacket, black pants, and a red and white scarf. Her nickname is Joe or Joey and she has used the aliases of Verlya EMINESKIN and Candace Joyce EMINESKIN.

Jeannine has the following tattoos:
Left Forearm: Love eagle feather
lady with headdress
Right Upper Arm: Crown diamond
flower stars (feathers)
Left Upper Arm: Eagle female face (rose)
Right Hand: The word "LOVE" on knuckles
Left Hand: Tribal

Right Side Of Neck: Daniel
Lower Right Back: Butterflies
Upper Right Back: Butterflies
Left Abdomen: Cheetah
Upper Left Back: Feather Shyla



We hope Jeaninne is found safe and reunited with family & friends soon.



IN 2023, IN THE STATE OF KANSAS, THERE WERE APX. 9,300 KIDS IN CARE. 11 OF THEM DIED.

KANSAS REFLECTOR, MARCH 12, 2024

IN A 12-MONTH PERIOD

BETWEEN 2022 & 2023,

IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA,

THERE WERE APX. 7,300 KIDS IN CARE.

THERE WERE 88 NOTIFICATIONS OF SERIOUS INJURIES OR DEATHS.

OF THE 88 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED, 44 MET THE CRITERIA FOR A
MANDATORY REVIEW AND 44 MET THE CRITERIA FOR SYSTEMIC REVIEW.

THERE WERE 81 DEATHS AND 7 SERIOUS INJURIES.

2022-2023-OCYA-ANNUAL-REPORT

