

The Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin Supports City Council's Declaration on Intimate Partner Violence and Gender-Based Violence Epidemic.

WHEREAS the Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin is deeply committed to safeguarding the safety of children and youth and promoting the well-being of families within these jurisdictions.

WHEREAS statistics reveal a concerning trend, with Intimate Partner Violence and/or Gender-based Violence accounting for up to 30% of all investigations conducted by our society.

WHEREAS the impact on children who witness these forms of violence is profound, posing significant risks to their physical safety, and leading to detrimental and potentially long term, physical, social, and mental health outcomes

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors for the Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin wholeheartedly recognizes and supports City Council of the City of Greater Sudbury in their declaration made on November 7, 2023, that Gender-based and Intimate Partner Violence is an epidemic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in response to the alarming prevalence in Gender-based and Intimate Partner Violence, the Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin has, for the first time in its more than 100-year history, established a specialized team dedicated exclusively to working with families where Intimate Partner or Gender-based Violence presents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin acknowledges City Council's declaration as a resounding call to action. We urge our community partners, including government, the business sector, and those with lived experience, to build a strengthened collaboration with the shared goal of increasing the safety and well-being of children and families affected by Intimate Partner and/or Gender-based violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this collaboration seeks to implement comprehensive strategies to address the root causes of Gender-based and Intimate Partner Violence, safeguard the wellbeing of children and youth, provide supports to survivors, and ultimately contribute to the creation of a more secure, supportive, and inclusive environment for all families within our jurisdictions.