
September 3, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P.

Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

As a coalition of child and youth health leaders and advocates from across Canada, we are writing to urge you and your government to support the timely advancement of Bill S-212, *An Act respecting a national strategy for children and youth*, which is currently awaiting second reading in the House of Commons. When Parliament returns in September, we urge you to help ensure that the bill advances without further delay.

We recognize that Canada is navigating a period of significant economic, social, and geopolitical challenges, and that your government is responding to multiple competing priorities. Yet it is precisely in times of uncertainty that a coordinated, long-term approach to supporting children and youth is most critical. The well-being of children and young people today will shape Canada's future prosperity, resilience, and ability to navigate a rapidly changing world.

The challenges facing children and youth extend beyond any single portfolio or jurisdiction. Bill S-212 would provide a framework to bring federal, provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous leaders, children and youth, families, experts, and organizations together to establish shared priorities and improve outcomes for young people across Canada.

Prime Minister, your vision for a stronger Canada must include the children and youth who will shape its future. Investing in children supports better health and social outcomes, strengthens learning, eases pressure on families, and delivers long-term economic and social returns.

Every \$1 invested in children can generate up to \$5 in returns, while contributing to a healthier, more productive population and reducing future pressures on public services. As your government advances its nation-building agenda, investing in the next generation must be part of building a stronger Canada for generations to come.

Children cannot afford further delay. Bill S-212 represents an important opportunity to make children and youth a national priority and strengthen coordination across governments and sectors. We respectfully ask for your support in helping the bill complete second reading at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you for your consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss Bill S-212 with you or your office.

Sincerely,



Emily Gruenwoldt

President & CEO
Children's Healthcare Canada

Executive Director
Pediatric Chairs of Canada



Sevaun Palvetzian

President & CEO
UNICEF Canada



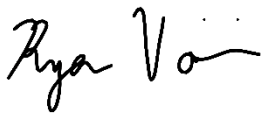
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