

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Contest

“Rights” are things every young person should have or be able to do. All young people have the same rights, which are in an agreement called the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (<http://www.unicef.org/crc/>).

All of these rights are connected to each other and are equally important. Sometimes it is helpful to think about rights in terms of what is best for you in a particular situation, what is most important in your life and what will protect you from harm. As you grow older, you have more responsibility to make more of your own choices.

The adults in your life need to make sure that you have what you need to grow strong and healthy. We need to make sure that you are treated fairly and that you and your schoolmates are given the same opportunities to do well. The UN Convention helps us to do that.

On November 20, the UN Convention is 20 years old. Canada has agreed to the rights set out in the UN Convention.

As B.C.’s Representative for Children and Youth, my job is to help make sure that your voices are heard, your rights respected, and that you are treated fairly. I also want to help make British Columbia a great place for kids to live and grow, and one of the ways we can all make that happen is by talking about rights.

To celebrate your rights and the UN Convention’s 20th birthday, we’re hoping you will show or tell us how you see your rights.



The Contest

Regardless of your age, please focus your artwork or your essay on one of the following UN Convention rights:

- To Be Healthy
- To Be Yourself
- To Be Safe
- To Be Heard



To enter, you can draw or create a picture of you enjoying your favourite right, or answer the following question (max 250 words):

Do you think one of these rights is more important than the others? Why or why not?



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Prizes!

A winner from each of the three age groups will receive a \$100 Chapters gift certificate, along with a T-shirt, locker magnets, lanyards and other fun items from my Office. Your essay or drawing will also be featured on our website!

How/where to submit:

By e-mail:

Send to info@rcybc.ca and put "Rights Contest" in the subject line:

By mail:

RIGHTS CONTEST

The Representative for
Children and Youth
Suite 201, 546 Yates Street
Victoria, B.C. V8W 1K8

For more information:

Call: 250-356-6710
Email: info@rcybc.ca
Visit: www.rcybc.ca

Read This First Please ...

- Deadline for your entry is Friday, November 6, 2009 at 4 p.m.
- This contest is only open to B.C. participants in the following age groups:
 - Age 5-9
 - Age 10-14
 - Age 15-18
- Essays can be e-mailed as MS Word documents (.doc), in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) or can be hand-written and mailed.
- Pictures or artwork can be e-mailed as .pdf's, .jpegs, or any other common format, or can be mailed.
- All submissions must be your own original work, not previously published anywhere.
- Only one entry allowed per person.
- Make sure you provide your name, age, address, phone number and e-mail address if you have one.
- The Representative will publish a selection of the submissions from each age category on our website, along with only the first name and age of the author/artist.
- The Representative may also use some of the submissions in future publications or documents.
- Submissions may be modified (format or content) for publication purposes.
- Winners will be announced November 20, 2009 and media in the winners' communities will be contacted with the good news. If you win, we will discuss details with your parent or guardian before any public announcements.