



Dear _____, (MP's name)

Please have a heart!

In an era of reconciliation, First Nations children families and communities should have equitable services. That's why I'm asking you to work for the full implementation of Jordan's principle and to support Shannen's Dream.

I appreciate the excellent work of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada (FNCFCS) to uncover the injustice and inequity in services to Indigenous children. Recent government efforts to improve child welfare services and education on reserve are moving in a helpful direction but clear inequities remain. This is not okay.

Jordan's Principle is a child-first principle named in memory of Jordan River Anderson, a First Nations child from Norway House Cree Nation in Manitoba. Born with complex medical needs, Jordan spent more than two years in the hospital unnecessarily while the Province of Manitoba and the federal government argued over who should pay for his in-home care. **Jordan died in the hospital at the age of five years old, never having spent a day in his family home.** Jordan's Principle aims to make sure First Nations children can access all public services when they need them.

Shannen Koostachin, a youth education advocate from Attawapiskat First Nation in Ontario, had a dream: safe and comfy schools and culturally based education for First Nations children and youth. Many First Nations schools receive less funding per student than provincial and territorial schools. This funding gap creates serious challenges for those working to create safe and appropriate learning environments for First Nations children. **Shannen worked tirelessly to try to convince the federal government to give First Nations children a proper education.** Unfortunately, she passed away in a car accident at the age of 15 before her dream could come true. Shannen remains an important role model for Indigenous and non-Indigenous children and young people who continue to carry her dream for safe and comfy schools for all First Nations children in Canada.

I stand with Jordan River Anderson, Shannen Koostachin, and all First Nations children and youth.

I echo the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society and urge you to give First Nations children the chance to grow up safely at home, get a good education, and be healthy and proud of who they are through equitable funding for social services and education. FNCFCS' call for a 360 review of government services to First Nations Children is a good first step.

In summary, I ask you, as my elected representative, to work for the implementation of Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action 1-5 (Child Welfare) and 6-12 (Education).

Respectfully,

(your name)

(your address)