



News Release

October 23, 2012

CROWN WARD EDUCATION CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM HELPS YOUTH TO PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

Youth in the care from across Southeastern Ontario are heading to Loyalist College on Friday, Oct. 26th to talk about going to college or university.

Youth, foster parents and staff from the three regional children's aid societies will be attending the all-day event hosted by the Crown Ward Education Championship Team. The Team is comprised of the Family and Children's Services of Frontenac Lennox and Addington, Highland Shores Children's Aid and the Children's Aid Society of the County of Prince Edward, the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board, the Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board and the Limestone District School Board, Loyalist College, St Lawrence College, University of Ottawa and Queen's University. The Crown Ward Education Championship Team is financially supported through the combined Ministries of Education, Children and Youth Services and Training, Colleges and Universities.

"The post-secondary educational and training opportunities available to youth in care are not always immediately apparent, or easily accessible to them. Their unique challenges and struggles are significantly greater than those of an average teen or youth and this often creates what seem to be insurmountable obstacles on their path to success," said Mehroon Kassam, Chair of the Crown Ward Education Championship Team. "Through this event and with the accompanying supports of the local community and the Government of Ontario, we're confident our youth will be inspired to seek a post-secondary education and have a brighter future," she continued.

The young people will be provided with information on attending college or university as well as employment and skills training. Discussion panels and information sessions will also be held. The keynote speakers will be Earl Lambert and Orlena Cain. An artistic art piece entitled "Our hope for Children" will also be on display.

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