

National Child Day in Edmonton

The City of Edmonton proclaims November 20, 2013 *National Child Day* in recognition of the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#). Each year, the City works with families and community partners to ensure Edmonton's children and youth have the support, encouragement and respect necessary to reach their full potential.

"Even in Edmonton, too many children live without basic necessities like food or access to learning tools," said Mayor Don Iveson. "Today's children are the future leaders of our city, we need to work together to nurture their capacity for achievement."



Edmonton celebrates National Child Day each year to mark two historic events:

- The 1959 signing of the United Nations [Declaration of the Rights of the Child](#), and
- The adoption of the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989](#).

Endorsed by more countries than any other human rights treaty in history, The United Nations Convention of the Rights of a Child outlines the basic human rights of children and the commitment society makes to provide and protect those rights.

"As we all join to celebrate the rights of children and the wonderful contribution children make to our communities, let's also remember the children who are left out, isolated and marginalized by poverty and our responsibility to ensure their rights are upheld," said Allan Undheim, Vice President of [United Way of Alberta Capital Region](#), at a special proclamation event at The Stanley Milner Library.

To honour the day, Children from St. Anne Elementary School performed a skit around raising their voice and children's rights as well youth sang the original song [We Have a Voice](#) and released a music video.

"With the release of our video and song, *We Have a Voice*, we are supporting young people to stand up for themselves and have their voices be heard," said Del Graff, Provincial Child and Youth Advocate. "By celebrating National Child Day, we all play a role in encouraging children and youth to learn about the basic human rights all children are entitled to."

The City of Edmonton's [Child Friendly Edmonton](#) initiative works to improve the quality of life for children and youth by encouraging them to be active and involved in the communities.

The Edmonton National Child Day Collaborative includes the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate, Alberta Centre for Child, Family and Community Research, Child Friendly Edmonton (City of Edmonton), Boys & Girls Club, Big Brothers & Big Sisters, ECMap Edmonton Early Child Development Coalitions, Edmonton Public Library, REACH Edmonton, [Success By 6](#)® United Way of the Capital Region, and YMCA of Northern Alberta.

For more information, please visit:

[Child Friendly Edmonton](#)
[United Nations Rights of the Child in plain language](#)

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