

Edmonton celebrates children's right to belong

November 19, 2106

The City of Edmonton proclaimed November 19 National Child Day as part of its support for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The theme of National Child Day 2016 is children's right to belong, highlighting the importance of a strong sense of belonging in a creating a strong foundation for a child's learning and development.

"The right to belong is a fundamental need for all of us, especially children, and is a key factor for healthy growth and positive development," said Del Graff, Alberta Child and Youth Advocate. "When a young person feels they belong it builds confidence, creates a sense of identity and community, and sets a path to a positive future."

"Children and youth should have a say about the places in which they live and play," says Councillor Bev Esslinger. "Their invaluable perspective helps to expand the thinking on how cities and spaces can be designed to ensure children, youth and families feel safe, welcome and included."

The City of Edmonton, through its [Child Friendly Edmonton](#) initiative, 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.

The City of Edmonton proclaimed November 19 National Child Day one day earlier than in previous years to coincide with the Alberta Resource Centre for Quality Enhancement's 7th annual Child Day conference.

In honour of National Child Day 2016, the High Level Bridge will be lit in blue on November 20.



For more information:

edmonton.ca/childfriendly

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