

An Open Letter to Jim McDonell, MPP

Jim McDonell, MPP
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Jan 24, 2021

Dear Mr. McDonell

As a constituent in this riding, I am writing to you to express my concern as a retired teacher and high school principal in the Ontario public school system as well as a concerned citizen and tax payer.

I have become aware that school boards are providing access to a disturbing website (YouthLine.ca) that features online material that encourages young people to get into the [sex trade and engage in high risk sexual behaviour](#). Pamela Buffone writing for the Post Millennial reported;

With just a few clicks from the Family Resources section of the UCDSB, someone could access soft porn that included information about anal sex, scissoring, fisting, and sex work among other things.

[Ontario school board provided sex work and extreme sex act resources to students](#)
By Pamela Buffone; Dec 18, 2019

Teresa Pierre of Parents as First Educators informed concerned parents;

It might shock parents to know that the principal of their child's school can deny their right to know about the wellbeing of their child, and further, can direct their child to a resource that aggressively encourages young people to explore the LGBT lifestyle and to become sexually active.

This is happening in Ontario schools, and it is happening under the direction of the Doug Ford Conservative government.

[Schools Can Bypass Parents in Favor of Soft-Porn Website](#)
POSTED BY TERESA PIERRE ON DECEMBER 03, 2019

Furthermore the Ontario Ministry of Education in its [Policy/Program Memorandum 144](#) lists this website as a 'counselling' resource;

"In addition, principals should refer the student to board resources or to a community-based service provider that can provide the appropriate type of confidential support when the student's parents are not called (e.g., counselling; a sexual assault centre; Kids Help Phone; Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans (LGBT) Youth Line.)"

It is now apparent that Youthline's ambition is to be featured on all school board websites. Indeed, [Youthline wants all the Catholic School boards in Ontario to provide access to its website.](#)

This is all justified under the guise of 'equity and inclusion' and a desire to provide 'politically correct' counselling to teens and young people in order to avoid charges of structural homophobia. Given the nature of the questionable material found on this site, I am very concerned that Youthline's 'peer counselling' service is not balanced in an emotionally healthy or medically prudent way. Who has vetted Youthline at the Ministry of Education for recommendation to the school boards as an appropriate resource for children and young people in schools?

The truth has now come out and citizens of Ontario are seeing the darker side of what Youthline offers school age children. [Youthline Exposed](#) – is gaining considerable notice and concern among parents and tax payers. This is a shocking video which is at times explicit with Youthline sexualized material and all the more shocking because school boards are providing access to this site for children!

As retired teacher, concerned citizen and tax payer I am respectfully requesting that you look into this matter and convey your findings to me as well as Premier Ford and the Minister of Education. I would like to know who vetted Youthline as an appropriate resource for schools and further request that this decision be reviewed to ensure the safety of our school children. Until a thorough unbiased review of Youthline is made, I request that the Ministry of Education issue an advisory against making Youthline available through publically funded Ontario schools.

I call on you as my Member of Provincial Parliament to do your part to ensure the mental health and safety of our children and young people in the public school system.

Thank you for your commitment, and I look forward to receiving a response from you.

Sincerely,

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