



SHARDA AYOTTE-O'CONNOR

YUKON DIRECTOR - YOUTH IN CARE CANADA (YICC)

Hello! My name is Sharda Ayotte-O'Connor. I am pleased to be a representative on the National Council of Youth in Care Advocates.

I bring extensive knowledge and experience to my role in the National Council. I am currently the Yukon Director for Youth In Care Canada (YICC). At YICC, I have had the opportunity to contribute to internal and external projects and committees that are producing inspiring work, like the Equitable Standards for Transition to Adulthood for Youth in Care report. I have also temporarily stepped into the Vice President role to assist with board recruitment at a time when YICC is preparing to increase its activities and projects in 2022.

The work I have seen done by youth in care advocates, collaborating and sharing, gives me faith in better conditions for future youth in care. I feel it is important to pass on that sense of hope and connection so it can multiply.



“I am inspired by the resilience I have seen in people who come from all walks of life. Creating safe spaces to share our stories makes impossible changes possible.”

In my personal time, I work in Native Language revitalization in a remote Yukon community. I love the mountains, working with Elders and children, and sharing new cultures through language.

ABOUT YOUTH IN CARE CANADA (YICC)

Youth in Care Canada is a national, charitable organization that has been in place since 1985. It is driven by and for youth and alumni from child welfare authorities from across Canada. YICC's mission is to voice the opinions and concerns of youth in and from care, assist and support the development of provincial/territorial youth in care networks, and to engage young people in research and policy development initiatives.

Learn more about Youth in Care Canada [here](#).