
Media Statement

Association of Canadian Deans of Education



August 31, 2023

Statement on policies that discriminate against sexuality and gender minority children and youth

The Association of Canadian Deans of Education (ACDE) speaks against policies and practices that limit the full and respectful inclusion of sexuality and gender minority children and youth in Canadian schools. All education policy deserves to be rooted in the safety, inclusion and rights of students. Schools must be a place of physical, emotional and psychological safety for all, including sexuality and gender minority students.

ACDE affirms the right of children and youth to name, define and describe themselves. This includes the rights of school-aged students to be addressed by their affirmed pronouns. Respectful and inclusive school environments are those that honour this right.

ACDE acknowledges its ethical responsibility, as a collective representing educational institutions and those responsible for the preparation of educators in Canada, to work toward safe and supportive learning environments in Canadian schools.

The Association of Canadian Deans of Education brings together deans, directors and chairs of education in Canadian universities and university-colleges. ACDE members are committed to pan-Canadian leadership in professional and teacher education, educational research, and policy in universities and university-colleges.



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