

MOTION ON NOTICE

5. Fostering Change: Supporting Kids Aging Out of Care

MOVER: Councillor Reimer

SECONDER: Mayor Robertson

WHEREAS

1. Fostering Change is an initiative of Vancouver Foundation to improve supports for young people aging out of foster care in British Columbia, who experience far greater rates of homelessness, unemployment, and lower high school graduation rates than their peers;
2. Young people from care have far fewer family and community relationships and resources that are critical to the success of most young people in their 20s;
3. WHEREAS since its founding in 2013, Fostering Change has brought together young people in and from care, diverse community organizations and members of the public through a series of dialogues to create a statement of principles for sign-on by community partners as follows:

"We believe youth aging out of foster care should be able to count on three things until age 25:

- *Consistent financial support with basic living costs like housing, transit, and food while they attend school, learn skills, and find work.*
- *Long-term relationships with caring dependable adults for support, advice, and references, so that they always have somewhere to turn.*
- *A chance to connect and contribute to their communities through creative, cultural, and volunteer activities, so that they feel like they belong.*

We believe this will make a difference, and ask community, political, and business leaders to commit to a plan that includes these supports."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Vancouver endorse this statement of principles and forward it to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for their consideration at the 2016 UBCM Annual Meeting.

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