

ZOE BOURGEOIS

NEW BRUNSWICK REPRESENTATIVE

Hello! My name is Zoe Bourgeois and I am the New Brunswick representative on the National Council of Youth in Care Advocates. I am highly motivated by the opportunity of the National Council's work to better the child protection system in my home province and throughout Canada, and to continue advocating for needed changes so that youth in care are equitably supported as they transition to adulthood.

I bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to my role in the National Council. In my current role as the Program Coordinator of the New Brunswick Youth in Care Network (NBYICN), I support the organization's focus of better the lives of young people in and from care in New Brunswick by ensuring they are connected, represented and supported.

> "My goal is to help current and former youth in care to find their voice, guide them in being an advocate for themselves and help them to know their rights."

At the moment, I sit on three Board of Directors that work to support permanency for young people in and from care, as well as five committees. I am also in the process of completing my Masters Degree in Social Work to become better educated and equipped to support young people in care.

In life, I am inspired by my mother, children, the young people that I work with and my colleague John who is an incredible leader and champion for youth in New Brunswick. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my children and honing in on my passion for photography.

ABOUT THE NBYICN

The New Brunswick Youth in Care Network (NBYICN) is a provincial, supportive network for current and former youth in care. We strive to unite young people throughout the province who understand what it's like growing up in the child welfare system in New Brunswick. We help young people to belong, to feel connected, to have a voice and to thrive while in and after care. The NBYICN is filled with strong network members and leaders who want to work at building a better system for current and future generations. Learn more about them <u>here</u>.