

Wednesday April 21, 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. ET

# What is a healthy family? Guidance from youth and Elders.

## **Expert panelists/Co-conveners & bios:**

### Elder Albert Dumont, Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation

Albert Dumont has served his community on the Grandparents Counsel for Well Living House, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto since September 2017. He was one of 13 Elders on the Elders Advisory Committee of the Ministry of the Attorney General from October 2016 to 2020 and worked as Elder for the Parole Board of Canada at Elder Assisted Hearings from November 2013 to March 2017. He was employed by Correctional Services Canada for three years as a spiritual advisor for the Indigenous men incarcerated at Millhaven Institution's J Unit located near Kingston, ON. He is an activist, a volunteer and a poet who has published 5 books of poetry and short stories. In recognition for his work as an activist and volunteer on his ancestral lands (Ottawa and Region) Albert was presented with a Human Rights Award by the Public Service Alliance of Canada in 2010. In January 2017, he received the DreamKEEPERS Citation for Outstanding Leadership. Albert has dedicated his life to promoting Indigenous spirituality and healing and to protecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples particularly those as they affect the young.

#### Kyrstin Dumont, Algonquin Anishnabe Activist & Advocate

Kyrstin Dumont is a 20-year-old Algonquin Anishinaabe woman who resides in Algonquin territory. She has spoken with organizations, school boards, churches and with government officials to help create a better understanding of indigenous issues. Kyrstin is an activist, advocate and has been awarded three times for her work within the indigenous community. She is currently finishing her high school diploma at urban aboriginal alt to remind kids who fall through the cracks of mainstream westernized education systems, that we can flourish and thrive within our own.

#### Chevon Cadigan, Uambassador, UNICEF Canada

Chevon Cadigan is a Gr.10 student from rural Downeyville, Ontario, where she spends her free time volunteering, reading, and learning languages. She is very passionate about gender-based violence & period poverty, and acts as a peer influencer in her community. Chevon has also been an active member of her high school's Student

Advisory Council, the Social Justice Team, and Eco-club for the past two years, and is in the process of continuing her efforts to make Downeyville a better place for all, despite the current circumstances. She would love to pursue a postsecondary degree in political science, and work for a non-profit in the future. Chevon looks forward to furthering her commitment to U-Report and her community.

#### Olivia Lam, Uambassador, UNICEF Canada

Olivia Lam is a student and advocate from Toronto, Ontario. She is passionate about helping young people and their communities and is an advocate for mental health, LGBTQ2+ and Indigenous rights. She is known to be high energy, friendly, approachable and can brighten any mood with her humour. In her free time, she enjoys baking cookies, playing guitar, watching obscure documentaries, and any form of creative expression. As an experienced facilitator, Olivia loves to share ideas as well as listening to other peoples' stories and learning from each other's experiences. She has an open mind and an open heart and is always excited to learn something new. Olivia's involvement with UNICEF Canada began in 2016 when she was brought in to advise on the development of UNICEF Canada's domestic program, One Youth. In her role as a UNICEF Canada Youth Advocate and U-Report Ambassador, Olivia engages and empowers other young people in social justice conversations and advocacy.

# Chanice McAnuff, Ontario Director, Youth in Care Canada & Founder, Project Outsider

Chanice is a passionate advocate for children and youth in and from the Child Welfare system. She is a member of numerous committees including the Youth for Change Steering Committee at the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Society, the Child Welfare Political Action Committee, and a Board Member for York Region Children's Aid. She has a background in consulting, event coordinating, public speaking, and team building. Chanice is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in psychology at McMaster University with plans of getting her Master's in Public Policy. She is also the founder of Project Outsider, a youth-led social organization that aims to bridge the gap between youth in care and decision-makers. She strives to share her truth and knowledge to evoke changes to the child welfare system nationally.

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