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Listen to children and youth, consider their rights, and focus on their best interests when making decisions

We recommend that the provincial government and municipal governments across Nova Scotia take clear action to realize Article 3 and Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child regarding the best interests of the child and a child's right to be heard.³

Action 1

Enact legislation or bylaws that require a child-rights impact assessment be submitted when considering new legislation, policy, or relevant child-focused programs, and services.

Action 2

Work with existing youth-led or youth-serving organizations in Nova Scotia to understand how children and youth want to be engaged in decision-making. Consider establishing child and youth panels or advisories within government ministries or departments to provide counsel on decisions that affect young people.

