The Federation of Community Social Services of BC
102 - 739 Kings Road, Victoria, BC
T: 250.480.7387 F: 250.480.7396
www.fcssbc.ca info@fcssbc.ca

THE FEDERATION
of COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES of BC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 16, 2018

Statement: Appointment of BC's next Representative for Children and Youth

VICTORIA, BC — Earlier today an all-party special committee of our province's Legislative Assembly unanimously recommended that Jennifer Charlesworth be appointed as British Columbia's next Representative for Children and Youth. On behalf of The Federation of Community Social Services of BC, I would like to congratulate her on this appointment.

This is an incredibly important role and The Federation is delighted that Jennifer will be assuming the responsibilities of this office according to the requirements of the *Representative for Children and Youth Act*. Jennifer has a breadth of experience in the social care sector, both in government and the community, and has worked extensively with Indigenous organizations, communities, and families. There are few better candidates to represent the children, youth, and families of this province.

During her time as The Federation's Executive Director, her leadership, relationship-building, and passionate advocacy on behalf of children, youth, and families strengthened our organization and BC's entire social care sector. I have no doubt that she will be an excellent representative for the young people of BC.

I would also thank the outgoing representative Bernard Richard for his diligence, collaboration, and outspoken advocacy during his tenure. His efforts and accomplishments have been invaluable and it has been an honour to work with him.

It is essential for the children, youth, and families of BC to receive passionate and independent advocacy as they navigate our province's complex system of services and supports. They are lucky to have people like Bernard and Jennifer working tirelessly on their behalf.

Rick FitzZaland, Executive Director
The Federation of Community Social Services of BC
rick@fcssbc.ca
250.480.7387