

Established in 2018, the Child Welfare Immigration Centre of Excellence (CWICE) is the first of its kind in Canada. focusing on service, research, and sector-wide capacity building. As the centralized service in Ontario. CWICE is a resource for the child welfare sector in Ontario, offering consultation and support on complex child protection and immigration cases. CWICE also provides direct assistance to children. vouth and families who are involved with the child welfare system and have unresolved immigration, settlement, or border-related issues.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

April 2019 - March 2020



Referrals received (10% increase)



Assisted children from

countries from 5 continents



Individuals supported to secure citizenship



Canadian children and vouth returned safely to Ontario

Since 2018, CWICE has presented to more than 2500 individuals and received over 900 referrals.



CWICE aims to build capacity across the sector to ensure child welfare agencies across Ontario and elsewhere in Canada have a better understanding of the intersection of immigration and child welfare. CWICE launched the following initiatives in 2019-20 in support of this goal:

- "CWICE: Issues and Trends" a webinar series for OACAS members
- The CWICE Provincial Roundtable Series launched in November 2019 with the first event focused on Unaccompanied and Separated Children.
- Held the first CWICE National Dialogue in January 2020, bringing together senior leaders from across Canada, with the support of Peel Children's Aid Foundation, to discuss the intersection of child welfare and immigration.
- Updated the Immigration Status Matters Guide for child welfare practitioners
- Began developing a series of training modules, which launched in Fall 2020.

**CWICE SERVICES: Evaluation Survey** 

93% Found our services helpful

89% Thought our team was knowledgeable

**89%** Were satisfied with our response time



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