



Adoption Council of Ontario

ADOPTION EDUCATION: PRIDE

PRIDE Training

Education to prepare adoptive parents to meet the needs of adopted children is now recognized in Ontario as essential for all adoptions whether public, private, or international. PRIDE (Parent Resources for Information, Development and Education), the standardized educational program and SAFE, the homestudy assessment tool, are used together to prepare all applicants who wish to foster or adopt children, and allows them wider choices for placement.

PRIDE is a nine module course equalling a total of 27 hours of training that could be offered in a variety of schedules such as weekly in the evening or on all day weekend sessions. Whenever possible, applicant participation in a PRIDE training program should be concurrent with the completion of their SAFE homestudy. The PRIDE curriculum provides information to help prepare all adoptive parents for the responsibilities involved in raising their children and incorporates information about the following:

- ★ Adoption and child welfare systems, processes and laws
- ★ Attachment as a central issue in all adoptions
- ★ Loss issues in adoption
- ★ Impact of adoption on your own family
- ★ Child development, child management, and an overview of issues specific to the needs of adopted children
- ★ The effects of neglect, lack of stimulation, abuse, and institutionalization on children
- ★ Identity formation and the importance of cultural and racial awareness
- ★ The importance of connections and continuity for children

All PRIDE trainers have received comprehensive training and have been approved by the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies, which holds the Ontario license for PRIDE. Each session is led by co-leaders, one an adoption professional and the other an experienced adoptive or foster parent. They will address the learning needs of all group participants regardless of their specific adoption plans, as they explore their options.

PRIDE in the Private Field

For **private and international adoptions**, PRIDE training is required for all adoptive applicants who started their homestudy after December 31, 2007. Privately approved PRIDE trainers are qualified to offer the same education program to any adoptive applicant, regardless of where they are applying to adopt. Adoptive applicants may register to attend any PRIDE program that is convenient to them.



Every Child Deserves a Forever Family.

www.adoption.on.ca

