



# Adoption Council of Ontario

The Adoption Resource Exchange

## THE ADOPTION RESOURCE EXCHANGE:

**April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> 2009**

The Adoption Resource Exchange is a biannual program supported by the Children's Aid Societies in Ontario, the Private and International Adoption Desk, and the Adoption Council of Ontario. The program supports the matching of children in CAS foster care who are legally available for adoption with families in Ontario who are interested in adoption.

**The next Adoption Resource Exchange is scheduled for: April 25, 2009 (Adoption Council of Ontario Parents Conference) & April 26, 2009 (Parents Day to view the waiting children)**

**Location: Metro Toronto Convention Centre – north building – 100 Front St for directions please visit [://www.mtccc.com/home.cfm](http://www.mtccc.com/home.cfm).**

### **The Adoption Resource Exchange- A Success Story**

The Adoption Resource Exchange (A.R.E) began in 1956 and represents the Children's Aid Societies of Ontario's early and longstanding commitment to the belief that "every child deserves a family". The program has evolved significantly in process and structure over the years, but the basic premise of collaboration between agencies and working with a common desire to bring families in the province together with children who need them, has remained the foundation of the A.R.E. The Adoption Resource Exchange occurs twice a year – in the Spring and in the Fall. Currently the A.R.E. occurs at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and covers four intense days of activity and learning.

As an example of the support this program has in the community note that in October of 2009, over 600 people interested in adoption attended the Sunday event. 150 children were profiled, many of them sibling groups. An average of statistics over the last several years suggests that 75% of the children profiled are placed in adoptive homes. The Adoption Resource Exchange is supported by funds and staff of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services making it truly an example of collaboration of public, private and government agencies with a common purpose and goal.



Every Child Deserves a Forever Family.

[www.adoption.on.ca](http://www.adoption.on.ca)



## **Adoption Resource Exchange - Parent Weekend**

On **Saturday**, the Adoption Council of Ontario hosts a day of workshops and presentations for families who are considering adoption, families who have adopted and for professionals who work with families touched by adoption. Registration is required and can be done by calling the Adoption Council of Ontario at 416 482-0021 or by registering online at [adoption.on.ca](http://adoption.on.ca) under events in late **February 2009**.

For the **Sunday Parent Day**, all 53 Children's Aid Societies are invited to present children who are legally available for adoption and for whom an adoption plan has not yet been made. Each CAS prepares a video and a profile of the child or sibling group they are presenting. A master video of all children presented is compiled for presentation on the day of the A.R.E. Each CAS is assigned a booth where workers will be present to meet interested families and discuss the children profiled. All private and CAS adoption practitioners invite families they have worked with to attend the event.

Throughout the day, the videos of the children are presented in the John Bassett theatre at the Metro Convention Centre. During breaks families can approach specific CAS societies to further discuss plans for a child presented in the videos. Each agency provides copies of the child's profiles for families. Families are able to submit an expression of interest directly to the CAS responsible for planning for a child.

**Registration for the Sunday event is not required and there is no fee**, but families will be asked to sign in before entering the event.



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