

Legislative
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Assemblée
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de l'Ontario

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Message of Condolence

May 16, 2014

On Tuesday, May 13 2014, Ms. Nicole Belair, a social worker with the Sudbury-Manitoulin Children's Aid Society, succumbed to her injuries sustained in a fire while attempting to rescue occupants. Ms. Belair had been visiting a client in the building when the fire started.

On behalf of all staff at the Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth, I offer my sincere condolences to the family of Nicole Belair, her fiancée and friends at this extremely difficult time.

I would also like to offer my condolences to her colleagues at Sudbury-Manitoulin Children's Aid Society and those who are connected to her and whose lives she touched throughout her career as a social worker. Our hearts are with you.

Time and time again young people in care who have been able to overcome the hardships they endured, can point to someone who has made a difference. By all accounts, Ms. Belair was that person to many children and youth.

Like many who work with children in the care system, she was a hero before her death and at the time of her passing. Her selfless act of bravery shows the strength of her character and her dedication to helping others. The province feels the loss of this young woman.

Today, our thoughts and prayers are with those who knew her well who are coping with the tremendous loss of a courageous young woman — a hero.

With sympathy,

Irwin Elman
Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth