

Petition P-80

Petition relating to Apraxia Awareness Day (Tabled by MPP Thompson, October 25, 2016)
Petition relating to Apraxia Awareness Day (Tabled by MPP Thompson, November 22, 2016)
Petition relating to Apraxia Awareness Day (Tabled by MPP Thompson, November 29, 2016)

Response:

I thank Speech-Language Pathologists in Ontario for their hard work helping young people with childhood apraxia of speech and raising awareness of this disorder.

Through our Special Needs Strategy, our goal is to make real progress in identifying children's needs earlier, such as those with speech and language challenges.

Our dedicated Preschool Speech and Language program already helps identify children with speech and language disorders as early as possible, and provides services that help them develop communication and early literacy skills. In the last year, this program assessed over 25,000 children and is currently providing services to more than 60,000 children.

Our government is determined to provide these children with the help they need to participate fully at home, school and in the community. We will continue to work with service providers, families, and stakeholders to improve services for children and youth with special needs.



Michael Coteau
Minister of Children and Youth Services