

CHILDREN'S AID NEWS of ONTARIO

Jan 2012

Unregistered CAS/FACS workers unlawfully working in Ontario

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Neil Haskett makes it east to book a meeting with your MPP



Photo by Youtube

Neil Haskett creator of a site that makes it easier to book a meeting with your local MPP about demand Ontario's Ombudsman Act be amended to allow public institutions to be investigated.

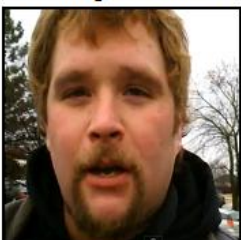
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Niagara Region gets hit with a wave of Rallies



Canada Court Watch and the group "Unregistered CAS/FACS workers unlawfully working in Ontario" team up and do a number of Rallies in and around the City of St. Catharines, Ontario to bring MUSH sector who to date have no true accountability.

Rally Time



Zane Sherwood holds two protests for Ontario's Children's Aid Societies demanding Oversight and transparency within an organization with no true accountability.

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Photo by Pat Niagara (CCW)

Protesters want CAS to be Accountable

A few local people from Chatham, Ontario held a rally outside of the Courthouse on Grand Ave West and was joined by the some members from Canada Court Watch and Unregisterebring Oversight & Accountability is to raise awareness of Ontario being the only province in Canada that does not allow oversight of Children's Aid Societies, Hospitals, Long-term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, School Boards, Universities and Police by the Ombudsman

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Cambridge Rally for Oversight, Transparency and Accountability



Pat Niagara

Photo by Pat Niagara (CCW)

Zane Sherwood of Gray Bruce County holds a protest on January 23, 2012 outside the Cambridge, Ontario's Family and Children's Services office to demand oversight and transparency within an organization with no true accountability. Advocates from different areas of Ontario gathered out front of the Children's Aid office on Hespler Rd.

Welland Mother gets kids back with help from Niagara advocates



Welland Ontario Courthouse

January 11, 2012

Chris York (CCW)

Welland mom gets help from Canada Court Watch advocates after Facs Niagara removed her 4 kids on January 6th because a worked made a claim "We think we seen you with your Ex from a Distance". Advocates say Facs Niagara jumped the gun and removed the kids from the home with no proof. Advocates Chris York, Bobbie Gellner and Pat Niagara educated her on rights in the law. The mom appeared in a Welland courthouse armed with new knowledge on her rights. The Judge in the case seen it the same way the CCW Advocates did and ordered FACS Niagara to return the kids to the mother.

Make a Meeting with your MPP Online

January 29, 2012

Pat Niagara (CCW)

Neil Haskett of the group "Stop the Children's Aid Society from taking Children from Good Parents" opened a site for people to book meetings with the local MPP of there area. Neil says "It doesn't get any easier and a challenge is to each and every person. If you find these groups of any value, please re-post the link and caption below to all your friends and family. Please note, it is NOT specific to CAS and so there is nothing to worry about. You can also use it to request a meeting to Demand the Ontario Ombudsman Investigate the MUSH Sector!". What is the Mush Sector? It's Nursing Homes, Hospitals, Children's Aid Societies, School Boards, Universities and Police. Ontario is the only Province in Canada not allowing independent investigations of these institutions and I want you to take the lead in protecting your vulnerable constituents by expanding the Ombudsman mandate.

Correction in Dec 2011 News Letter

The Sudbury Times report 20 rallies took place on December 23rd was not correct. Only 3 Rallies took place that day in London, Sudbury and St. Catharine's Ontario

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First Time Ever in CANADA COURT WATCH History



LIVE FEED

History in the Making, this is the 1st time in the History of Canada Court Watch has a Rally ever been a live broadcasted of a Rally has ever been done live over the Internet.

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Canada Court Watch supporter responds to Children's Aid letter



In a response to the letter that was written by Janice Richardson, MSW and Executive Director of Children's Aid Society of Haldimand- Norfolk, Canada Court Watch would like to clear up a few points that were misrepresented.

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C.A.S. Ontario

<http://casontario.blogspot.com/>



STOP CAS

From taking Children from Good Parents
Stop the Children's Aid Society from taking Children from Good Parents



Diagnosis Murder

The CBC's The Fifth Estate back on Friday, January 13, 2012 Aired the Broadcast "Diagnosis Murder" It's a scenario as horrifying as it is heartbreaking: a frustrated parent ... a baby that just won't stop crying ... and suddenly, what were tender, cradling arms become instruments of death. At least this is how Shaken Baby Syndrome has been characterized in countless court cases in recent years. But what are the scientific foundations of this diagnosis?

Gillian Findlay of the CBC's The Fifth Estate examines the conventional wisdom around Shaken Baby Syndrome, discovering that those who question it often feel targeted by those who believe passionately in it. And yet new science suggests the so-called syndrome may be a physical impossibility.

"Diagnosis Murder" tells the story of several Canadian parents who say they were wrongfully accused--and the leading-edge medical researchers who believe they're telling the truth. The stakes are high: Some have gone to jail. All have had their other children taken away from them.

One couple recently had their children returned after a four-year battle. Even though the courts in B.C. cleared Zabeth and Paul Baynes of charges they had shaken their baby, the couple feel they will carry the stigma for life. Another man in Ontario has now had his case put up for judicial review, giving him hope that his name may too be cleared.

Is Shaken Baby Syndrome conclusive evidence of murder? Or is it a scientific hypothesis that has convicted an untold number of parents as killers -- when their children actually died from other causes?

Judge orders CAS to return kids to Niagara Falls Couple

January 01, 2012

Bobbie Gellner(CCW)

A Niagara Falls couple who had their family ripped apart by FACS Niagara is now back together as ordered by a Welland Judge last week. The couple thanks Canada Court Watch Advocate Bobbie Gellner for the help she gave them when they needed it the most. This couple contacted the site "Unregistered CAS/FACS workers unlawfully working in Ontario" and gave Bobbie the great news. Bobbie educated the couple on the law and supported them with any information needed to go into court. This couple is not on Facebook and found us from talk outside of the Welland Courthouse. It seems the name 'Canada Court Watch' is moving from person to person around courthouse all across Ontario.



Photo by Pat Niagara (CCW)

Protesters take Aim at St. Catharines MPP

January 25, 2012

Pat Niagara (CCW)

Advocates from Canada Court Watch and the group "Unregistered CAS/FACS workers unlawfully working in Ontario" teamed up in the Niagara Region area and gathered out front of the MPP Jim Bradley's office in St. Catharines, Ontario's to demand oversight and transparency within the MUSH sector who to date have no true accountability. Jim Bradley was is longest reigning MPP seating in the legislature. MPP Jim Bradley was not in his office the day on the day the protest took place. The protesters got a number of honks from the people of St. Catharines and also collected signatures for Ombudsman Oversight.

FACS NIAGARA becomes hot spot for Protesters

January 26, 2012

Pat Niagara (CCW)



Photo by Pat Niagara (CCW)

On January 26, 2012 advocates again from Canada Court Watch and a local group from the Niagara Region gathered out front of the FACS Niagara office in St. Catharines, Ontario's to demand oversight and transparency within the MUSH sector who to date have no accountability. The St. Catharines Rally for Oversight & Accountability is to raise awareness of Ontario being the only province in Canada that does not allow oversight of Children's Aid Societies, Hospitals, Long-term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, School Boards, Universities and Police by the Ombudsman. The protesters collected signatures for the Ombudsman Petition from the people going to and from the FACS Niagara building.

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Pat Niagara Photo



CAS needs Oversight and Accountability

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On Friday, January 13, 2012, the Chatham Rally for Public Accountability was held in front of the Chatham-Kent CAS offices and was well attended by advocates from as far away as Ottawa, Cambridge area and Niagara Region and numerous local attendees showing up to show their support and to have their voices heard. Lots of media interviews were done and Grand Ave in Chatham resonated with the sound of horns honking to support this cause. Chris Carter did a fantastic job of handling the media. Lee Bolton, Darlene Duplessis and Mary Najdzion did a wonderful job organizing this event as well as providing refreshments. Protestors who rallied Friday in a Court Watch protest in Chatham want Children's Aid Societies to be more accountable. Lee Bolton of Chatham, who hosted and attended the protest, claims: "There's no oversight of the Children's Aid Society, they do whatever they want." She claims her nephew has behavioural issues, but the CAS chose to keep him on medication and in a group home, where he was being physically abused and neglected, rather than allow him to live with a family member. "I'm very frustrated," Bolton said, noting her nephew has been involved with the CAS for about four years. "They have not helped him whatsoever," she said, adding his behavioural issues have been exacerbated by the medication he's kept on. Bobbie Gellner, from the Niagara contingent of Canada Court Watch, claims the CAS is corrupt and workers often commit perjury. "We feel that there is a need for child protection," she said. "It needs to be done in a professional way ... that they're not being vindictive against parents, they're not making up lies against parents in order to keep kids in (care)." She said the CAS receives its funding based on the number of children in care. Gellner said the group has not been able to get a successful prosecution against the CAS - yet. "They're still in the works, because a lot of people aren't educated as to how they can prosecute, or go against the CAS in order to even get their children back or overturn Crown wardships," she said.



Pat Niagara Photo



Pat Niagara Photo



Pat Niagara Photo

Advocates from the Niagara risk their lives heading to Chatham Rally

January 18, 2012 Story by Pat Niagara (CCW)

At 5:30am on Friday, January 13, 2012, advocates from the Niagara Region braved the weather and treacherous roads to travel to Chatham to from the Niagara Region. A 350km drive in a Snow and Ice Roads to attend the Rally for Public Accountability. A 3 1/2 drive turned into a 5 hour drive but all arrived safely. There was a video produced to emphasize the importance of attending rallies in your own area. We as Niagara advocates should not need to attend a Rally such a distance away and in such extreme weather. You that have issues with CAS need to get out and attend your local Rallies to show your support. With out your support change will not come! The driver that day was Pat Niagara who said that the roads at 5:30am had been snow covered and ice under the snow from the freezing rain overnight from hours before. The snow plows had not even been on the roads or Highways at this point. We hit one spot on the roads in Welland near the Welland Tunnel that was ice, we did a 360 on the road only to find us looking at uncoming traffic he said. It was scary, I knew I had to drive over 300 km in this and at times wondered to himself if it was worth our lives to go to this rally. But being dedicated to the cause that he and 3 other Canada Court Watch Members took the risk.



Pat Niagara Photo

Protester's hit FACS Niagara 2 days in a row

For a second day in a row, protester's from Canada Court Watch take aim at FACS Niagara in St. Catharine's as it is the Societies main Office for the Niagara Region. The response today was a little better even with the heavy snow falling in the area. FACS Niagara has made no comment on the protest outside the St. Catharine's office. Canada Court Watch Members in Niagara say that they plan to take aim at the Niagara area due to the number of call the members get for this region.

Whalen accused granted bail



Amanda Dipota

A Niagara Falls woman charged in connection with the murder of a two-year-old Fort Erie girl has been released on bail.

Amanda Dipota was released from custody on Thursday following a bail hearing in an Ontario Court of Justice in Welland.

The 30-year-old is charged with accessory after the fact to murder and committing an indignity to human remains.

Evidence revealed during the bail hearing cannot be published under a court-ordered ban.

Dipota is scheduled to return to court March 7 to set a date for her trial.

Dipota is the first defendant in the Marissa Whalen case to be released from jail.

Her sister, 28-year-old Rainbow Hill, is charged with second-degree murder.



Marissa Whalen

Roseanne Whalen, the toddler's 23-year-old mother, is charged with second-degree murder, criminal negligence causing death, accessory after the fact to murder and committing an indignity to human remains.

Both women remain in custody at the Vanier Centre for Women in Milton.

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Canada Court Watch supporter responds to Children's Aid letter

Friday, January 13, 2012

Bobbie Gellner (CCW)

In response to the Letters to the Editor back on January 12th from Janice Richardson, MSW Executive Director of the Children's Aid Society of Haldimand- Norfolk titled "CAS defends itself after accusations" over a rally that took place in Dunnville, Ontario that was hosted by Pat Niagara of the Facebook Group "Unregistered CAS/FACS workers unlawfully working in Ontario" and the site CAS Ontario back on December 23rd 2011 that was held to raise awareness of Ontario being the only province in Canada that does not allow oversight of Children's Aid Societies, Hospitals, Long-term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, School Boards, Universities and Police by the Ombudsman.

In response to the letter written by Janice Richardson, MSW Executive Director of Children's Aid Society of Haldimand-Norfolk, I would like to clear up yet again a few points that were misrepresented.

Ms. Richardson claims that, "Recently in newspaper articles about protests against the Children's Aid Society of Haldimand-Norfolk, we were described as "corrupt" and our workers as "perjuring themselves". First point of clarification is that these protests are not directed at only Haldimand- Norfolk CAS, but at all 53 Children's Aid Societies across Ontario on a rotating basis.

Second point of clarification, as I personally have witnessed on numerous occasions and in too many cases to count, is the fact that on a regular basis these workers do and will continue to perjure themselves.



Pat Niagara Photo

We as an advocacy group are well aware of the need for child protection and that child abuse and neglect does exist in our communities. Stated by Ms. Richardson is the fact that the third highest source of these referrals is from parents themselves. What is the highest, Ms. Richardson, perhaps it would be the malicious and vindictive calls made by a disgruntled neighbor, ex-partner or even a family member?

Ms. Richardson states that sometimes, children are not safe with their caregivers, and how is being abused in foster care or a group home any safer?

Ms. Richardson then goes on to state that, "Families and Children who do become involved with the CAS have a voice in deciding their future. We have a very clear and transparent process for people to complain about our services. We treat every complaint seriously and thoroughly."

Would that be the Internal Complaints Process where the panel is entirely made up of CAS board members or employees? And how about the complaints process through the Child and Family Services Review Board where a complaint cannot be considered if a matter is before the courts or that the courts have already decided or matters that fall under other decision making processes under the Child and Family Act or the Labour Relations Act?

I take it Ms. Richardson has never had to call a worker to set up an access visit or to inquire about her child's well being while in care. If she had, she would be aware that the workers are not on duty 24 hours a day as the only way of reaching any specific worker is to leave a voice mail and you may receive a call back in 24 to 48 hours. I hope this truly gives the reader the truth about your local CAS and I encourage everyone to visit www.canadacourtwatch.com and www.fixcas.com to find out more.

Bobbie Gellner CCW Advocate



January 23, 2012

Pat Niagara (CCW)

On Monday, January 23, 2012 Canada Court Watch History was made, it was the first time ever a Canada Court Watch Rally was broadcasted live as it happened over the internet for the world to see from Cambridge, Ontario. Pat Niagara from CAS Ontario and the Facebook Group "Unregistered CAS/FACS workers unlawfully working in Ontario" said that he always wanted to try and broadcasting a rally live over the internet. And thanks to Modern Technology and the High Speed Wireless Network HSDPA (High-Speed Downlink Packet Access) that means HSDPA networks support 3.6 Mbit/s peak downlink data throughput. Pat Niagara said because of this network it made it possible to send live streaming video up to a website for others to view. With the help of a App he uses a INQ Cloud smartphone to catch the video live and send it right to the internet. Pat says he is still testing out and seeing what the limits are. The 1st test was done in Cambridge, Ontario, he did a second test a few days later in St. Catharines Ontario at a rally that was hosted by his team. After watching that video hours after the 1st rally, Pat found a faster host server a 2nd test was done in St. Catharines, Ontario



Photo by Pat Niagara(CCW)

Antipastos provides ralliers with free Hot Chocolate & Sandwiches

Antipastos di Roma acrossed from the St. Catharines FACS Niagara office provided Canada Court Watch Members and all the ralliers with free Hot Chocolate with Mint and Sandwiches on a kaiser roll. This was the second time this happened were Antipastos gave free Drinks and Sandwiches to the protesters. The protesters and the Canada Court Watch team of Niagara would like to thank Antipastos di Roma for donating the great Sandwiches on a kaiser roll and the Mint Hot Chocolate that hit the spot on a day that it was raining and cold out. They also want to thank Antipastos di Roma for allowing them to park in there lot.



Know Your Rights: www.canadacourtwatch.com

For More C.A.S. News check out: www.fixcas.com