

NEWS RELEASE

Friday, March 31, 2017

Public Guardian and Trustee

Public Guardian and Trustee partners with Adoptive Families Association of BC to create a youth friendly financial literacy learning tool

Vancouver – Committed to improving the financial literacy of youth in and transitioning out of care, the Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) has partnered with the Adoptive Families Association of BC (AFABC) to create the Money Sense Quest, an online financial literacy tool that provides knowledge and skills that will assist learners in making responsible financial decisions.

The Money Sense Quest lives on the youth transition website <u>AgedOut.com</u>, and focuses on improving money management, with interactive activities addressing concepts such as values, money goals, the tracking of spending and the importance of budgeting. Each quest activity is built around the story of two youth who are dealing with money issues. Learners guide the characters through each activity, making choices and solving puzzles on their behalf.

The Money Sense Quest is the result of a unique partnership that saw the AFABC develop the quest with input from youth and by using PGT financial literacy materials. The PGT also provided input, leveraging staff experiences and knowledge, on how to best develop a financial literacy learning tool using a youth friendly approach.

"We are very excited to have contributed to a valuable resource that will help teach youth and young adults important lessons around financial literacy," said Catherine Romanko, Public Guardian and Trustee. "The PGT has an important role in supporting children and youth in continuing care by acting as their property guardian and one of our main objectives is to build the potential for children in care to have positive future lives. Through this collaborative effort with the Adoptive Families Association of BC and by incorporating feedback from youth, we continue to make major strides in providing access to financial resources that can be used to help support them as they move on to adult life."

In addition to its collaboration with the AFABC in developing the Money Sense Quest, the PGT, through its Child and Youth Services division, also offers financial literacy training and resource materials to youth at risk. The PGT delivers financial literacy workshops to external stakeholders and partners and offers resources including its <u>Dollars and Sense - A Guide for your Money</u> and <u>Dollars and Sense Workbook</u> publications, available at <u>www.trustee.bc.ca</u>. The Child and Youth Services division can be reached by email at <u>cys@trustee.bc.ca</u>.

About the Public Guardian and Trustee

The Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) is a corporation sole established under the *Public Guardian and Trustee Act* with a unique statutory role to protect the interests of British Columbians who lack legal capacity to protect their own interests. The mandate of the PGT is to:

- Protect the legal and financial interests of children under the age of 19 years;
- Protect the legal, financial, personal and health care interests of adults who require assistance in decision making; and

• Administer the estates of deceased and missing persons.

For more information see the PGT website at <u>www.trustee.bc.ca</u>.

Media contact Pieter Uni Communications Officer 604.660.4474