

**Ministry of Children,
Community and Social
Services**

**Ministère des Services à
l'enfance et des Services
sociaux et communautaires**



Minister's Office

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127-2020-13169

October 24, 2020

Ms. Monique Taylor, MPP
Hamilton Mountain
mtaylor-qp@ndp.on.ca

Dear Ms. Taylor:

Thank you for your letter and for advocating on behalf of next of kin attempting to access Post Adoption Birth Information or identifying information.

I understand the need for the extended families of adopted people and birth family members to have identifying information. Knowing one's identity and cultural heritage, particularly as it relates to potential Indigenous heritage, is significant.

While non-identifying information does not reveal the identities of those involved in an adoption, it may provide important information regarding the circumstances leading up to the adoption. This could include the care that the adopted person received before being placed with an adoptive family; the social and medical histories of the birth and adoptive families, and in some instances, confirmation of Indigenous heritage.

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Adult adoptees, offspring of deceased adoptees and several birth family members are currently eligible to request non-identifying information from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services' Post Adoption Disclosure Unit. To request non-identifying information, individuals can complete the application form on the Service Ontario [website](#).

As part of the adoption modernization work announced in July under the child welfare redesign strategy, staff from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services will review opportunities that may enhance the post adoption experience in the future.

Once again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Dunlop". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jill Dunlop
Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues