

# Coroner considering inquiry into Mississauga daycare death <sup>[1]</sup>

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**Excerpts:**

The office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario is considering launching an inquest into the death of Duy-An Nguyen, the 14-month-old girl who died of injuries allegedly suffered at the hands of an unlicensed Mississauga daycare operator last week.

An inquest into how Duy-An died would seek to generate recommendations regarding Ontario's daycare industry with the hope of preventing deaths under similar circumstances, said Coroner's office spokeswoman Cheryl Mahyr.

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Only 20% of children in Ontario have access to regulated daycare space, according to the Ontario Federation of Labour, which called on the Coroner's office Tuesday to launch an inquest and asked the province's education ministry to launch an investigation into the "systemic conditions" that force parents to use unlicensed and unregulated child-care facilities.

...

The lack of regulation across the child-care industry puts many children at risk, says Andrea Calver, co-ordinator of the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care.

"Most people who go into child care do it because they love children. But in an unlicensed environment there are no rules or regulations," Ms. Calver said. "Many of these providers advertise themselves on the Internet as 'daycare centres' -- they're certainly not your neighbour or grandmother."

Gary Wheeler, a spokesman for the Ontario education ministry, which is responsible for licensing child-care facilities, says it only conducts inspections of unlicensed facilities if complaints are received.

"Informal child care is a private arrangement between the parents and the caregiver," he said.

- reprinted from the National Post

**Region:** Ontario <sup>[2]</sup>

**Tags:** quality <sup>[3]</sup>

legislation and regulation <sup>[4]</sup>

unregulated <sup>[5]</sup>

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