



ECEBC | early childhood
educators of BC

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
November 20, 2015

November 20 is National Child Day

Vancouver – On November 20, ECEBC is inviting communities and elected officials to reflect and take action to improve children’s rights in British Columbia.

National Child Day has been celebrated across Canada since 1993 to commemorate the United Nations’ adoption of two documents centred on children’s rights: the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child on November 20, 1959 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on November 20, 1989.

How are we doing?

- In the fall of 2012, the Committee reviewing Canada’s record on meeting its commitments under the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child concluded that, despite Canada’s resources, “early childhood care and education continues to be inadequate for children under four years of age.” The Committee also expressed concern about services being unaffordable for most families.” (http://rightsofchildren.ca/wp-content/uploads/Canada_CRC-Concluding-Observations_61.2012.pdf, p.17)
- Canada is tied for last place in OECD Countries in meeting early years benchmarks UNICEF Report: <http://www.scyofbc.org/#!children-in-their-early-years/coe>
- In BC, we are falling behind the rest of Canada. In addition to not keeping pace with population growth, funding per regulated space has also not kept pace with the Canada-wide average (Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC, 2014, p. 2)
- In BC child vulnerability is increasing. (http://www.ecebc.ca/news/Community_Plan_ECL.pdf, p. 1)

Early Childhood Educators are trained, licensed professionals who follow a code of ethics. Working in early care and learning settings, schools and afterschool programs, they play a key role in upholding children’s rights in their daily work. As advocates for children in their communities ECEs have developed Child Rights Materials that are available for sharing (<http://www.ecebc.ca/library/>).

On November 20, we invite communities to become familiar with the \$10/Day Child Care Plan and to invite your local government officials to engage in discussion about the document as it relates to your community.

For more information, please visit: www.ecebc.ca or http://www.ecebc.ca/news/integrated_project.html.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:
Emily Mlieczko, Executive Director

executive.director@ecebc.ca