



ECEBC | early childhood
educators of BC

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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National Child Day: November 20, 2013 **Canada has fallen short...but BC has a solution!**

Vancouver – The recent media coverage is clear, Canada is in the throes of a child care crisis and BC is no exception! Lack of spaces, unaffordable parent fees and issues with quality are at the forefront. In Fall 2012, the Committee reviewing Canada's record on meeting its commitments under the UN Convention on 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."

November 20, 2013 is National Child Day in Canada, proclaimed by the Government of Canada on March 19, 1993 to commemorate two historic events for children: the adoption of the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of the Child in 1959 and the UN adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989.

This year, the Canadian Child Care Federation has highlighted Article 19 from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Article 19: "The right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind" states that:

1. "States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child."
2. "Such protective measures should, as appropriate, include effective procedures for the establishment of social programmes to provide necessary support for the child and for those who have the care of the child, as well as for other forms of prevention and for identification, reporting, referral, investigation, treatment and follow-up of instances of child maltreatment described heretofore, and, as appropriate, for judicial involvement."

The Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) is the collective voice to enhance professional and personal commitment to the value of early care and learning by empowering the sector through education, collaboration and leadership. ECEBC in partnership with the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (CCABC) has developed a plan that offers a concrete, innovative and ambitious way forward and provides a framework for significant and lasting system change in British Columbia to solve the child care crisis. The \$10/Day Child Care Plan is gaining momentum across the Province and can boast over 1.6 million supporters province-wide representing 152 individual communities.

For more information about ECEBC or the Plan visit www.ecebc.ca

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