



Information Bulletin from ECEBC

The Provincial Board of Directors is sending this information bulletin out to all of our members in order to inform you of a funding opportunity for ECEBC.

In March of 2006 the ECEBC board was approached by MCFD to discuss how the Ministry could offer support to our association.

MCFD has offered the following:

- \$2 million to be sent to Vancity as an endowment for ECEBC. This endowment will be invested and ECEBC would receive the interest from this investment. This equates to approximately \$100,000.00 per year, less administrative costs.
- ECEBC would be signing a “Deed of Trust” with Vancity, which will outline the purposes for these funds.

The board and branches have had an opportunity to discuss and explore the ethical components facing us in the acceptance of this funding.

Ethical Pros and Cons

Accepting this endowment from MCFD:

Cons:

- ECEBC may be limited in carrying out our advocate role
- Accepting the endowment would be at the expense of a Child Care system.
- Accepting the funding could be viewed as downloading responsibilities for child care including recruitment and retention issues in the field from the Ministry to our Association.

Pros:

- Keeps dollars in the child care sector
- Allows us to work for ECE’s in a tangible way – enhancing the important role of the practitioner in the quality of the system and focusing on quality and best practice in the field.
- Provides stability to the association by moving us beyond the survival levels the association has been in for several years

- Moves us toward accomplishing the goals outlined in our vision and strategic plan
- allows us to respond to the needs of our members in a more effective way

Next Steps

To meet with MCFD to finalize the purpose of the funding

Through lengthy discussions the board has prioritized the following purposes:

- Stabilization of the association – including the hiring of an Executive Director and review of membership categories and fees.
- Enhancing professional development opportunities – support to conference, support to members attending conference, providing additional training opportunities in communities, expanding some of the training ECEBC currently provides to the field, i.e. Let's Talk About Touching and Ethics
- Enhancing professionalism – expanding public awareness of the field, representing the field at various tables.

Meeting with legal council to review the Deed of Trust and the purposes outlined in the deed.

The funds must be received by an organization that has charitable status. Due to the restrictions of our membership ECEBC does not have charitable status, therefore, one of our next steps is finding a sponsoring organization.

Once the next steps outlined above have been addressed ECEBC will sign the Deed of Trust with Vancity. Should you have any questions or require further information please feel free to contact Toni Hoyland thoyland@selkirk.ca