



CANADIAN  
CHILD CARE  
FEDERATION

FÉDÉRATION  
CANADIENNE DES  
SERVICES DE GARDE  
À L'ENFANCE

## **CANADA NEEDS TO MOVE FORWARD ON A NATIONAL CHILD CARE PLAN -- CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WILL WAIT ANOTHER YEAR TO ACCESS A PAN-CANADIAN PLAN FOR AFFORDABLE, QUALITY, CHILD CARE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MARCH 22, 2016

OTTAWA — Today's federal budget announcement has taken significant steps towards building a long overdue national child care plan, but fell short on immediate investments that families and Canada's child care sector need.

The federal government's funding commitments for child care in today's budget announcement are encouraging and the Canadian Child Care Federation (CCCF) is ready to roll up its' collective sleeves and get working with national, provincial and territorial child care sector partners to build a better child care system for Canada. But the lack of investment in 2016/17 is concerning and leaves the long standing issues of accessibility, affordability and evidenced based system building on the table for another year.

“We are pleased that after 10 years of inaction on the federal level to finally see an investment in a national child care policy framework,” said Don Giesbrecht, CCCF CEO. “This dedicated funding is long overdue, but it is unfortunate that Canadian families and children will have to wait another year in order for the pan-Canadian plan to roll out. We will continue to work with the federal government and our partners in ensuring that Canada's families and children will soon have a long promised national child care system.”

The Government of Canada needs to take advantage of the evidence based early learning research and knowledge and apply it to the promised national early learning and child care framework.

Early learning and child care continues to be a public issue affecting millions of Canadian children and their families. The time has come to put children first by supporting families and investing where early learning research and best practice tells us will reap the most success: an affordable, high quality early learning and child care system.

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*The Canadian Child Care Federation is committed to best practice in early childhood education. Our organization is about the value of children. We value children. In order to protect and enhance our children, to promote their safety and their healthy growth and development, we are committed to providing Canadians with the very best in early learning and child care knowledge and best practices. Our tools are research and knowledge dissemination, the creation and nurturing of active networks.*

*Working in partnership with our affiliates, we are committed to:*

- *The importance of quality early learning and child care as an essential Canadian value and a right worth protecting and enhancing;*
- *The importance of quality delivery of early learning and child care as crucial elements in the healthy development of our children;*
- *The importance of competent, well-trained professionals who deliver quality early learning and child care with passion and pride*

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