

Challenge



NEWSLETTER OF THE ONTARIO COALITION FOR BETTER DAYCARE

Vol. 6, No. 4, Fall 1988

ELECTION ISSUE

CHILD CARE IS AN ISSUE!

Our votes will make a difference in the upcoming election. The question is how to convince politicians that we need federal leadership and funding for a non-profit, high quality child care system.

In the 1984 election, all three parties agreed that child care would be at the top of their agendas. The Conservatives promised to implement a Special Parliamentary Committee - and after much pressure, they did. Since 1984, we have moved the child care issue from the political margin to the centrepiece of social reform. Now we need to translate all the words, into strong legislative action!



Non-Profit

childcare

for all who need it

Your Vote Counts

IN THIS ISSUE

- The Child Care Accord
- Questions to Ask Your Candidates
- Child Care in Canada - FACT SHEET
- Positions of the Political Parties
- Open Letter to the Prime Minister
- Critique of Bill C-144
- Conference Information

FEDERAL ELECTION '88

NON-PROFIT CHILD CARE FOR ALL WHO NEED IT YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

WHAT CAN YOU DO IN THIS ELECTION CAMPAIGN?

Child care votes count. The future of child care in Canada rests RIGHT NOW upon getting the commitment of the parties to our position and dropping Bill C-144. Bill C-144 died on the eve of the election call. We don't want it re-introduced; we want to go back to the drawing board and bring forward BETTER legislation!

Political parties set policy and election platforms based on polls conducted. During election campaigns, candidates and leaders make promises based on political pressure and perceived public opinion. The more pressure you can bring, the more promises the

politicians will have to make. Then, at least, we will have the chance to force them to carry out their promises.

IDEAS FOR ACTION

THE CHILD CARE ACCORD:

This is a position paper initiated by the National Action Committee on the Status of Women to ask candidates for a commitment. The Child Care component of the Accord can be used with your local candidates. The National Office of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women will be distributing it to party leaders. In our ridings,

we can use it effectively with our candidates to:

- * Compare findings
- * Send out a news release
- * Call a news conference announcing results
- * Publish results in a pamphlet
- * Write to the newspapers and media to let the public know where the candidates stand.

POSTCARDS are quick and easy tools to show support for the issue and educate candidates and voters. Get the parents and staff at your day care centre to send postcards.

LETTER WRITING allows a two way communication between writer and candidate.

- * Outline your points clearly, make a demand and ask for a response.

COALITION EXECUTIVE

Laurel Rothman	Action Day Care (President)
Janet Davis	Individual Rep. (Vice President)
Fiona Knight	Ontario Federation of Students (Treasurer)
Lesley Russell	Hamilton Coalition (Past President)
Trisha Keyes-Bevan	York Day Care Coalition
Dave Hagerman	Ottawa Federation of Parents' Day Care
Sue Hunter	Day Care Coalition of Metro Toronto
Pat Johnston	Federation of Women Teachers
Sheryl Manolakos	Muskoka Day Care Committee
Beth Reynett	Ontario Federation of Labour
Brenda Rooms	London Day Care Coalition
Lisa Zufelt	Leeds Grenville Day Care Association

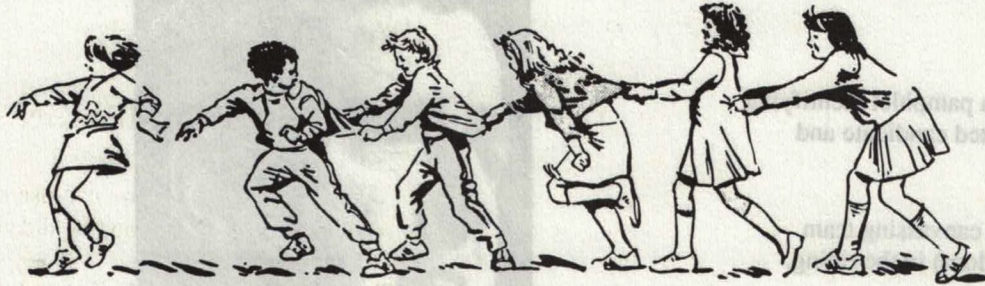
COALITION MOVES OFFICE!

297 St. George Street, Toronto, Ont. M5R 2P8
Tel: (416) 324-8090

THE CHALLENGE

Published five times a year by the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care and distributed to members and subscribers. Subscriptions to individuals are available for \$10 per year.

Please submit news of interest, your comments, graphics, press clippings, etc.



TELEPHONE CALLS: Call your candidates' offices, make your points, make your demands and ask for a response. All telephone calls are logged and responded to.

- * Organize other people to call on the same issue.
- * Ask to speak to the candidate.

TALK SHOWS: Another opportunity for you to state your point and get commitments from candidates. Many media sources use these as a source of public opinion.

* Check schedules, prepare questions and comments in advance.

- * Tell other people to phone in.

DEVELOP A MEDIA

CAMPAIGN: It's very important during an election campaign to keep the profile on the child care issue.

* Respond to all articles that touch on child care in the national and local press.

* Write articles also for newsletters, alternative or ethno-cultural papers and community networks.

* If there aren't any articles on child care, initiate some correspondence.

* Arrange a meeting with the Editorial Board of your local paper and ask them how they are going to handle the child care issue during the election. Provide them with lots of information and people with "real" stories to interview.

* Arrange time on local radio and television. You could be interviewed; arrange a film or video showing or produce a program on cable television.

* Make contact with media representatives. They may be able to do a feature story or arrange interviews.

* Write a short report on your local activity and send it to the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care.

ALL-CANDIDATES'

MEETINGS: These provide a public forum for getting information about the candidates' position; and for us to get across our position on child care.

* Distribute a pamphlet clearly setting out the child care position;

* When asking questions from candidates, make sure you ask clear, specific questions and get clear specific answers.

* Organize beforehand to have supporters in the crowd; sit close to a microphone and don't be afraid to follow-up on your questions if you don't get a clear answer.

HOSTING A CHILD CARE

FORUM: Try to arrange a forum on the child care issue during the election campaign.

* Invite all the day care centres, trade unions, women's organizations, teachers and social service agencies in your area.

* Try to get the media (print, radio and TV) to cover the debate. Especially try to get the debate televised.

TARGETTING MPP'S:

This election is going to be a close race! You have the power to make a difference to the candidate who is elected. Identify in your area MPP's that you want to get elected; and ones you don't want elected. When you have targetted a candidate:

FEDERAL ELECTION '88

*Put out a pamphlet identifying the targetted candidate and why.

*Set up a canvassing team (door-to-door) in the riding.

*Get lists of staff and parents at local day care centres. Set up a telephone bank and get volunteers to telephone all the day care parents and staff in your riding. Try to identify other potential supporters (women's organizations, teachers, union locals, social service agencies) and telephone them too.

* Get hold of and publicize the record of the candidates (either positively or negatively).



GET OUT THE VOTE DURING THE CAMPAIGN

*Talk to friends, co-workers, neighbours, people at the day care centre, in the supermarket - EVERYWHERE. Ask them about their concerns, encourage them to vote.

ON ELECTION DAY:

*Phone your contacts and remind them to vote. Develop a phone tree.

* Organize child care to enable more supporters to vote.

* Arrange a car pool for those who may not be able to get to the poll.

QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

Will you oppose the reintroduction of the Canada Child Care Act, Bill C-144 or similar legislation?

Will you introduce amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act to provide 17 paid weeks of maternity benefits for birthing mothers, and an additional 24 weeks of paid parental benefits to be taken by either or both parents including adoptive parents?

Will you introduce new legislation which will establish national objectives and guidelines for quality, availability, and affordability of child care services? What would be the central feature of this legislation?

Will you introduce new legislation which will offer capital and operating funds to non-profit child care programs only?

CHILD CARE: PROPOSALS OF THE 3 FEDERAL PARTIES

	PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY (Based on Bill C-144 and National Strategy)	LIBERAL PARTY (Based on October 5 and 8 announcements)	NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY (Based on August announcement)
1. NEW SPACES	200,000 new spaces by 1995	400,000 new spaces by 1995 (57,000 per year)	200,000 new spaces by 1992
2. COST TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	\$4 billion by 1995; after 1995 \$1 billion annually available for continuation of program.	7.4 billion for creation of spaces by 1995; \$400 million toward native child care programs, industry incentives, etc.	\$2.4 billion by 1992
3. SUBSIDIZED SPACES	Provinces to determine whether federal dollars should be used for subsidies to low-income families or operating subsidies to the service; priority to go to low-income families.	Parent fees based on sliding fee scale; average-income family would pay 50% of child care costs; low-income families would have free access.	Child care provisions of Canada Assistance Plan would remain in place for phase-in of new Plan.
4. CAPITAL GRANTS	Amount unspecified - available for the creation of non-profit spaces; federal share is 75% of cost.	Amount unspecified - available through National Child Care Foundation for the development of non-profit community child care.	An average of \$850 (federal) per space for the development of non-profit spaces.
5. OPERATING GRANTS	Can be cost-shared at a level determined by each province or territory.	Cost-shared operating subsidies to services would in part ensure that parent fees are based on a sliding scale according to parents' ability to pay.	An average of \$2,260 (federal) per space per year.
6. NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	No national objectives.	National objectives will be set.	Legislation would contain national objectives to ensure accessible, affordable, flexible quality care.
7. FOR-PROFIT CHILD CARE	Funding available for operating grants and parent subsidies to for-profit sector; provinces/territories may use their discretion in use of funding for-profit sector.	Funding of for-profit centres available; priority given to small, independent operators.	Federal child care funding would go to non-profit operators only (or commercial operators that agree to convert).
8. TAX MEASURES	Child care expense deduction for receipted expenses: \$4,000/year/child under 7 years \$2,000/year/child 7-14 years Non-refundable Child Tax Credit: \$200/year/child aged under 7 for low-income families.	Maintain the child care tax credit for children under 6 whose parents stay at home; Convert the Child Care Expense Deduction into a credit: Approx. \$500 for each child over 6; \$1000 for each child under 6. Make the married credit both transferable and refundable. \$2.3 billion over seven years.	New federal funds for child care would be used to create needed spaces, and not for tax credits.
9. PARENTAL LEAVE	The National Strategy on Child Care is silent on this issue.	Introduce parental leave of 26 weeks to be taken by either spouse. Raise parental leave benefits.	Maintain maternity leave program and introduce new parental leave to 34 weeks; enrich parental leave benefits to 85% of salary by 1992.

COALITION

EX-PRESIDENT

**LESLEY RUSSELL
RUNS IN FEDERAL
ELECTION**

TARGET A WINNER!



Lesley Russell, President of the Ontario Coalition for Better child care from 1985-87 is running as a candidate for the NDP in Hamilton West. Touted as one of the closest three-way races in the district, Lesley is facing Tory incumbent, Peter Peterson, and local TV reporter and liberal, Stan Keyes. As well as child care, Lesley is particularly concerned about poverty and environmental issues and will doubtlessly make her mark on the federal political scene if elected.

"I'm optimistic that we'll be able to accomplish great things for child care with a change of government", says Lesley. Indeed, we can be assured that the views of the child care community will be well-represented in Ottawa if Lesley is elected.

To get elected, Lesley needs your support. Please donate generously. To help canvas, contact her Campaign Office: (416) 523-8290 or write to her at 1967 Main Street West, Unit 49, Hamilton, Ont. L8S 4P4.

THE CHILD CARE ACCORD

The government's proposed Canada Child Care Act is a backward step for child care in Canada. Instead of helping to expand services, the legislation introduces new ceilings on spending. The Act lacks national objectives and guidelines for quality, availability and affordability. With guidelines and a long-term vision, the Act will entrench the current fragmented child care situation across Canada.

The Act will make operating grants available to commercial child care for the first time, providing an incentive to the growth of commercial care which has been shown to provide poorer quality child care. The Act's use of tax credits in place of direct subsidy is a poor use of scarce resources; giving parents \$100 to \$200 does not help them find non-existent services or afford fees of \$5,000 per year. Federal government dollars should be put directly into the development of services and programs.

COMMITMENTS

I and my party will oppose the strategy contained in the Canada Child Care Act and introduce a new Child Care Act with national objectives which will:

*Establish long-term cost-sharing agreement with the provinces/territories to develop a comprehensive, high quality, accessible, non-profit, ethno-culturally sensitive child care system;

*Provide more generous cost-sharing for less affluent provinces/territories;

*Dispense with schemes to fund child care programs through tax deductions and credits;

*Ensure capital and operating funds for child care programs serving Native Canadians: and

*Guarantee subsidized child care for low-income Canadians under the Canada Assistance Plan until the Plan has been replaced by a better funding mechanism.

I and my party will introduce amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act to provide 17 weeks of maternity benefits for birthing mothers and an additional 24 weeks of parental benefits to be taken by either or both parents, including adoptive parents.

Candidate's Comments:

Candidate's Signature:

Date:

OPEN LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER

The following letter was sent to the Prime Minister in the closing stages of the debate on the Canada Child Care Act (Bill C-144). The position expressed received wide support from many groups and was signed by:

Canadian Association of Business and Professional Women's Clubs
Canadian Association of Social Workers
Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association
Canadian Federation of Nurses' Unions
Canadian Federation of Students
Canadian Labour Congress
Canadian Teachers' Federation
Canadian Union of Public Employees
Inuit Women's Association
National Action Committee on the Status of Women
National Anti-Poverty Organization
National Association of Women and the Law
National Union of Provincial Government Employees
Public Service Alliance of Canada

The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

September 27, 1988

Dear Prime Minister:

We are writing to you to express our opposition to the proposed Canada Child Care Act. Our organizations have had a long history of concern about children, women, and families. We have repeatedly registered alarm with your government's child care policy and have called upon you to either withdraw or substantially amend the proposed Canada Child Care Act.

We believe passage of this Bill would move child care in Canada backwards, not forwards. The legislation:

- * lacks national objectives needed to assure families in all provinces and territories of accessible, high quality child care services;
- * introduces new limitations to federal child care spending for low and modest income families and limits expansion over seven years to meet only 10% of Canada's child care needs;
- * sets a dangerous precedent for federal spending by encouraging commercial care which is known to be of poorer quality than non-profit care;

In 1986, hundreds of organizations and parents told a parliamentary committee established by your government about their child care problems. Their concerns and the solutions they offered are in no way reflected in Bill C-144.

Several weeks ago, a Legislative Committee studying your government's Bill allowed only two days of hearings, preventing a full public debate on the Bill. However, of the 34 groups appearing before the Committee, all opposed the child care Bill. Many of those who did not have a chance to appear will welcome Senate hearings in which to express their opinions.

We believe that your government has shown blatant political opportunism in the passage of the child care Bill. After four years in power, your government is ramming through legislation which will move our fragile child care system backwards and which has elicited only public opposition.

On August 30, in a speech to the House of Commons, you said "Soon, Parliament will pass legislation establishing one of the most advanced child care systems in the world." We do not agree. We believe Bill C-144 would impede, rather than assist, working mothers in finding adequate child care and would not create a child care system of which Canadians could be proud. We urge you to withdraw or substantially amend Bill C-144 to truly reflect the child care needs of Canadian children and families.

Yours truly,

**BILL C-144: A CRITIQUE OF THE PROPOSED
CANADA CHILD CARE ACT**

The following critique is based on a brief by the Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association to the Legislative Committee on Bill C-144. It explains our opposition to Bill C-144 before it was defeated. For copies of the brief, contact C.D.C.A.A., 323 Chapel St., Ottawa, K1N 7Z2 613-594-3196

The Canada Child Care Act, introduced in the House of Commons in August, 1988, will be a major step backwards for children and families in Canada. The Child Care Act, Bill C-144, has been presented by the federal government as a way of providing choices for parents which will enhance their chances of accessing the child care they need and as a step towards social and economic equality for women.

It is neither of these things. Nor can it serve as a foundation for the development of a child care system. The Canada Child Care Act is a profoundly flawed scheme which is not in the best interests of children, families or women in Canada.

**THE PROPOSED CANADA
CHILD CARE ACT:****1. LACKS NATIONAL
OBJECTIVES**

National objectives and federal criteria for provincial participation in cost-sharing are essential features of other effective national social programs in Canada. Federal leadership in establishing criteria for the quality of and accessibility to child care services is critical. Without the inclusion of strong guiding principles setting out a long-term vision for a national child care system, Bill C-144 will entrench the current fragmented approach to child care in Canada.

**2. LACKS VISION IN
OFFERING CHILD CARE
CHOICES**

The Canada Child Care Act fails to recognize or support the diversity of needs for high quality child care across the country. Although provinces may choose to offer a variety of child care services (for example, regulated family day care, infant care, school-age care, care for ill children, nursery schools, programs to accommodate special needs children, extended hours care and parent-child centres) there is no assurance that these will become available to parents across the country nor is there sufficient funding to allow them to develop broadly. In addition, Bill C-144 omits recognition of the unique concerns of Native Canadians regarding child care.

**3. INTRODUCES NEW
FUNDING RESTRICTIONS**

The Canada Child Care Act introduces new ceilings on child care spending. Provinces which replace the open-ended cost-sharing of the Canada Assistance Plan with participation in the new Child Care Act will be moving from an open-ended mechanism to a limited fund. The \$4 billion fund currently allotted as the maximum federal contribution over the next seven years is not assured, as actual expenditures are subject to annual appropriation by Parliament. This is expected to accommodate all child care needs including operational grants and subsidies for low income families, now guaranteed to the provinces through CAP, and new capital spending.

**4. ABANDONS
TRADITIONAL FEDERAL
RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOW
INCOME CANADIANS**

The Canada Child Care Act fails to guarantee that even current levels of financial assistance available under the Canada Assistance Plan to help low income families meet their child care needs will remain in place, let alone be enhanced.

**5. RESTRICTS CHILD
CARE GROWTH**

The Canada Child Care Act envisions the creation of about 200,000 new child care spaces in Canada over the next seven years, leaving out at least 3 of 4 children

who need non-parental supplementary care on a regular basis. Estimated natural growth under the current arrangements would create more than 300,000 new spaces by 1995.

In addition, Bill C-144 does not provide federal support of capital costs after 1995, curtailing continued development of needed .

6. ENTRENCHES POOR QUALITY CARE

The Canada Child Care Act undermines the development of high quality child care by extending federal funding to commercial child care services. New public funding to for-profit child care will lead to rapid growth, including expansion by large American chains with substantial venture capital and the ability to move quickly into new markets. There is good evidence that the quality of commercial care is poorer than the quality of child care in the non-profit sector in important areas like staff:child ratios, staff training, staff turnover, health and safety, and wages and working conditions for staff. Also, there is no opportunity for signifi-

cant parental involvement in the program and the decision making in commercial centres.

Bill C-144 fails to ensure that provinces will support existing or new non-profit services with direct operating funds. Without direct operating funds, not only will high fees make child care inaccessible for families but salaries for child care staff will remain low. Services will continue to be plagued with existing financial problems and the high quality care children need will remain out of reach.

7. PROVIDES DISINCENTIVES TO "HAVE-NOT" PROVINCES

The Canada Child Care Act undermines the incentive for "have-not" provinces to significantly increase child care services due to rapid phasing-out of needed variable cost-sharing.

8. OFFERS LITTLE PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY FOR FUNDING OR SERVICES

The Canada Child Care Act provides only minimal provision

for public accountability for public funds or for monitoring and enforcement of minimum provincial standards as well as moving away from accountability for service delivery by parents by entrenching the expansion of commercial child care.

9. OFFERS NO PARENTAL LEAVE PROVISIONS

The Canada Child Care Act is unaccompanied by any legislation dealing with enhanced maternity leave, parental leave, or family responsibility leave, all major aspects of a comprehensive national child care plan.

Finally, the federal government itself acknowledges the major weaknesses in The Canada Child Care Act by allowing individual provinces to opt out of the new program and continue instead to access the Canada Assistance Plan, clearly demonstrating that Bill C-144 can not act as the foundation for a child care system which will meet the needs of children, families and women across Canada.



FACT SHEET

MOTHERS IN THE LABOUR FORCE

An increasing number of mothers with young children are in the labour force and need child care services.

Labour force participation rate of women with children - 1976, 1980, 1985, 1986, 1987

Mothers with children:	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987
Under age 3	31.7%	41.7%	53.9%	56.0%	57.0%
3 to 5	40.9%	50.1%	59.6%	61.6%	63.1%
6 to 15	50.5%	58.2%	66.1%	68.3%	70.5%

NUMBER OF SPACES IN CHILD CARE SERVICES

Licensed and regulated child care services meet only a small portion of the need.

- Number of children whose mothers work (1987):
3,033,562
- Number of spaces in child care centres: 216,685
- Number of spaces in licensed family child care : 26,860
- Total number of spaces: 243,555
- Percentage of children (with mothers in the labour force) served by childcare services: 8%

COST OF CHILD CARE SERVICES

It is estimated that a child care space can cost between \$2,000 and \$8,000 a year, depending on the age of the child. The younger the child, the higher the cost.

WAGES OF CHILD CARE WORKERS

- Average salary (1984) for all of Canada: \$14,212
- Child care workers earn
 - 30% less than the average industrial wage
 - 50% less than a teacher at the elementary level
 - 30% less than animal care workers on government farms

(Source: *Sharing the Responsibility*, Report of the Special Committee on Child Care, March 1987.

Status of Women Canada. *Statistical Indicators*, July 1986

National Day Care Information Centre. *Status of Day Care in Canada*, 1987.

Patti Schomm-Moffat. *The Bottom Line: Wages and Working Conditions of Workers in the Formal Day Care Market*, 1985.

Prepared by the Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association, October, 1988.

CHILD CARE: VISIONS OF CHANGE

Looking Beyond our Borders!

This year continues to be an active one for the child care community. Last December the federal government announced its National Strategy on Child Care. The provincial government has introduced a direct grant for the first time and continues to consult and review a range of other issues related to the child care field from employment standards legislation to staff training and pay equity.

We are at a critical juncture in the development of child care in Canada. Our system could develop as a public service; or it could continue to develop as a commodity to be bought and sold in the market place. The Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care is firmly committed to seeing child care as a high quality, non-profit, comprehensive public service and is opposed to day care becoming a service that is purchased in the marketplace. We are committed to ensuring that a "public service" model is placed firmly on the political agenda.

Examining practices in other countries in the industrialized world can help us to develop our models of child care services. This year we are delighted to be able to offer a discussion on the development of child care with the assistance of our international colleagues. In addition, we felt that it was time to debate the jurisdictional issue: Should child care be under Education or Social Services. We hope it will create a stimulating discussion.

AGENDA

Friday - November 4

- 2:30 - 5:00 **Tour of local day care centres (limited enrolment)**
- 7:00 - 9:00 **Registration - pick up conference packs**
- 8:00 **Film Screening: "Worth Every Minute":** This documentary is a tribute to the late Pat Schulz, a daycare activist known for her fiery battles for human rights since the '50s.

Wine and Cheese Reception: Meet the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care Executive and our International guests.

Saturday - November 5

- 7:30 - 8:30 **Registration**
- 8:30 - 8:45 **Welcome and Introductory Remarks** from Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care President, Laurel Rothman.
- 8:45 - 10:30 **CHILD CARE AROUND THE WORLD**
The opening plenary will introduce our international guests who will give us an overview of child care systems in Italy, the U.S., Denmark, Britain and the European Economic Community.

Bronwen Cohen, Equal Opportunities

Commission, U.K. and European Economic Community Child Care Network.

Mindy Fried, Women's Statewide Legislative Network, U.S.A.

Patricia Ghedini, Director of Pre-School Education, Emilia Romagna, Italy.

Mimi Stilling Jacobsen, Member of Danish Parliament and ex-Social Affairs Minister.

CONFERENCE '88



- 10:45 - 11:00 **Nutrition Break**
- 11:00 - 12:00 **Workshops: Discussion groups on issues arising out of the morning's plenary session. What lessons can we learn from the U.S.? How relevant are the European models to Canada?**
- 12:00 - 1:30 **Lunch and Election of General Members to Coalition Council.**
- 1:30 - 3:00 **Choice of Workshop - Series "A"**
- 3:00 - 4:30 **Child Care Debate: "Should Child Care be part of Social Services or Education?"**
Richard Johnston, NDP MPP, Scarborough, West,
Education Critic will be joined by other guest speakers to debate both sides of this issue.
- 7:00 - 1:00 **Dinner and Dance with an International Flavour. Downtown Holiday Inn.**

Sunday, November 6

- 9:00 - 12:00 **Council Meeting**
- 10:30 - 12:00 **Pleniere pour les services de garde francophone**
Resumes des discussions en ateliers et elaboration de recommandations et de prises de position face aux instances decisionnelles.
- 12:00 - 1:30 **Lunch and Regional Caucuses**
- 1:30 - 3:00 **Choice of Workshop Series "B"**
- 3:00 - 3:15 **Lobby Instructions**
- 3:15 - 4:15 **Closing Plenary**
Child Development: The Canadian Vision
by Ada Shermann, Institute of Child Study
- 4:15 - 5:15 **Final Lobby Preparations**
- 5:15 **Conference adjourns**

Monday, November 7

LOBBY DAY

- 8:30 - 9:15 **Introductory Orientation to lobby day procedure at the Ontario Room, Macdonald Block, Queen's Park. (Bay and Wellesley)**
- 9:30 - 10:30 **Meeting with Progressive Conservative Caucus**
- 10:30 - 11:30 **Meeting with NDP Caucus**
- 11:30 - 12:30 **Meeting with Liberal Caucus**

CONFERENCE '88

SERIES "A" WORKSHOPS

Our International guests will be contributing to some of the workshops.

A1 Introduction to Day Care Politics and Funding:

Examines basic child care issues: looks at involvement of governments municipal, provincial and federal: their differing roles and responsibilities. **Pam Doyle-Easton, George Brown College**

A2 New Directions for Child Care: A Report Card - One Year Later

How far have we come under New Directions? This workshop will evaluate progress and analyze recent developments. **Cheryl West, Parent**

Fiona Knight, Treasurer, OCBCC

A3 Child Care Shapes the Future: Anti-Racist Strategies.

Assessing needs and implementing strategies in child care situations. **Sandra Young, Congress of Black Women**

A4 Child Care at the Federal Level: An Update

Will the federal government provide real leadership for a new child care system in Canada? Workshop leaders will bring us up-to-date and propose strategies for action.

(Simultaneous Translation)

Don Ogston, Director General of Child Care, Department of Health & Welfare

Lise Corbeil-Vincent, Canadian Daycare Advocacy Association

A5 Pay Equity Legislation: Can Day Care Workers be Covered by the Act?

The provincial government has promised to study the exclusion of workers, such as day care workers, from pay equity legislation. How will day care workers be covered by pay equity.

Jamie Kass CUPE National Day Care Committee and Centretown Parent's Day Care, Ottawa

A6 Influencing Public Policy: A Primer for Advocates

This workshop will draw on the concrete experiences of child care groups in Waterloo Region and Muskoka to explain how to get the child care issue on the political agenda; how to effect change at the municipal level; and how to influence provincial and federal policy as well.

Jane Mitchell, Parent Activist

Sheryl Manolakos, Community Activist, Muskoka

A7 Financement des garderies francophones: programmes gouvernementaux

Un aperçu des nouvelles directives fédérales et provinciales en matière de financement des services de garde et leur impact pour les services de garde francophone. **Personne-ressource à être confirmée**

A8 Gestions du personnel

Un examen des problèmes de recrutement encouru par les services de garde francophone et une discussion sur les besoins en terme de formation et de ressources au sein des garderies. **Personne-ressource à être confirmée**

A9 Parental Leave and Benefits? What Exists: How Can it be Improved?

Learn about the current situation here and in other countries. What strategies can we use to achieve more?

Linda Gallant, Canadian Labour Congress

CONFERENCE '88

A10 Answering the Tough Questions

Role-playing with participants developing answers to typical tough questions such as, "Why Should My Taxes Pay for Child Care for the Wealthy?" or, "Why can't women stay at home?"

Paula Prieditis, Toronto Board of Education
Sue Hunter, West End Parents Day Care

A11 How will child care programs be affected by the Free Trade Agreement?

What impact will the free trade deal have on child care in Canada? Minor or major? This topic will be discussed in workshop format.

Barbara Cameron, United Electrical Workers

A12 Issues in Integration of Children with Special Needs.

A critical assessment of current policies and procedures for integrating children with special needs into childcare programs. Where is the government commitment?

Barbara Ward, Easter Seal Society

A13 Research Agenda

This workshop will look at the kinds of Canadian research needed to support and develop enlightened child care policies.

Martha Friendly,
The Childcare Resource and Research Unit, Toronto

A14 Child Care for Aboriginal Canadians:

This workshop will address the issues of child care developed by and for native peoples. It will include a discussion of program, staff training, regulations and funding.

(Ontario Native Women's Association to confirm speakers)

A15 Round-table Discussion: Childcare in the Third World.

Bring your stories, tapes and films to a round table discussion and participate in the mutual sharing of knowledge and experiences about childcare in underdeveloped and developing third world countries.

Margaret Kidd, Early Childhood Educator (Retired)

A16 Sexism

The examination of sexism in early childhood education.

Julie Mathien, Ontario Ministry of Education

SERIES "B" WORKSHOPS

Our international guests will be contributing to some of the workshops.

B1 Towards a Non-Profit Child Care System: Is Conversion from Commercial to Non-Profit Day Care Possible?

The Ontario Government made a commitment to conversion in New Directions. Is it a sound policy? How would it be implemented? This workshop will address the practical and political issues.

Richard Bradley, Ministry of Community & Social Services
David Hagerman, Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care

B2 Designing Children's Environments

A presentation on designing indoor and outdoor play spaces which "empower" children to be creative and self-directed.

Nancy Brown, Consultant on Children's Environments

CONFERENCE '88

B3 Barriers to Unionization of Day Care Workers.

In view of low wages for day care workers, this workshop will explore the reasons for the low level of unionization. Is the law the problem? Are the unions the problem or is it the attitude of the workers themselves?

John O'Grady, Ontario Federation of Labour
Penny Bertrand, Public Service Alliance of Canada.

B4 Family Day Care in Canada with international comparisons.

This workshop will review family day care in other provinces and countries and draw some conclusions about where we are headed in Ontario.

June Deller, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute

B5 Training and Staff Shortages. What are the Solutions?

Staff shortages have become a chronic problem in child care. This workshop will explore possible solutions to the problems and also examine training options for child care staff.

Barbara Elliott, Confederation College

B6 Accreditation: Is it the way to go?

Can quality day care be enhanced through an accreditation program? This workshop will include a lively discussion on the pros and cons of accreditation as a vehicle to improve quality.

Jane Bertrand, George Brown College

B7 Role des municipalites

Role des municipalites dans le financement des garderies et dans l'administration des places subventionnees. Impact du systeme actuel sur les services de garde en francais.

Personne-ressource a etre confirme

B8 La garderies francophone: un outil pour contrer l'assimilation.

Le role des services de garderie francophone dans le developpement linguistique et culturel de l'enfant francophone et le lien entre les garderies et les ecoles de langue francaise.

Personne-ressource a etre confirme

B9 Income Testing: Is it still on the Agenda? How Will it Work?

The provincial government has promised to move away from the intrusive needs-testing system towards a fairer income-testing program. This workshop will look at the potential benefits and drawbacks of a provincial income-testing system.

Gordon Cleveland, Economist

B10 New Models for Schoolage Care

With low levels of child care provision for schoolage children in Ontario, this workshop will focus on ways to improve the quantity and quality and will address how to implement 10+ programs.

Noel Young, George Brown College
Sue Smith, City of North York Parks & Recreation

B11 The Direct Operating Grant? Is it a Permanent Mess?

Workers and parents have been pitted against each other in the distribution of the first round of government funding. How could the Direct Operating Grant have been implemented more smoothly and how can we ensure smoother implementation in the future?

Laurel Rothman, President OCBC
Eleanore Benesch, Queensboro Children's Centre, Ottawa

CONFERENCE '88

B12 Child Care in Quebec

A look at recent developments in Quebec. What are the similarities? What are the differences?

B13 Art in the Day Care

Hands-on workshop of art projects for children.

Tony Caputo, Toronto Board of Education

B14 Housing and Child Care

A presentation on the nuts and bolts of integrating day care centres in new public social housing developments.

Phil Brown
Development Consultant, Ottawa Federation of Housing Co-ops
Sharron Richards, Family & Children's Services, York Region

B15 Models of Parent Participation in Child Care.

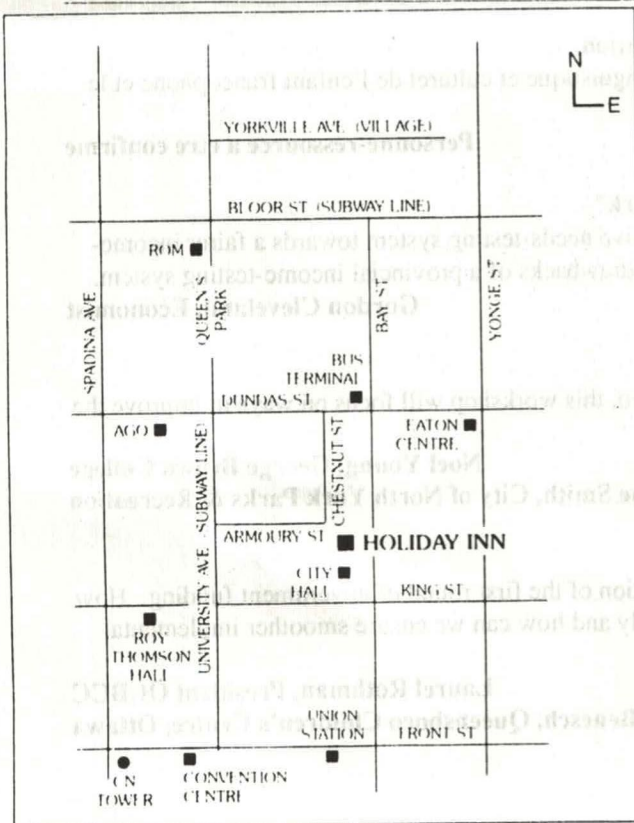
An indepth workshop to examine three different models of child care programs with parent participation.

Presenters: **Karen Liberman**,
Community Network of Childcare Programs(CNCP),North York
Cindy Magloughlin, Ottawa Federation of Parent Daycares;
Trisha Keyes Bevan, Learning Enrichment Foundation, Toronto

B16 Lobby Preparation.

If you want to ensure that your issue is raised in the Monday lobby, or if you are interested in being one of the people asking a question, attend this workshop. It's an intensive preparation session in order to make things go smoothly at the Monday Lobby.

Janet Davis, Vice President, OCBCC



CHILD CARE: VISIONS OF CHANGE *Looking Beyond Our Borders!*

CONFERENCE FEES

	Early Registration (prior Sept.1)	Late Registration (After Sept.1)
1. Full Conference/Dinner Dance for Member	\$85	\$95
2. Full Conference/Dinner Dance (includes new membership)	\$95	\$105
3. Full Conference/Dinner Dance for Non-Member	\$120	\$130
4. Full Conference Students/Unwaged	\$30	\$40
5. Dinner/Dance	\$30	

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:

Conference fees will be reimbursed, upon written request, up to 15 days prior to the Conference. A \$15 administration fee will be withheld.

We have attempted to put together an affordable package for this year's Conference and, unfortunately, will be unable to make reductions for one day only.

Registration Form

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Telephone: (work) (home)

Are you or your organization a member of the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care? Yes No
Which? Me My Organization:

Name of Org:

Non-members may register for the Conference and become a member of the Coalition for the \$95 registration fee.

I wish to join the Coalition

Please register me for the day care tour

Workshops Preferred: There are two sets of informational workshops. Please list your choices in order of priority. Space is limited in each workshop, so please register early to guarantee your first choice.

	Series "A"	Series "B"
1st Choice
2nd Choice
3rd Choice

I will be attending the Queen's Park Lobby on Monday, 7, November 1988.

I live in the provincial riding of

My MPP is

Accommodation has been arranged at the Downtown Holiday Inn
69 Chestnut Street
Toronto, Ontario

at a cost of \$82.00 per night (double or single) \$90.00 twin.
Reservations must be made directly at the hotel at (416) 977-0707 Reference OCBCC

I need a billet
Smoker Non-Smoker

Special Requirements (if any, e.g. nutritional, wheelchair, hearing impaired, etc)

Some travel subsidies will be available. If you need a travel subsidy, please submit a written request with your application.

If you need child care, please indicate below.

No. of Children
Ages:
Dates Required:

Confirmations will NOT be mailed out.

If you have any other special needs write or telephone Eileen Condon at the address below.

Please mail completed registration forms together with cheque to:

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care
297 St. George Street
Toronto, Ont. M5R 2P8
Tel: (416) 532-4031

STOP PRESS

....And for those of you who have missed our regular reports: Queen's Park Beat, Local Lines, Letters and Features, etc, please tune in NEXT ISSUE for all the latest on the Ontario Child Care Scene.

Meanwhile, the subsidy crisis continues; there seems no end in sight and the latest casualties have been three day care centres in the City of York run by the Learning Enrichment Foundation - they've had to close three centres to cope with the problems. Rumour has it that other centres in Metro Toronto will have to close.

The Coalition has a meeting with Premier Peterson on October 19 and we're hoping for some answers then.

DON'T FORGET THE CONFERENCE!

AND

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1988

**RALLY AT QUEEN'S PARK -
MARCH TO FEDERAL TORY H.Q.**

12:15 to 1:15 (prompt)

TELL THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TO:

LIFT THE CEILINGS - SUBSIDIES NOW!

TELL THE TORIES - NO TO BILL C-144

ONTARIO COALITION FOR BETTER CHILD CARE NEWSLETTER:

CHILD CARE CHALLENGE

(clip and maill today)

Name:
Address:
Organization Tel:

I enclose \$10 (individual membership) (or subscription)
I enclose \$20 (organizational membership)
I enclose a donation of \$.....

Provincial organizations please contact the Office for full details about membership fees.

**MAIL TO ONTARIO COALITION FOR BETTER CHILD CARE:
297 ST. GEORGE STREET, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5R 2P8
TEL: (416) 324-9080**

CHALLENGE