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# PROPOSED NEW FEDERAL POLICY ON FINANCING CHILD CARE:

## A SERIES OF FACT SHEETS

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## Fact Sheet #1

# THE CANADIAN DAY CARE ADVOCACY ASSOCIATION: WHO WE ARE

The *Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association* is a non-profit voluntary organization with regional representatives, an executive, and a steering committee of elected members from each province and territory. The Association is membership-based and linked to local, provincial, and national sustaining groups. It maintains a bilingual office in Ottawa with a staff of two. The CDCAA receives financial support from its membership fees, from donations, and project funding from the Women's Program, Secretary of State.

The CDCAA grew out of the resolutions adopted by the Second Canadian Conference on Day Care, held in September 1982 in Winnipeg. The seven hundred delegates from all provinces and territories called for an effective, united voice to pursue day care issues at the federal level and promote a broad consensus of support within all regions of Canada.

Since then, there has been strong support for the CDCAA and its proposals. A cross-section of our supporting and sustaining members includes:

**The Canadian Council on Children and Youth**  
**Elizabeth Fry Society**  
**Canadian Teachers' Federation**  
**Congress of Canadian Women**  
**Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women**  
**National Association of Women and the Law**  
**Health-Sharing, Inc.**  
**National Union of Provincial Government Employees**  
**Canadian Union of Public Employees**  
**Public Service Alliance of Canada**  
**British Columbia Day Care Action Coalition**  
**James Bay Child Care Society**  
**University of Alberta Academic Women's Association**  
**Action Child Care, Saskatoon**  
**Action Day Care**  
**R.A.S.G.M.F. Quebec**  
**Great Northern Apparel**  
**Manitoba Child Care Association**  
**Early Childhood Development Association of Prince  
Edward Island**  
**Pre-School Education Association of Nova Scotia**  
**Saskatoon Federation of Labour**  
**Manitoba Federation of Labour**

## COALITION BUILDING

The *Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association* is building a large and united coalition of groups and individuals across Canada. Local groups in the *Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association* represent a wide cross-section of Canadians. Groups range from:

The Kinette Club of Charlottetown to the Business and Professional Women's Club of Edmonton.....

From British Columbia Social Planning and Research, United Way to the Big Sisters Association of Saskatoon.....

From the British Columbia Task Force on Immigrant Women, to the Ottawa Newspaper Guild.....

to the IODE Provincial Chapter of Alberta.

## CANADIANS WORKING TOGETHER

Members of the CDCAA are working together to help create a comprehensive system of high quality child care services that are universally accessible and affordable for parents and children across Canada.

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## Fact Sheet #2

ACCESS

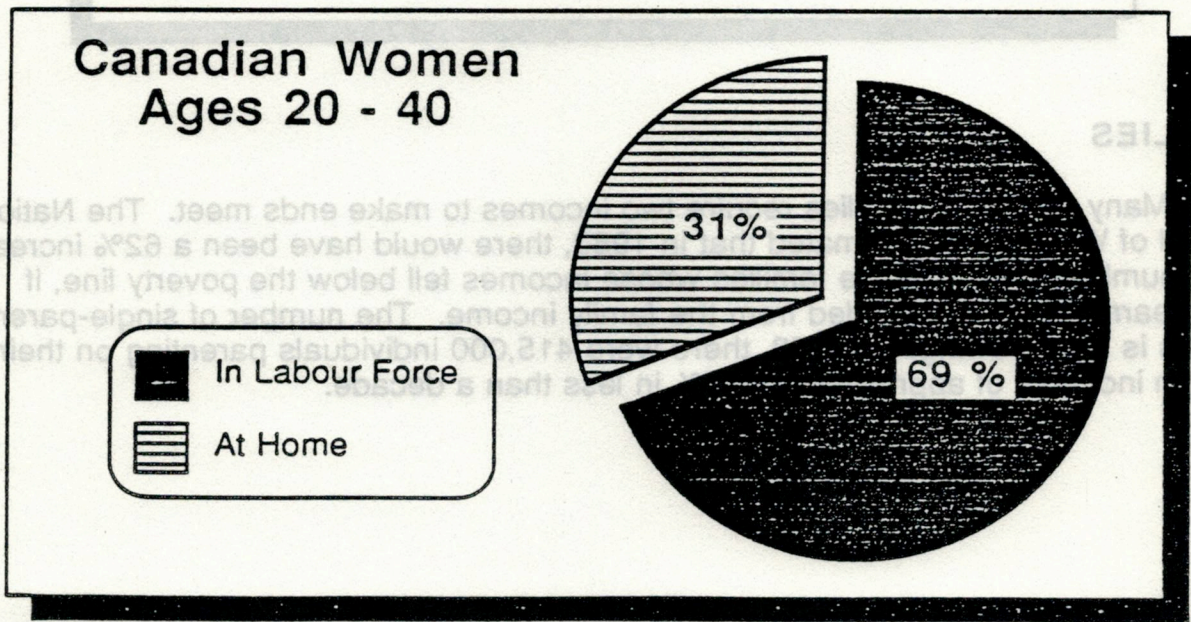
# CHILD CARE FACTS

In 1983, there were 985,000 children under 6 and 1,320,000 children aged 6-12 with mothers in the labour force. Yet in 1982, there were only 100,000 licensed group and family home care spaces in the whole country.

### WORKING WOMEN

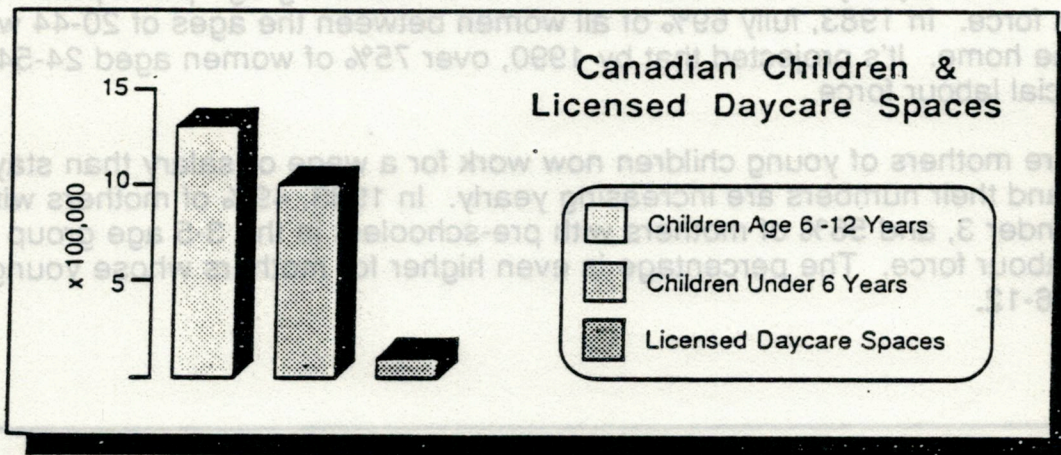
The vast majority of Canadian women of childbearing age participate in the paid work force. In 1983, fully 69% of all women between the ages of 20-44 worked outside the home. It's projected that by 1990, over 75% of women aged 24-54 will be in the official labour force.

More mothers of young children now work for a wage or salary than stay home full-time, and their numbers are increasing yearly. In 1983, 49% of mothers with children under 3, and 56% of mothers with pre-schoolers in the 3-5 age group were in the paid labour force. The percentage is even higher for mothers whose youngest child was 6-12.



## ACCESS

In 1983, there were 956,000 children under 6 and 1,320,000 children aged 6-12 with mothers in the labour force. Yet, in 1983, there were only 139,070 licensed group and family home care spaces in the whole country.

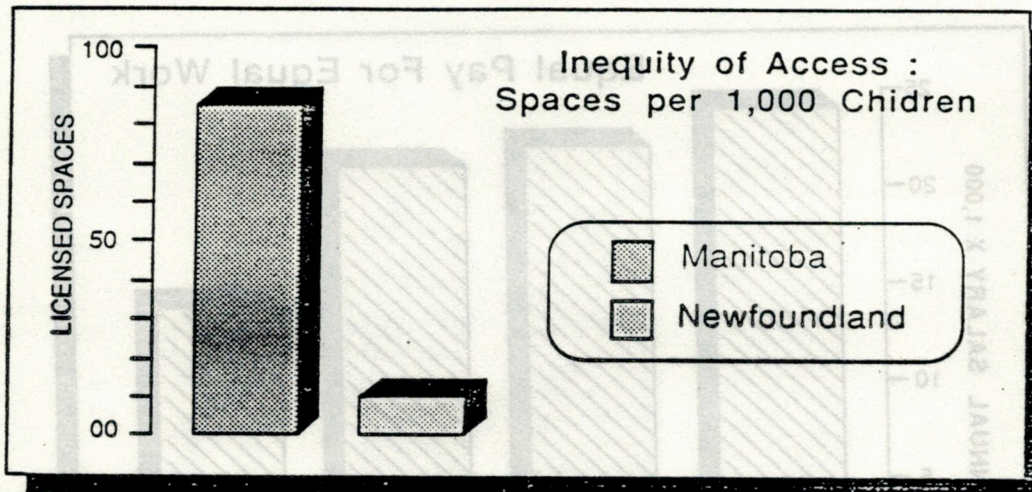


## FAMILIES

Many Canadian families require two incomes to make ends meet. The National Council of Welfare has estimated that in 1982, there would have been a 62% increase in the number of two-spouse families whose incomes fell below the poverty line, if wives' earnings were excluded from the family income. The number of single-parent families is also growing. In 1983, there were 415,000 individuals parenting on their own, an increase of approximately 35% in less than a decade.

## AVAILABILITY

Existing spaces are unevenly distributed. Licensed child care is simply not available in many rural locations. The number of spaces per 1,000 children under 6 varies from a low of 9 in Newfoundland to a high of 84 in Manitoba.



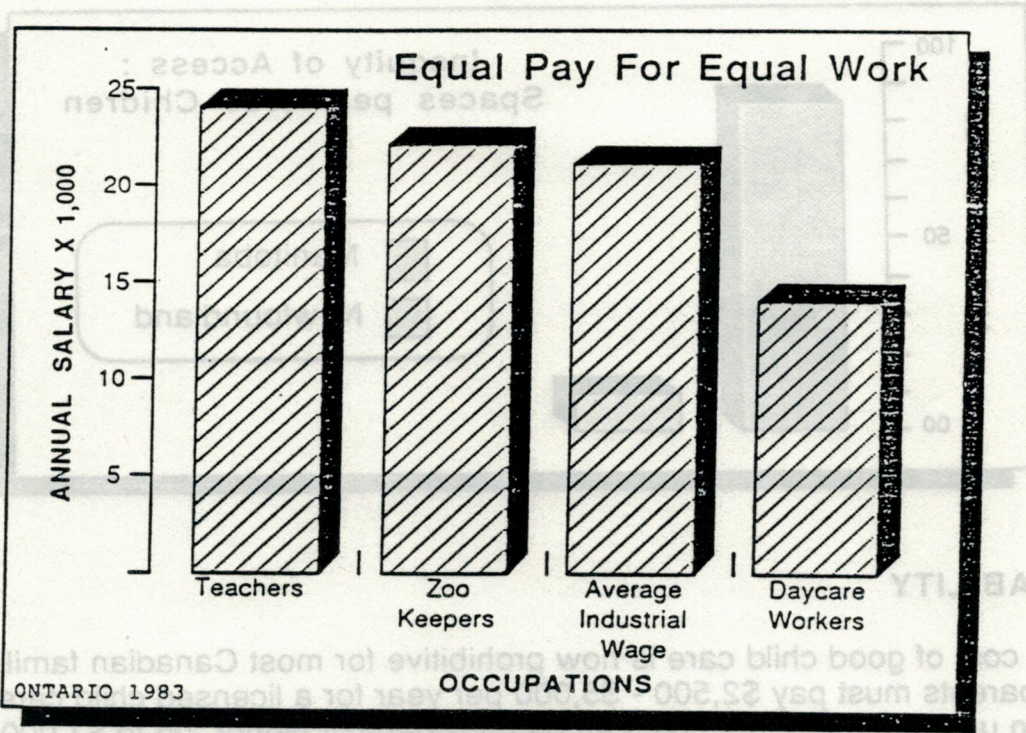
## AFFORDABILITY

The cost of good child care is now prohibitive for most Canadian families. Typically, parents must pay \$2,500 - \$5,000 per year for a licensed child care space. For children under 2 years, the cost can be considerably higher, up to \$7,000 per year.

AVAILABILITY

### CHILD CARE STAFF

Child care staff subsidize the real cost of child care by working hard for low salaries. Equally qualified professional workers in other fields earn substantially more.



## Fact Sheet #3

# FINANCING CHILD CARE IN CANADA: HOW THE PRESENT SYSTEM WORKS

Substantial public dollars will be needed if child care is to become widely available, universally accessible, and of high quality across Canada. The *Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association* believes that public dollars should be used to develop and support a system of child care services which can be used by all Canadian families who need them. Schemes for distributing child care dollars to individual families through the income tax system, or selectively paying the child care costs of low income families will not result in a high quality comprehensive child care system.

### Who Pays For Child Care In Canada?

Unless they are poor, parents are responsible for paying the costs of child care. Within this user fee system, low income families may have their child care costs paid for by government. Funds for these subsidies, however, are usually limited by the provinces. Canada has no federal child care policy or funding for a national system of child care.

Parent fees, subsidies for low income families, and some other funds from individual provinces make up the patchwork upon which child care services and Canadian families must rely. The nature of the funding has created a set of problems for which there is no solution under the existing arrangements.

### What Are The Problems?

#### UNAVAILABILITY

For many families, licensed child care services are not available.

#### UNAFFORDABILITY

Because of the high cost of child care, many families cannot use child care services even if they are available.

#### UNDERFUNDING

Because of unstable and patchwork funding for child care, it is hard to maintain high quality programs. Child



care staff subsidize the real cost of child care, by working hard for low salaries.

## INEQUITY

Varied policy, funding, and distribution of services across the country have created a situation where some Canadian families have access to child care services and some don't.

## Federal Dollars: Where do they go?

There are three ways the federal government helps pay the child care costs of individual families in Canada. None contribute to the development of a comprehensive child care system.

## Federal Dollars: The Canada Assistance Plan

The Canada Assistance Plan (\$75 million federal dollars in 1983) is cost-shared equally between the federal government and the provinces to contribute to child care costs for needy families. Although the federal government places no limit on its spending, all provinces limit funds for child care in a variety of ways.

## What is wrong with using CAP to pay child care costs?

- \* Only low income families can qualify for subsidies. Middle income families receive no federal assistance but in much of Canada, they cannot afford to pay for high quality child care. The need to keep fees affordable has kept programs unstable, and salaries for child care staff low.
- \* CAP is intended to provide welfare, not child care. CAP doesn't include principles nor encourage provinces to provide adequate funds to develop good, accessible programs.
- \* CAP perpetuates the notion that organized child care services are only intended for the needy.

## Federal Dollars: Child Care Expense Deduction

Child Care Expense Deductions totalled \$105 million in 1982. A maximum tax deduction of \$2,000 per child to a total of \$8,000 per family per year is allowed to the

parent with the lower income if both parents (in a two-parent family) are in the labour force.

### **What is wrong with using the tax system to help pay for child care?**

- \* Social Insurance Numbers and receipts are needed to claim a deduction. Most families who use unregulated care are not eligible because few unregulated caregivers claim this income and so do not give receipts.
- \* Tax deductions benefit high income more than middle or low income families. A family earning \$30,000 per year may have \$500 returned to them at tax time to cover \$4,000 annual child care costs. Most middle to low-income families can't afford to pay child care costs in advance.
- \* Using the tax system doesn't build a comprehensive child care system. Imagine if, instead of creating a system of medical services, Canada had chosen to encourage Canadians to find a neighbor to diagnose a sore throat, and claim the costs as a medical deduction at tax time!
- \* The tax exemption is a public expense, yet there is no way to ensure that it is spent on good child care.

### **Federal Dollars: Canada Employment and Immigration Commission**

The federal government also spends over \$11 million annually through CEIC grants for child care allowances for trainees. These grants increased in 1985.

### **What is wrong with using CEIC grants to pay child care?**

- \* These grants, given to single parents to enable them to leave welfare, are mostly used on unregulated care, with no assurance of quality.
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## Fact Sheet #4

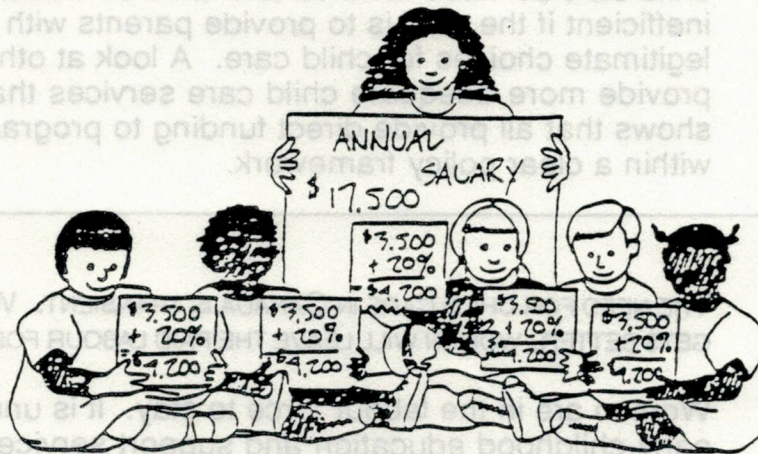
# CDCAA PROPOSES DIRECT GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR CHILD CARE

Child care in Canada is currently paid for by user fees with government subsidies available for some low income families, and some other funds from individual provinces. The patchwork and unstable funding which pays for child care in Canada has created a set of problems to which there is no solution under current funding arrangements. Dollars which directly support child care programs are needed.

There are several popular myths associated with child care in Canada.

**MYTH #1** CANADIAN FAMILIES ARE ABLE TO PAY THE FULL COST OF THEIR CHILD CARE UNLESS THEY ARE VERY POOR.

**NOT TRUE!** Good child care is expensive and middle-income families often can't afford the cost. The graphic shows why.



In Ontario, 1 staff person takes care of 5 toddlers. Each family pays 1/5 of the staff person's annual salary of \$17,500 so each family's fees will be \$3,500. An additional 20% for food, supplies, equipment, building maintenance, benefits and administration must be added to each family's fees, for a total annual cost of \$4,200 per child.

[Artwork courtesy Mary Ellen Irving]

Fact Sheet #4

CDCAA PROPOSES DIRECT GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR CHILD CARE

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**MYTH #2**

THERE IS A LARGE SUPPLY OF WOMEN WHO ARE EAGER TO TAKE CARE OF CHILDREN. THEREFORE, IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO PAY THEM VERY MUCH MONEY.

**NOT TRUE!**

As the proportion of women in the paid labour force increases, the number of women who are available to take care of children at home for "extra" income diminishes. At the same time, our knowledge about good child care has increased. We now know that if Canada is to provide good quality child care programs for its children, it is important to employ well-trained staff who have decent working conditions, and wages commensurate with other people who have equivalent education and experience.

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**MYTH #3**

IF CANADIAN FAMILIES WHO NEED CHILD CARE HAD MORE MONEY, 'THE MARKET' COULD CREATE CHILD CARE IN RESPONSE TO DEMAND. USING THE INCOME TAX SYSTEM IS A GOOD WAY TO MAKE SURE THAT FAMILIES HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY THEIR OWN CHILD CARE.

**NOT TRUE!**

There is no reason to expect that money returned to parents through the tax system would "trickle down" to provide the array of child care services families and children need. At best, it is inefficient if the goal is to provide parents with an array of legitimate choices for child care. A look at other countries which provide more adequate child care services than does Canada shows that all provide direct funding to programs for children within a clear policy framework.

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**MYTH #4**

THE NEED FOR CHILD CARE IN CANADA IS TRANSIENT. WHEN THE ECONOMY GETS BETTER, WOMEN WILL LEAVE THE PAID LABOUR FORCE AND RETURN HOME.

**NOT TRUE!**

Women are in the labour force to stay. It is unrealistic to think that early childhood education and support services can continue to be supported on an incidental and individual basis. Labour force participation rates for the mothers of young children continue to increase, even in times of high unemployment. Good, dependable child care is a basic essential need for working families like medical services or schools. A comprehensive child care system would also offer choice for parents not in the labour force full-time.

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## Fact Sheet #5

# A NATIONAL CHILD CARE POLICY: PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING THE CDCAA PROPOSAL

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<b>UNIVERSALITY</b>	All children should have access to high quality child care services regardless of family income or parent's employment status. Parents should determine the nature and extent of their children's participation.
<b>QUALITY</b>	To ensure high quality, child care services should be licensed and regulated, reflecting the best current knowledge about early childhood development as well as the varied cultural and linguistic backgrounds of Canadian families.
<b>AFFORDABILITY</b>	Cost should not be a barrier to access for any family. User fees should diminish over a realistic time frame, with a small parent fee to remain. Assistance with this fee should be provided to low-income families.
<b>PARENTAL ROLE</b>	Parents should have an active, significant role in determining the child care environment. Child care services should be governed by elected committees composed of at least 51% parent-users.
<b>PROVIDER DIRECTION</b>	Those involved in the provision and delivery of child care services should be involved in the decision-making process.
<b>SPONSORSHIP</b>	In order that public funds be used to maximum advantage, child care services should be non-profit operations.
<b>WORKING CONDITIONS</b>	Child care staff should receive salaries and benefits commensurate with the value of their work and educational qualifications.

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## WHY IS DIRECT FUNDING FOR CHILD CARE SERVICES NEEDED?

**BECAUSE** Direct funding will allow the development of high quality programs with stable funding.

**BECAUSE** Direct funding will allow children from across the social and economic spectrum to have access to a range of child care services. Equality of access for children would no longer be attached to their families' ability to pay or meet social or financial criteria.

**BECAUSE** Direct funding will allow the people who provide child care to earn adequate wages.

**BECAUSE** Direct funding will allow a comprehensive system of child care services to develop, so that families with a variety of child care needs have access to the programs they require.

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PARENTAL ROLE

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SPONSORSHIP

Child care staff should receive salaries and benefits commensurate with the value of their work and educational qualifications.

WORKING CONDITIONS

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## CDCAA ADVOCATES A COMPREHENSIVE CHILD CARE SYSTEM

The *Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association* believes that all parents may need support in their child-rearing responsibilities. Child care services should include sufficient program options to accommodate a population with a wide range of child care needs in a geographically diverse country.

**COMPREHENSIVE CHILD CARE SERVICES** include:

### CORE SERVICES

#### **Full and part-time group programs**

for children aged 0-6 years. Full and part-time programs for pre-schoolers call for trained staff who are paid good salaries, proper facilities, and programs designed to meet the needs of children, including those with special needs. Parents would then have access to both full and part-time care and could decide which best meets their families' need.

#### **Group programs for school-aged children**

for children aged 6-12, outside of regular school hours (before and after school, lunch time, school breaks and holidays). School-aged children need high quality program opportunities, with program content specially developed to meet the needs of that age group. Such programs would use the facilities and resources of the community to maximize the programming potential for school-aged children.

#### **Supervised family home care**

for children aged 0-12. Families who prefer care in a home would have access to supervised and regulated arrangements with well-developed support systems. Supervised providers would be employees of organizations which provide training and support services and receive good wages and benefits. People who are now providing unregulated child care would be able to become supervised home care providers. Although it would not be required that all people providing child care in homes become supervised providers, all parents would have access to supervised care.

## SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES

### Resource and support services

would assist parents and other people taking care of children at home.

Education, drop-ins, and information as well as emergency and occasional child care would be provided as supplementary child care services.

## THE ROLE OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Local communities would develop a mix of services to meet their unique needs. Both the type of services and the method of delivering them may vary across the country, with different models developed in the North, in rural areas and in urban centres.

Advocates have proposed a variety of delivery models which could serve to establish a comprehensive system of child care. A popular model for urban centres, and one which could be adapted to rural settings is the neighborhood hub model, a multi-service community resource centre offering group programs, drop-ins, and support services, as well as training and a group experience for home care providers and parents at home.

In all cases, however, a comprehensive system would include regulated services for families needing full-time care, and support services for those caring for children at home. These services would be offered in a co-ordinated way, making them accessible to parents and children.

## CHOICE

The comprehensive child care system proposed by the Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association features a coordinated range of services, planned to meet different needs, and to respond to the diverse cultures and communities across Canada. The hallmark of a comprehensive system is choice.

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## Fact Sheet #7

# CDCAA PROPOSES A CHILD CARE FINANCING ACT

The CDCAA proposes an Act which would provide the framework and funding for the development of a comprehensive, non-profit, high quality child care system in Canada. It is based on federal initiatives leading to federal-provincial cost-sharing, in an evolution from the present user fee services to a publicly-funded system.

Here is a summary of the components of the proposed Child Care Financing Act:

### PROGRAM CRITERIA

In order to qualify for federal funds for child care services which will be provided under provincial law, provinces must satisfy the following criteria:

#### Child Care Service Components:

A range of program options must be provided to meet the needs of families and local communities. These options include: full and part-time group programs for children 0-6 years; group programs for school-aged children outside of regular school hours; supervised family day care for children 0-12 years; supplementary services, including resource centres for parents, emergency relief, sick child care and toy lending libraries. Integrated services for children with special needs will be included.

#### Administration:

Child care services must be administered and operated on a non-profit basis by provincial or municipal governments or by approved groups like parent co-operatives or community organizations. In order to ensure financial accountability, efficiency and high quality services, each province or territory must establish the necessary co-ordinated procedures to administer and monitor child care services. Mechanisms must be developed in each province or territory to ensure parent control and accountability to families, communities and society.

**Program Quality:**

Responsibility for the provision and regulation of child care services rests with provincial and territorial governments. Minimum standards must be established, consistent with the best available knowledge about early childhood development and learning.

**Availability:**

Each province or territory must develop a plan which will provide that, within ten years, a range of child care services are available to families who wish to use them.

**Affordability:**

Within ten years, each province or territory must fund a system of child care services which will meet the principles and criteria outlined in this Act. Fifty percent of the costs will be paid by the federal government. For poorer provinces, the federal government may contribute over 50%. The development of the funding of these services will be in three phases:

**Phase 1:**

Direct funding of child care services will be initiated through the introduction of operational grants paid by the federal government through the provinces to not-for-profit programs. Operational grants will be available to for-profit programs as well (excluding commercial chains) for a period of three years so that they have an opportunity to modify their status to non-profit. Existing funding through the Canada Assistance Plan will be retained for families who are eligible under current agreements.

**Phase 2:**

Provinces and territories will match federal operational grants. Direct funding will increase incrementally through Phase 2. Existing funding through the Canada Assistance Plan will be retained under current agreements.

**Phase 3:**

At the end of the ten year period, provinces and territories will equally share the costs of providing child care services with the federal government. Fees to parents will be no more than 15% of the total cost; financial assistance will be available to all families who are unable to pay these fees.

## Fact Sheet #8

# FEDERAL LEADERSHIP IS NECESSARY

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Until recently, all discussion of child care initiatives at the federal level was met by the argument that daycare was a provincial responsibility.

Times have changed!

Today, it is clear that federal leadership on child care is constitutionally possible, responsible, and necessary. In establishing two task forces in 1984 to look at child care, the federal government has acknowledged a need for new Canada-wide initiatives.

### FEDERAL LEADERSHIP IS:

#### Possible

Under the Canadian constitution, the provinces have the authority to regulate child care. The *Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association* does not propose any change in this provincial responsibility. The federal government, however, can establish principles for the provision of child care services and arrange to share the costs with the provinces, as it does with health care and post-secondary education. These precedents point the way for child care.

#### Responsible

When a majority of families across the country face the same great need, the government of Canada has a responsibility to act. The federal government is now subsidizing high-income families through the Child Care Expense Deduction, and low-income families through the Canada Assistance Plan. Since the Child Care Expense Deduction was increased to \$2,000 per child in 1983, the federal tax expenditure, mostly to more affluent families, has increased to over \$100 million for 1983-84. Federal subsidies for child care for the poor totalled only \$75 million.

#### Necessary

Federalism is intended to provide Canadians with some measure of equity and portability of essential services. There are great disparities across Canada in the availability of licensed child care, the size of the user fee, the provision of subsidy, and the quality of service available. For those 400,000-plus Canadians who move inter-provincially each year, there is little portability of service. Provincial initiatives alone cannot equalize child care across Canada. Federal initiatives are needed.

Clearly, both **FEDERAL INITIATIVES**, and **FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COOPERATION** will be necessary for the development of a comprehensive child care system.

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**CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCES FUND**

A Child Care Development and Resources Fund will be established to create facilities to ensure the availability of child care services. A total of \$25 per capita will be allocated by the federal government over the ten year period.

Times have changed!

**CHILD CARE RESEARCH, EVALUATION, AND PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND**

A Child Care Research, Evaluation and Public Education Fund will be established to fund investigation into issues relating to the provision and implementation of child care services, and to provide public education. A total of \$5 per capita will be allocated by the federal government over the ten year period.

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Association does not propose any change in this provincial responsibility. The federal government, however, can establish principles for the provision of child care services and arrange to share the costs with the provinces, as it does with health care and post-secondary education. These precedents point the way for child care. When a majority of families across the country face the same great need, the government of Canada has a responsibility to act. The federal government is now subsidizing high-income families through the Child Care Expense Deduction, and low-income families through the Canada Assistance Plan. Since the Child Care Expense Deduction was increased to \$2,000 per child in 1983, the federal tax expenditure, mostly to more affluent families, has increased to over \$100 million for 1983-84. Federal subsidies for child care for the poor totalled only \$75 million. Federalism is intended to provide Canadians with some measure of equity and portability of essential services. There are great disparities across Canada in the availability of licensed child care, the size of the user fee, the provision of subsidy, and the quality of service available. For those 400,000-plus Canadians who move inter-provincially each year, there is little portability of service. Provincial initiatives alone cannot equalize child care across Canada. Federal initiatives are needed. Necessary

Clearly, both **FEDERAL INITIATIVES** and **FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COOPERATION** will be necessary for the development of a comprehensive child care system.

## Fact Sheet #9

# MORE CHILD CARE MEANS MORE JOBS

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High unemployment remains one of Canada's most serious problems. Hundreds of thousands of young people are unable to find work yet hundreds of thousands of Canadian parents are forced to resort to makeshift child care arrangements. High quality licensed programs are simply not available. A universally accessible child care system will help reduce Canada's unemployment.

Building a comprehensive child care system will involve significant planned expansion of the human service sector. Creating permanent, socially useful jobs in child care programs with an average ratio of one teacher to six children, will add over 16,667 new jobs for every 100,000 new daycare spaces. Those caring for children in a comprehensive system of high quality child care services would be well-trained professional employees earning fair and appropriate salaries, and contributing to the economy.

In addition to employment opportunities for child care staff, new jobs will be created in the construction industry to renovate and build new child care facilities. Expansion will also occur in those sectors which supply and service child care. From an employment planning perspective, the creation of new publicly-funded child care programs makes a lot of sense!

As technological development reduces the demand for employment in traditional industries, the human service sector can create meaningful new employment. And new jobs in child care will not only fight unemployment but will contribute to the nurturing and healthy development of the next generation!

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## Fact Sheet #10

# ORGANIZING FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY TASK FORCE

The report of the Parliamentary Task Force will have long-lasting consequences for Canadian families. It will have the power and influence to begin the process of building an equitable, high quality system of child care services.

If the response of those of us who care about high quality services for children is not strong and clear, this Task Force could make recommendations we will regret for years to come.

Communities, groups, and individuals across Canada must be organized and active to take advantage of this opportunity. Begin planning now to make your views known to the Parliamentary Task Force.

Here are some planning suggestions:

### WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Whatever your personal resources, or those of your group, plan to make a written submission. It can be anything from a one-page personal statement to a longer brief from a group. You decide the length and format that suits you or your group best.

Personal letters are very powerful. This Task Force must be made aware of individual experiences and child care needs.

*The Task Force on Child Care, chaired by Dr. Katie Cooke received 7,000 letters in response to their invitation in the September 1984 Family Allowance Cheque! We hear they were mostly positive, even passionate, letters. Those letters count.*

Briefs should come from a wide variety of groups and organizations, child care associations, community groups, professional associations, women's groups, labour and churches.

*Describe the local experience with child care: the strengths and problems with your services.*

*Remember, these Task Force members will be federal politicians who will initially know very little about child care; they need to hear about the reality.*

*It is vitally important to propose solutions for them.*

These CDCAA fact sheets, and the outline of our proposed Child Care Financing Act are offered to help your group begin work on your brief. We hope you will discuss our proposal and make your support of it a major part of your submission.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

We have been assured that there will be public hearings in every province and territory. Groups should plan to turn out in force for these public forums.

**Plan your own public hearing:** If the Task Force is including only one hearing in your province, organize your own in other centres, and invite the Task Force to attend.

**Plan a workshop meeting:** before your presentation to practice, with your own group, or with others in your area. Be sure you cover all the issues!

**Bring along your supporters:** Numbers do count! Even if only one or two people from your group make a presentation, see that you provide an enthusiastic audience for them.

**Use the press:** Send copies of your submission to local reporters whom you know are sympathetic; send letters to the editor; call your local radio station and suggest a phone-in on child care when the Parliamentary Task Force is in town. Appoint one person in your group to be responsible for press coverage. And save local clippings!

## **KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE CDCAA**

To be effective at the national level, we need to keep on top of what is happening across the country. Please send us copies of your letters and briefs, press clippings, and word about the hearings in your province, and other information.

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