

WHAT YOU CAN DO

JOIN THE ONTARIO COALITION FOR BETTER DAY CARE!

We need your voice and your support. The more of us there are, the stronger we will be. In return, we offer you:

The Ontario Coalition for Better Day Care Newsletter which includes reports of local group activities, new developments in policy at the municipal, provincial and federal levels, and general articles.

An opportunity to meet and work with other Ontario residents who share your interests and concerns regarding child care in Ontario.

Support and advice to parents, child care staff and supporters trying to establish and improve child care in Ontario.

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Provincial Organizations

Under 20 members	\$20.00
21-50 members	30.00
51-200 members	50.00
201-1000 members	100.00
1001-5000 members	250.00
Over 10,000 members	350.00

Local Day Care Coalition Groups:

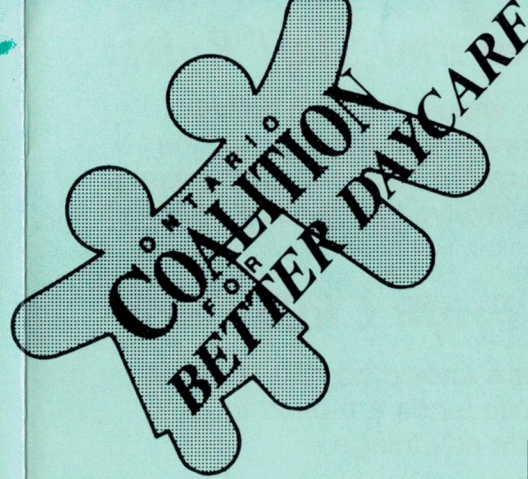
\$20.00

Individuals:

\$10.00

Local Organizations:

\$20.00



I/We agree with the principles of the Ontario Coalition for Better Day Care and wish to join.

I/We enclose the fee of \$ _____
I/We enclose a donation of \$ _____

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____



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WHO ARE WE?

We are provincial organizations, provincial sections of national organizations, local day care advocacy groups, parents, day care centres, trade union locals and women's organizations. We believe that modern families need a variety of child care supports to allow them to fulfill modern obligations, including raising children and participating in the labour force. Ontario requires a comprehensive, universally-accessible child care system with a massive increase in public funding.

The Coalition lobbies the provincial and federal governments for improvements in the child care system. We prepare briefs to government, co-ordinate the activities of local coalitions, organize meetings, rallies and demonstrations.

WHAT DOES THE COALITION STAND FOR?

OUR PRINCIPLES:

Universally Accessible Child Care:

All children should have access to child care services regardless of family income or parent's employment status. Parents should determine the nature and extent of their children's participation.

High Quality:

Child care should be of high quality. 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

Parent and Staff Roles:

Parents should have an active significant role in determining the child care environment. Staff should also be involved in decision-making.

Non Profit Child Care:

Child care should be non-profit so that public funds are used to maximum advantage.

Working Conditions:

Child care should offer appropriate wages and working conditions. Child care employees should receive salaries and benefits commensurate with the value of their work and educational qualifications.

Equal Opportunities:

Child care should offer equality of opportunity. In order to ensure equal opportunities for all, child care services should be operated in a manner free from bias with regard to race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.

WHAT KIND OF CHILD CARE SYSTEM DO WE WANT?

The Coalition believes that a wide range of service options is needed to assist families in their childcare responsibilities including full day group day care, half day nursery school programs, regulated family day care, parent and child drop-in programs, opportunities for parent education, toy lending services, training and advice. A Family Resource Centre or Neighbourhood Hub Model, incorporating appropriate services in each neighbourhood, could centralize social, educational and health resources efficiently and comprehensively. Specific necessities for such a system would revolve around the particular needs of staff and parents.

Good working conditions and pay are required to attract and retain qualified and committed staff. To support parents who wish to stay at home during child rearing, extended maternity leave and parental leave should be legislated.

HOW DOES THE COALITION WORK?

The Coalition is a membership organization headed by a Council. Every member local coalition and province-wide organization may appoint a representative to the Coalition Council which meets three times a year. A proportion of the Council members are individuals elected at the Ontario Coalition for Better Day Care Annual Conference. An Executive Committee which meets at least 10 times a year is chosen by the Council to carry out the activities of the Coalition between Council meetings. Any member of the Coalition is welcome to attend the Council or Executive meetings.