



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Affordable Child Care Better Positions Families to Participate in the Workforce and Stimulate Economy

Financing Funds Directly to Child Care Will Do More for Parents' Participation in the Workforce than a Boost to the Canada Child Benefit

The Canadian Child Care Federation (CCCF) and its affiliates from across Canada have welcomed the recent leadership in starting to bring the multi-lateral framework to realization, placing early learning and child care rightfully back into the federal government's policy and budgetary commitments.

Today's announcement by Finance Minister Morneau to increase the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) is touted as a means to stimulate the economy through growth in labour-force participation due to the payments to parents, which, as quoted by Stephen Poloz, Governor of the Bank of Canada, "encouraged stay-at-home parents to re-enter the workforce because the financial supports could help pay for child care." However, if this government's financial policy really seeks to encourage stay-at-home parents to re-enter the workforce, it must fund child care itself, making it accessible, of high quality and affordable to parents. As Pierre Fortin's research has shown in Quebec, funds to child care directly will much better position Canadian families to participate fully in the work force and hence stimulate the economy.

The CCCF expects federal leadership to create the necessary inter-related policies, programs and outcomes for children and families across Canada. Infrastructure support for national leadership and capacity building of the child care sector, long ignored, needs to be a part of the federal government's financial commitments to child care in Canada.

Establishing child care delivery priorities will ultimately create a comprehensive child care system rather than one-off solutions, for all Canadians.

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