

Date _____

Honourable Gordon Campbell, Premier
Honourable Linda Reid, Minister of State for Child Care
c/o Rm 156, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Premier Campbell and Minister Reid,

The economic success of our organization depends a great deal on the stability and wellbeing of our employees.

Working families with children who require child care – need reliable child care services. Parents’ ability to work and our organization’s ability to function efficiently is put at risk when child care services are jeopardized.

These cutbacks threaten the ability of parents and child care workers to maintain the tax-paying jobs that support our families and our province. The cuts harm our families, communities and commerce.

Bottom line, your decision to single out child care services for funding cuts makes no sense.

It is puzzling as to why you would make these cuts against the best advice of your own Finance Committee, which recently urged you to increase government support for quality child care.

It appears that BC can certainly afford to fund a quality child care system, based on your government’s predictions that our province will see over \$5-billion in budget surpluses over the next three years.

Governments of developed countries around the world have recognized the importance of building strong early learning and child care systems. The economic and social returns are repeatedly proven to be greater than the investment.

But this is more than a dollars-and-cents issue. This is about supporting children and families so they can lead productive, rewarding lives. It’s about quality of life, and work/life balance. It’s about making our communities sustainable.

I urge you to immediately restore and maintain Child Care Operating Funds, and continue full funding to the Child Care Resource and Referral Program.

Also, I urge government to commit new money to build a strong, affordable and accessible quality child care system that serves every BC family who needs services.

Additional comments:

Sincerely,

Signature

Title

Printed name

Organization

Address & postal code