

# Child Care Advocacy Forum

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## Participating Organizations:

BC Association of  
Child Care Employers

Coalition of Child Care  
Advocates of BC

Early Childhood  
Educators of BC

School Age Child Care  
Association of BC

Westcoast Child Care  
Resource Centre

Western Canada Family  
Child Care Association  
of BC

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## May is Child Care Month This Year – Let's ACT!

May is Child Care Month – a time to proudly affirm that quality child care:

- Supports children and families
- Builds community
- Promotes inclusion
- Is delivered by dedicated and skilled caregivers.

Child Care Month is a time to affirm that when communities have adequate public support and funding – we can and will get the job done.

This year – much is on the line. Child care values – values of sharing, equality, respect and collective responsibility – are under attack.

Federal funds that communities looked to for building a quality, affordable child care system are being withdrawn. A campaign to undermine public confidence in community-based child care by labeling it 'institutional' care is in full gear. The promise of income support for all families is disappearing as Canadians learn that affluent, single income families will benefit the most from the new allowance.

For over 20 years, Child Care Month has been a time to educate, celebrate and advocate. **This year, it's time to act.** Here's what you can do:

### 1. Rally in Victoria on May 16

Join caregivers, parents and community members on **Wednesday May 16 from 1-2pm on the grounds of the Provincial Legislature** for a family friendly child care rally. (Check [www.cccabc.bc.ca/forum](http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/forum) for more details and for information on travel from Vancouver to Victoria for the rally.)

### 2. Plan your own Child Care Rally

If you can't get to Victoria, plan a rally or event in your community. Involve parents, profile quality child care, and call on our governments to develop a child care plan and commit the resources to make it happen.

### 3. Sock it to 'em!

Involve families in the Parent Voices campaign to let Premier Campbell and Prime Minister Harper know that parents expect them to honour the day care deal signed last year. Information, paper socks and other campaign materials are at [www.cccabc.bc.ca/act/sockit/](http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/act/sockit/).

### 4. Code Blue for Child Care

Keep building the pan-Canadian campaign to protect the federal-provincial child care agreement. Info and actions are at [www.buildchildcare.ca](http://www.buildchildcare.ca).

For Child Care Month this year – think and act outside the box. Have fun and be strong.

Remember – we speak for the majority of Canadians who truly understand that it takes a village to raise a child. Now – let's make sure that the village has the resources it needs to do the job.

Happy Child Care Month!