

Child Care Advocacy Forum

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Participating Organizations:

BC Association of
Child Care Services

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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Status of Women Canada
- BC/Yukon Region
through Coalition of Child
Care Advocates of BC



VANCOUVER
FOUNDATION

BC WORKS IF CHILD CARE WORKS Provincial Election 2005

Fact Sheet #4 - What YOU Can Do

On May 17, British Columbians go to the polls to elect a new provincial government. Here's what YOU can do about child care during the campaign:

Get Out an Informed Child Care Vote

Everyone who understands the importance of child care for our children, families and communities needs to **get out to vote on May 17**. YOU can:

- ✓ Make sure that parents, co-workers and friends are registered to vote.
For information see: Elections BC at www.elections.bc.ca or download, copy and distribute the BC Parent Voices voter information at www.cccabc.bc.ca/act/bcvotes/BCPV_voting2.pdf.
- ✓ Make a personal commitment to take 5 people who care about child care, but don't usually vote, to the polls on May 17.

Make Child Care An Issue in Your Riding

Every candidate needs to know that your vote, and the vote of others, depends on their party's child care record and platform. YOU can:

- ✓ Copy and distribute information on child care from the Advocacy Forum and others by following the links at www.cccabc.bc.ca/forum/articles.html
- ✓ Display a Child Care Window Sign and encourage others to do so. Choose your favorites at www.cccabc.bc.ca/act/bcvotes/bcpv_windowsigns.html
- ✓ Ask your candidates where their party stands on child care when they knock on your door or call on the phone. If they don't contact you, make an appointment to see them or write/fax them asking for a written response.
- ✓ Write letters to the editor and call talk shows to feature local child care issues.

Secure A Commitment to A Publicly Funded Child Care System

After 4 years of devastating cuts to provincial funding of child care, it's time that voters and candidates heard some solutions. YOU can attend All Candidates' meetings and ask:

- Will your party restore provincial child care funding cuts and, if so, by how much?
(The 'right answer' is YES. Restoring provincial funding to 2001 levels will require reinvesting \$40 million that the province cut from its own child care funding.)
- How will your party use federal transfer funds for quality, publicly funded child care?
(The 'right answer is that a fair share of existing transfer funds and ALL of the new, promised federal funds will be used to help build a publicly funded child care system.)
- What is your party's plan to build a publicly funded child care system in BC?
(The 'right' answer includes elements of the Advocacy Forum's 7- point Agenda for Child Care in our Election Fact Sheet #1 at www.cccabc.bc.ca/forum/pdf/forum_facsheet1.pdf or our Common Vision and Agenda at www.cccabc.bc.ca/forum)

**Let's use the election campaign to hold the
politicians accountable on child care!**