

# AN URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE CHILD CARE ADVOCACY FORUM

Before, January 31, 2000  
tell Minister Ramsey you want him to  
**SPEND MORE MONEY ON CHILD CARE**

Over the last few months, thousands of British Columbians have told the provincial government that we expect action on child care now. We have told Minister Sihota that we need a significant increase in provincial spending on child care in the next provincial budget. **But, our work is not over yet.**

In November, 1999, B.C.'s Minister of Finance, Paul Ramsey, released a consultation paper about the next provincial budget - "BUDGET 2000: Choices and Challenges". Ramsey is asking for **input on how the government should manage our tax dollars.**

Our response to Minister Ramsey is simple and clear -  
**SPEND MORE MONEY ON CHILD CARE**

Once again, time lines are tight and responses have to be in by January 31, 2000. Lets keep up the pressure and ensure that Minister Ramsey hears from the more than 75% of British Columbians who want the provincial and federal governments to give a high priority to public funding for quality child care services in their next budgets.

You can send the message in 3 easy ways:

1. **Phone** the Ministry of Finance's Toll Free Pre-Budget Consultation Line at **1-800-631-7897** and tell the operators you want the province to **spend more money on child care.**
2. **Respond on line**, at the Ministry of Finance web site at **www.fin.gov.bc.ca**. Select "Budget 2000: Choices and Challenges (pdf)" from the menu. At the end of the document, click on "Electronic Form". Once the Form is on your screen, find "Program Spending" and in the COMMENTS section type the message - **Spend more money on child care.**
3. **Sign** the attached Response Form, (it has our message "**Spend more money on child care**" already written in) and **FAX** it to Minister Ramsey at **(250) 356-2822.**  
(Make copies of the Form before you sign it - and pass it on to others)

**Share this message with colleagues, parents  
and friends. Encourage them to  
RESPOND TO RAMSEY!**