

# 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

Westcoast Child Care  
Resource Centre

Western Canada Family  
Child Care Association  
of BC

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Years First



first|years|first



## Provincial Election 2001

Child Care Days of Action  
May 7 & May 8, 2001

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Well, the provincial election is off and running, but child care is not yet receiving the attention it deserves. We all need to take **ACTION** to ensure that every candidate understands the importance of child care for their constituents.

The Advocacy Forum is declaring **May 7** and **May 8** provincial **Child Care Days of Action**. **Use these days to raise the profile of child care in your community.**

Here are some suggestions:

- **Visit local candidate's Campaign Offices.** Take a small group, make some I VOTE CHILD CARE signs and let the media know your plans. At campaign offices, ask the candidate to sign our Candidate's Commitment (attached).
- **Walk around the Block for Child Care.** This is a great event to do with children. Take signs, sing songs. Do it at the end of the day so that parents can join in. Let the media know ahead of time - it will be a great visual.
- **Invite candidates to make a 'child care stop' at your program** during their campaign. They will bring the media. Be ready to talk about child care needs in your community. Ask candidates to sign the Candidates' Commitment.
- **Blitz candidates with Letters from Voters.** Collect signatures on the Letter from a Voter (attached). By now, we are all experts at this! Deliver them by hand or FAX them en masse to candidates on May 7 & 8.
- **Organize a phone blitz to candidate's campaign offices.** Imagine the impact of tens of calls asking candidates about their position on child care.
- **Attend election events in your riding.** Take a child care contingent to local election events in your riding on May 7 & 8. Make signs, be visible!
- **Order and distribute our I VOTE CHILD CARE buttons** (order form attached)
- At very least, send a press release to the local media about the importance of child care in your community.

For party platforms and candidate contact information and political parties' websites -  
[www.bcliberals.com](http://www.bcliberals.com)      [www.bc.ndp.ca](http://www.bc.ndp.ca)      [www.greenparty.bc.ca](http://www.greenparty.bc.ca)

Remember - May is Child Care Month and it couldn't come at a more important time. Let's make sure that every person who is elected to the Legislature is committed to moving forward on child care!