

# 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

## Funding and Support provided by:

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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/forum/pdf/forum_facsheet1.pdf) or our Common Vision and Agenda at [www.cccabc.bc.ca/forum](http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/forum))

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