



## **Making sure child care is an election issue Talking to the candidates in your constituency**

### **You can:**

- Call candidates on the phone, make an appointment to see them (go on your own or with others). Ask questions, speak about your concerns.
- Ask a candidate who comes “door knocking” to your home or calls on the phone about their party’s position on the important questions.
- Write/fax your candidates and request a written reply.
- Attend an all candidates meeting, and ask each candidate a short, clear and concise “child care” question.
- Write letters to the editor, call talk shows; feature child care issues and solutions.

Be sure you know where the political parties stand on child care!

### **Sample questions for the candidates and political parties:**

- How will your government ensure that federal dollars will be used in such a way that creates a real system of not-for-profit child care in BC that is affordable, high quality, and accessible to all families?  
(Source: 52% Coalition)
  - What is your plan for delivering a full range of early childhood development services and supports, including child care and early intervention for young children and their families?
  - What level of provincial funds will you designate to your plan?
  - Will you commit to using federal early childhood development dollars to enhance supports and services rather than replace provincial cuts?  
(Source: First Call – Child and Youth Issues in BC: An Election Advocacy Tool  
<http://www.firstcallbc.org/whatsnew/2005%20Provincial-final.pdf>)
  - Do you believe in a publicly funded, universal, high quality, inclusive, not-for-profit child care system for Canada’s children from birth to twelve years old?  
  
AND if YES,
  - What provincial and federal funds will you and your party commit to spending on building a child care system?
-