

## Canada **STILL** Needs Child Care

Another federal election is underway and Canadians are **still** putting child care on the front burner. Here's why:

- Despite repeated election promises, Canada **still** does not have a child care system.
- Despite Stephen Harper's claim that he spent more than ever before, Canada **still** spends less on early childhood education and care services than 13 other developed countries, including the USA.
- Despite Harper's so-called Universal Child Care Benefit, Canadian families **still** can't find or afford quality child care.
- Despite Harper's promise of more spaces, Canadian children **still** have less access to early childhood education and care services than those in 19 other countries.

It's clear. Harper's policies have failed Canada's children, families and communities. He has failed those who provide child care and he has failed workers and employers who rely on child care to make our economy work.

Now – Canadians need to elect a government that understands what's at stake and is ready to make high quality, affordable child care a reality for every Canadian child and family who want or need it. Here's what it will take:

1. A political commitment to move from a patchwork to a child care system.
2. Increased federal funding, starting with \$1.2 billion more in the first year, to develop and deliver child care services.
3. Legislation to ensure that the funds are used to build a non-profit child care system, recognizing that Quebec has already invested in its own system.

Most Canadians agree that action on child care is a no-brainer. But the politicians need to hear it from ordinary Canadians like **you**.

From now until Oct. 14, make your voice heard. Here are some simple ways to start.

- Call a local radio talk show
- Write a Letter to the Editor
- Phone your local candidates
- Post a comment, picture or video to <http://www.cbc.ca/news/feedback/?NewsTip>, or <http://mynews.ctv.ca/loginElection?siteT=election>
- Send this message to your Facebook Groups.

**Tell them that Harper's policies have failed. Tell them that Canada STILL needs child care. Tell them there are solutions.**

**And – on October 14 get out and VOTE CHILD CARE!**

Stay tuned for more ways to get your voices heard.

authorized by:

**CODE BLUE** for child care

