

Dear Friends,

As we approach a Provincial election the Coalition has much work to do to shape the future of early learning and care in Ontario.

With the announcement of 100,000 new child care spaces over the next 5 years, this will mean 2 out of 5 children will have access to licensed, regulated child care. It also means an increase of 20,000 new educators needed to provide that care.

Over the last 3 years the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care (OCBCC) was able to build momentum to shape our child care system with the assistance of grant money. That funding has come to an end.

While we wait to hear if we will receive new grant funding in March 2018 time is passing for us to ramp up our actions during six months leading to the provincial election in June 2018. We believe Ontario should move from a child care patchwork to a real system. Specifically, we need government action on three transformative ideas:

- **1 Affordable fees for parents.** We should replace individual fee subsidies with a more modern approach. Ontario should base fund child care programs and set an affordable, geared to income, sliding fee scale.
- 2 Decent work for educators. To hire and keep the best staff we need Ontario to make fair wages and good working conditions a priority. Funding programs based on fair wages for educators will help us build good, stable programs for our children.
- **3 Limit for-profit child care.** We need every child care dollar going to our kids, not to profits. Ontario should ensure that none of the new 100,000 child care spaces be is licensed in profit-making operations.

In order to carry out this work your help is needed and every little bit helps. Donations can be sent to:

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care 489 College Street, Suite 206 Toronto, ON M6G 1A5

We thank you in advance for your consideration and we encourage you to get involved in our campaign to build a robust child care system in our province for children and families.

Carrie Lynn Poole-Cotnam

apotnam

Treasurer, Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care