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To Our Fellow Early Childhood Educators,

In 2010 *many of you* attended a Briefing Session on the *Emerging Plan for an Integrated System of Early Care and Learning in BC*. *Others were able to view the plan on-line, or take part in our first 'webinar' broadcast*. After hearing about the Emerging Plan, *an overwhelming majority of you* indicated that you were excited by the Plan`s potential and wanted to stay connected with its development.

Today, *The Early Childhood Educators of British Columbia and The Coalition of Childcare Advocates of B.C.* are delighted to share with you the results of that process - our Community Plan for a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning in BC. *As members of ECEBC, you will be receiving a hard copy of the plan by mail. You can also view the plan at [www.ecebc.ca](http://www.ecebc.ca).*

As promised – we listened to and learned from you as we finalized our Plan. And, while the key elements of the Plan remain unchanged – our Community Plan is stronger and more clear as a result of your engagement. Highlights include:

- New legislation for a BC Early Care and Learning Act
- A new home for child care in the Ministry of Education
- A new role for Boards of Education
- The development of Early Years Centre Networks
- Enhancing Kindergarten and Grade One
- Strengthening School Age Care and Family Child Care
- Developing the Early Childhood Educators` workforce

The Plan offers a “made-in BC” solution to the current child care crisis and incorporates the best of quality child care and the best of public education. *It also recognizes the vital importance of Early Childhood Educators and supports on-going training, fair compensation and increased professionalism for our field.*

Now it`s time for decision makers to endorse the Plan and move it forward so that children, families, communities and our economy are served by a high quality, universal, democratic and accountable system of early care and learning.



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*It is also time for Early Childhood Educators to rally together to support the Plan. Never before have we had such a powerful, comprehensive and, inclusive strategy that not only moves our profession forward but also supports the children and families we serve each day.*

As BC's Ministry for Children and Family Development and Ministry of Education move forward with plans for junior kindergarten – endorsing and promoting this Early Care and Learning Plan couldn't be more timely!

You can help by

- Downloading and reading the Community Plan at [http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/plan/Community\\_Plan\\_ECL.pdf](http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/plan/Community_Plan_ECL.pdf)
- Endorsing the Plan at <http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/plan/endorse-the-plan/>
- Ordering copies of the Plan to share in your community, workplace or classroom
- Watch for more emails about how you can help build support for the Plan

***We thank you for the feedback and support you have shown us throughout this process. We can all be proud of the leadership role ECEBC, YOUR ORGANIZATION, has taken in developing this plan in conjunction with our sister organization the CCCABC.***

Sincerely,

ECEBC's Board of Directors