



National Children's Day

On this day, November 20, 2020, with over 100 other countries, Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) Celebrates National Child Day.

ECEBC would like to acknowledge the unceded and traditional territories of the many nations across this province who host us and allow us to do our work in supporting children, families, educators, and communities. May we do our work together from this day forward and into the future with a good heart and a good mind.

In 1991, Canada made a commitment to ensure that all children are treated with dignity and respect by ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. As we all know, this is an unprecedented time and early childhood educators continue to be committed to supporting children, families and community in ways that have evolved from our knowledge and education. We are all called to look deep into our ethical responsibilities, to question, to reflect and to act. As educators, we value and respect children as competent and engage people who have a voice and work to see this voice is heard.

Additionally, we must ensure the early childhood educator profession is respected, well educated, and adequately compensated for their incredible work. This is one way of upholding Article 3 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child:

Article 3

1. *In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.*
2. *States Parties undertake to ensure the child such protection and care as is necessary for his or her well-being, taking into account the rights and duties of his or her parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for him or her, and, to this end, shall take all appropriate legislative and administrative measures.*
3. *States Parties shall ensure that the institutions, services and facilities responsible for the care or protection of children shall conform with the standards established by competent authorities, particularly in the areas of safety, health, in the number and suitability of their staff, as well as competent supervision.*

We are asking ECEBC members and colleagues to take action in the following ways:

Read - United Nations' adoption of two documents centered on children's rights: the [United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child](#) on November 20, 1959, and the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) on November 20, 1989.

Engage - Children of all ages to contribute to decision-making in their environment.

Fill out the 2020 BC Child Care Workforce Survey

The British Columbia government – with support from the Government of Canada – has a 10-year plan to increase the quality, affordability, and availability of child care. This includes an ‘Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention (ECL R&R) Strategy’.

Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) is coordinating an evaluation of this strategy and asked the non-profit Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC) to help with the evaluation. The survey was developed in collaboration with sector representatives, including us. The survey will be repeated in 2021 to measure changes over time.

You can read the press release announcing the project [here](#) and the report based on last year’s survey [here](#).

For more information visit ecebc.ca/2020Survey or contact SRDC at bcchildcaresurvey@srdc.org or 1-833-298-3016.

https://srdc.ca/1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bJkxXrsPJmuw08B

We value your time! Free professional development opportunities are available as a thank you for filling in the 2020 Child Care Workforce Survey.



Additional Resources:

Government of Canada <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/childhood-adolescence/national-child-day.html>

United Nations

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-childrens-day/resources>

Unicef (poster using child friendly language)

https://www.unicef.ca/sites/default/files/2016-11/crc_poster_en.pdf

The Society for Children and Youth in BC

<https://www.scyofbc.org/projects/#campaign> link to Child Rights Public Awareness Campaign

<https://www.scyofbc.org/projects/#cyfc> link to Child and Youth Friendly Communities Project

Office of the Representative for Children and Youth in BC

<https://rcybc.ca/>

Metis Commission for Children and Families of BC

<https://www.metiscommission.com/about/team/>

Psychology Today

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/blog/raising-resilient-children-and-teens/202007/7-ways-build-resilience-in-children-during-covid-19>

BC Aboriginal Child Care Society

<https://www.acc-society.bc.ca/services/early-learning-and-child-care-resources-for-navigating-covid-19/resources-to-support-educators-and-early-learning-and-child-care-programs/>

Early Childhood Educators of BC

<https://www.ecebc.ca/resources-merchandise/covid-19>

Standing Strong Together!

For questions or comments please email Emily Gawlick at executive.director@ecebc.ca.