

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN



FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES FEMMES DIPLÔMÉES DES UNIVERSITÉS

March 12, 2007

The Hon. Mary Anne V. Chambers
Minister of Children and Youth Services
56 Wellesley St. W. 14th Floor
Toronto, ON M5S 2S3

Dear Minister Chambers,

Early Learning & Child Care

The Canadian Federation of University Women Ontario Council (CFUW OC) congratulates the Ontario Government for the expansion recently announced for Best Start and the 15,000 federally funded Best Start spaces which were created last fall. (See my letter of March 2, 2007.)

Nevertheless, we would like to remind the government that the \$300 million promised in 2003 for early learning and child care has not yet materialized. Indeed, there has been no new provincial funding into child care spaces for over a decade – creating a real crisis for children, families and people working in the field.

Members of CFUW OC are understandably eager to learn your plans for additional provincially funded child care spaces. Please let us know what your next steps will be. We look forward to your response.

CFUW OC is made up of more than 5700 women university graduates living in 58 communities ranging from large urban centres to rural areas and northern towns. We are non-partisan, totally member-funded and have links with the International Federation of University Women.

Yours truly,

Linda MacGregor, President
CFUW Ontario Council

Judie Arrowood, Chair
Status of Women & Human Rights
CFUW Ontario Council