

Recent Funding announcement affecting the provincial
services of Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre

Dear Premier Campbell,

I am writing to express my shock and grave concern at the March 16
the decision of your government to eliminate the provincial services
grant to Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre. Mr Premier, as I was a resident of
Vancouver for many many years when you were Mayor of Vancouver, I was keenly
aware that you took a critical and impressive leadership role in encouraging the
provincial government and in guiding the city of Vancouver to fund the development and
ongoing operations of critical administrative, management and curriculum support
services provided by Westcoast to benefit the whole province. Over time, Westcoast
guided by significant community input, has become a leader and model of a resource
centre supporting quality child care services. ECE students and instructors, child care
providers from across BC [both non-profit and small businesses], parents, boards of
directors and researchers all benefited in a range of positive ways which of course
impacted on the quality of licensed child care in BC. Why now -- when financially we
are told by you, the Minister of Finance and other government MLA's that BC is on solid
ground with a surplus and has a solid financial rating - was such a decision made with
only 6 weeks notice? Surely you will want to ensure that this decision is reversed so that
\$800,000 of Provincial Funding will continue and Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre
will continue its critical work across BC including:

Diversity and child care administration and management workshops for child care providers and child care organizations throughout the province;

Diversity and child care administration and management print resources and consultations for child care providers and child care organizations throughout the province;

Safe Spaces Bullying Prevention for Preschoolers training for group care providers and CCRR staff throughout the province;

Mobile Lending Services for parents in communities outside of Vancouver

Workshop curriculum packages for CCRRs throughout the province;
the Westcoast website;

AND the incredible services of The Westcoast Library.

I look forward to hearing from you in a most prompt and timely manner and trust that you will act swiftly to address this situation.

Sincerely,

Dianne Goldberg

████████████████████
.....

Vancouver BC ██████████
.....

CC Minister Tom Christensen, MCFD