



1-188 Bunting Road  
St. Catharines, ON L2M 3Y1  
1.800.567.7075  
admin@adco-o.on.ca

## **CHILD CARE PROVIDERS URGE FEDS TO RESPECT FAMILIES AND TAXPAYERS IN 2022 BUDGET**

*For Immediate Release*

ONTARIO—August 11, 2021— In its recent brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance, the Association of Day Care Operators of Ontario (ADCO) urged the federal government to respect families, women and taxpayers as it pushes forward its national child care agenda. The brief was part of the Committee’s 2022 pre-budget consultation process and contained four key recommendations. These recommendations have since been endorsed by the Alberta Association of Child Care Operators, Child Care Professionals of British Columbia, the Ontario Federation of Independent Schools, and the Child Care Providers Resource Network.

- 1) Respect Provincial jurisdiction and autonomy in the area of child care. Avoid destabilizing existing Provincial programs by imposing new costs, such as those associated with new federal mandates, regulations, data collection or reporting requirements.
- 2) Respect Canada’s cultural diversity and how it impacts parents’ decisions about the kinds of care experiences they prefer for their children. Fund all children equally, recognizing that not all families will want or need licensed child care. Child care policy should not be used as leverage to modify traditional family structures. Flow funds directly to families.
- 3) Respect the woman-owned small businesses that currently provide much of Canada’s child care infrastructure. Celebrate their accomplishments by helping more families access their services, rather than using taxpayer dollars to replace them with new public and non-profit facilities.
- 4) Respect current and future generations by reducing the size and scope of government and bringing the federal budget back into balance. Avoid creating new, taxpayer-dependent programs.

“So far, the federal government’s perspective on the child care issue appears to be quite narrow, focusing primarily on the creation of a public sector system of institutionalized care,” says Andrea Hannen, ADCO’s executive director. “In most provinces, there is already a well-developed child care infrastructure consisting of independent licensed child care centres and quality conscious home-based caregivers. The vast majority of these enterprises are small businesses owned and operated by women. Families across the country rely on and trust them everyday. It would be better for both families and taxpayers if the federal government were to encourage the expansion of this existing infrastructure rather than try and replace it at taxpayers’ expense.”

-30-

***ADCO is the industry association for Ontario’s independent licensed child care centres. Independent licensed child care centres are those that are not run by public sector entities such as municipalities or school boards, or by multi-service agencies such as YMCAs. Independent licensed child care centres may be run as businesses, not-for-profits or co-ops. Many are small businesses, owned and operated by women.***

For further information, please contact:

Association of Day Care Operators of Ontario (ADCO)

[admin@adco-o.on.ca](mailto:admin@adco-o.on.ca) or 1-800-567-7075