



Toronto Sun

Letter to the Editor

June 15, 2009

Re: McGuinty: No all-day child care price tag yet

An investment in the early learning and care of children is an investment in the future health of this province.

Research consistently demonstrates that building a strong infrastructure for the province's early learning and care system would greatly contribute to a healthy economic outlook for Ontario. For this reason we must seize the opportunity that exists with Dr. Charles Pascal's report.

His vision is one of a system that supports children and families with flexible full-day early learning programs and one-stop resources including health and nutritional guidance, developmental assessment and support resources, community connections and parental engagement strategies.

These services would be widely available and open to all those involved in the care of young children, not just to families who utilize full-day learning programs.

All Ontarians will benefit from Dr. Pascal's vision of a more cohesive early learning and care system that offers choice and even-handed access to valuable supports and resources. With high quality early learning and care poverty and youth violence decrease, children perform better in school, home lives are healthier and children ultimately grow up to become more successful in their contribution to society.

Even in these tough economic times, it makes sense to act on a report that really puts children first and invests in a healthy future for all Ontarians.

Eduarda Sousa
Executive Director
Association of Early Childhood Educators Ontario