



Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario  
Fédération des enseignantes et des enseignants de l'élémentaire de l'Ontario  
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June 9, 2010

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty  
Premier,  
Room 281, Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

As you are aware, the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario is fully supportive of the government's plans to phase in, over the next six years, a full-day Early Learning-Kindergarten Program across the province. It is an exciting and bold initiative that acknowledges the importance of investing in the early years of children's development.

The implementation of the early learning program and the transfer of responsibility for child care to the Ministry of Education are important steps in moving towards Dr. Pascal's overall vision of creating seamless programs and services for children aged, 0 to 12. These initiatives, however, represent significant structural and system-wide change for schools and community agencies and are contributing to considerable anxiety among those who provide programs for children aged 0 to 3.8 years and school aged children aged 6 to 12 years.

The government's decision to replace the \$63.5 million in expired federal child care funding was essential to avoiding a severe and immediate crisis in the child care sector. More needs to be done, however, to stabilize the sector and to help it transition to providing services that no longer include kindergarten-aged children who have traditionally subsidized the more expensive programs for younger children.

I urge you to address the funding and policy issues necessary to ensure stability for the important child care sector.

Sincerely,

Sam Hammond,  
President

SH:VM

Copy      The Honourable Laurel Broten  
              The Honourable Leona Dombrowsky  
              Jim Grieve, ADM, Early Learning Division, MOE  
              Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care

