

September 29, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.,
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington St.
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

The Canadian Federation of University women (CFUW) works to improve the status of women and to promote social justice in Canada and abroad. One of our foremost issues over the past several years has been to call for a nation-wide, affordable, accessible, well-regulated, high-quality early learning and child care program that helps all parents be more effective contributors to the national economy.

We listened carefully to the Throne Speech on September 23rd and applaud the steps our government is taking in addressing the needs of all members of our community. We agree that women have been hardest hit in what has now been called a she-cession, which includes most often being the primary childcare provider for children. Since the Royal Commission on the Status of Women outlined the necessity of childcare services for women's social and economic equality, we have been waiting for yesterday's promise that "the Government will make a significant, long-term, sustained investment to create a Canada-wide early learning and childcare system." We applaud this action plan to ensure all Canadians have accessible, affordable, inclusive, and high quality childcare.

Good implementation models, such as currently in effect in Quebec, can provide a template for next steps. We are anxious to see the necessary federal budgetary allocation to ensure that federally mandated and provincially implemented high quality early learning and child care does in fact become a reality in Canada. CFUW agrees that the time is now.

Thank you,



Kathryn Wilkinson
CFUW National President