



A lot of countries have reduced child poverty by providing families with high quality child care.

How far do our kids have to go to get what they deserve?

We almost had it right – long-term child care agreements between the Government of Canada and all ten provinces. And the vast majority of Canadians were in favour.

But the new government has given notice that the funding for this essential national program will end after one year.

The sad truth:

Without that program, nothing will change the assessment of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's that our "underfunded"

child care system cannot meet the development needs of "many vulnerable young Canadian children."

Nor will there be any change in UNICEF's report that our child-poverty rate of 14.9% ranks us a dismal 19th out of the 26 nations surveyed.

So our children would certainly have better prospects in other countries.

Countries that know there can be no just society when children are prevented by poverty from participating fully in the life of their communities.

Countries where social investments are seen as a key to national well-being.

Countries where all parties agree that a national

vision must include a child care program as a key step in ensuring healthy families and children.

The right idea:

If we invested as much in our children as other countries do in theirs, we'd have 600,000 fewer children living in poverty. And a national child care program that would offer parents real choices about how they want to raise their children.

Almost everyone but the federal government is calling for our child care program to be preserved.

To join those voices, visit www.buildchildcare.ca.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHILD POVERTY

I t ' s a m a t t e r o f c o n s c i e n c e

For more information, contact the Campaign Against Child Poverty by visiting www.childpoverty.com or by calling 416-595-9230, ext. 222