



Claire Trevena, MLA
NEW DEMOCRAT OFFICIAL OPPOSITION
CRITIC FOR CHILD CARE
Room 201, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4



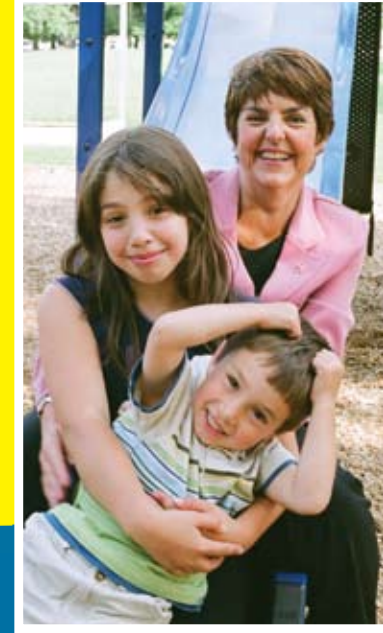
Carole James has a long history of commitment to child care. She served as B.C.'s Director of Child Care, a position eliminated by the Gordon Campbell government.

Did you know?

- B.C. child care waitlists are often two years or longer
- The average cost for toddler care in the Vancouver area is about \$900. The cost can go as high as \$1,400 per month
- The Campbell government eliminated the out-of-school program, cut subsidies for low-income parents, and cut millions of dollars from the provincial child care budget
- The New Democrat Official Opposition is calling for a universal child care program that ensures every family has access to quality, affordable child care

Raising BC

**BUILDING
CHILD CARE
SOLUTIONS
FOR B.C.
FAMILIES**



**Carole James – working
to ensure our children
have access to quality,
affordable child care.**

www.raisingbc.ca

Our children deserve better

For the Gordon Campbell government, child care is simply not a priority.

- Waitlists and costs are growing
- Low wages make it difficult to hire and retain skilled child care workers
- Parents can't get the information they need about the availability of spaces

It shouldn't be this way.

Carole James and the New Democrat Official Opposition are making child care a top priority.

That's why child care critic Claire Trevena is travelling the province to hear from parents, businesses, child care providers and community leaders across B.C.



MLA Claire Trevena is working for child care solutions.

Speak out for child care

- I support a comprehensive plan** to provide access to quality child care that's affordable for today's families.
- Please keep me informed** of the New Democrat Official Opposition campaign to build a child care program for B.C.

NAME _____

E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

Do you have a story to tell about your child care experiences?

Fill out our questionnaire at www.raisingbc.ca



What British Columbians are saying about child care:

“ **Looking for child care** after landing a job was the most stressful experience I've ever gone through in my life. In the end I had only one option and it meant sacrificing quality for simply a space to put my son for the day.”

- JOLENE BLACK, PARENT, KELOWNA

“ **B.C. has chosen not** to prioritize child care. The cost of this decision is having an enormous negative impact on the ability of B.C. businesses to attract women, young families and skilled workers in general to the workforce.”

- FROM A B.C. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RESOLUTION, 2007

“ **How can a mother be expected** to go to work everyday, to support her family, when she has no assurances her child will be safe? ”

- LEAH MCCRONE, PARENT, NORTH VANCOUVER

“ **The difficulty child care facility managers** are facing today is a lack of qualified staff due to the profession being undervalued and underpaid.”

- TRONIE BROWN, DIRECTOR, NIGHTINGALE PRESCHOOL, VICTORIA



“ **When it came time for my daughter** to go back to work I helped her phone over 50 licensed daycares only to be told my grandson would have to wait over a year for a spot. In desperation my daughter put an ad on craigslist in the hope that she could find someone who could provide day care. What she found instead were countless other parents searching for the same thing.”

- JOAN WILKINSON, GRANDPARENT, PARKSVILLE, B.C.

“ **The provincial government has steadily reduced** child care funding since 2002; and the recent cuts to provincial spending are making matters worse for children, working families and employers at the same time as the economy is experiencing a labour shortage.”

- FROM A UNION OF B.C. MUNICIPALITIES RESOLUTION, 2007