

CFUW Policy EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE 1964-2018

CFUW Ontario Council policy incorporates resolutions as passed by Ontario Council, CFUW, and GWI



Ontario Council Policy Resolutions

Child Care – Position Paper (1987)

RESOLVED, that the following position paper of the Canadian Federation of University Women/Ontario Council on Child Care be accepted.

Position Paper:

1. We recommend a program for child care be introduced to work towards the development of child care which would be:
 - accessible and affordable to Ontario families no matter what their income, employment status or where they live and work;
 - comprehensive and flexible enough to meet their families needs;
 - developed with parent and community participation to meet the social; physical, language and intellectual needs of their children in a caring and safe environment;
 - developed to ensure optimal use of public funds and public accountability.
2. We recommend that the federal government provide direct grants to the provinces and territories to stabilize current child care services, encourage the growth of new services, provide for new and special needs, and improve wages and benefits of child care workers.
3. We recommend that the federal government introduce a “Child Care and Family Support Services Act”, dealing with cost-shared funding by the federal government and the provinces and territories for child care.
4. We recommend that the government encourage by way of funding, development of new child care services in regions where child care services are inadequate or non-existent such as rural, remote and native communities.
5. We recommend that the government establish a “child care development fund” for the next five years to encourage new services targeted at: special needs such as children at risk, disabled children, immigrant groups and teen-age parents;
 - development of family support services including parenting skills and educational programs and resource materials;
 - development of early childhood educational materials for research;
 - new opportunities for early childhood education and caregiver training.

- We recommend the establishment of a Secretariat for Children within Health and Welfare Canada to promote the above goals and to administer funding.

ADDENDUM: We recognize that paragraphs # 2, 3 and 6 are recommendations dealing with federal jurisdiction. However, we did not feel comfortable omitting these items and leaving a half-formed slate of ideas. Child care must be an issue tackled by federal provincial and municipal governments. Having included these paragraphs, however, we reaffirm our mandate as Ontario Council is for PROVINCIAL ACTION WITHIN ONTARIO, and we neither attempt to set policy for nor to lobby on behalf of CFUW at the federal level.

Education – Empty Classrooms and Daycare (1981)

RESOLVED, that the Canadian Federation of University Women/Ontario Council and member Clubs urge the Government of Ontario to make use of vacant school facilities for the provision of suitable daycare services.

CHILD CARE

Child Care Advisory Services – 1972

RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of University Women request that the Department of National Health and Welfare offer extension of advisory services to the provinces and territories through the establishment of a unit for consultation on child care services.

Child Care and Early Learning – 1987

CFUW London (Ontario) | UWC Vancouver (British Columbia) | CFUW Resolutions Committee

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the Government of Canada to commit itself, through social and economic policies, to facilitate the provision of an adequate supply of affordable, accessible child care facilities, which fulfil the purposes of providing a safe, healthy, physical, social, emotional and intellectual development.

Early Childhood Education and Care – 2006

UWC Victoria (British Columbia) | CFUW Status of Women and Human Rights Committee

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women reaffirm its existing policy and urge the Government of Canada to give priority to the creation of a quality, universally accessible and comprehensive early learning and child care program which emphasizes the development of the whole child. Funding for this initiative should involve all levels of government through cost-sharing mechanisms, as in other human services such as health, education and social programs.

Child Care Centres in Housing Developments – 1972

RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of University Women request that the National Housing Act be amended to permit the making of loans for the construction, purchase and renovation of buildings for day care centres in housing developments, including university buildings for which loans are

made under the Acts.

Child Care – Increased Financial Support – 1978

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge provincial and territorial governments to ensure increased financial support for quality day care, including day care for infants, private home day care, lunch and after-school programs, as well as licensed day care centres.

Child Care – National Legislation – 1972

RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of University Women request the Federal Government to immediately undertake a comprehensive study by trained personnel of sound child care services and philosophies and preventive mental health practices to provide an adequate basis for the drafting of national child care legislation.

After completion of such studies, that the Federal Government immediately take steps to enter into agreement with the provinces leading to the adoption of a National Day Care Act.

Child Care – Standards and Criteria – 1988

CFUW London (Ontario) | CFUW Status of Women and Human Rights Committee | Ontario Council - Status of Women Committee

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge:

1. the Government of Canada to include in its National Strategy on Child Care national and well-defined standards and criteria including a safe and healthy environment, parental participation in decision-making, approved child/staff ratios, and inspection and licensing of all facilities; and
2. Provincial / Territorial governments to ensure that salaries be consistent with professional training, experience and responsibility