



Quebec's family policy turns 20, all grown up and eager for its turn to speak in our national conversation

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AQCPE: Our mission

We are a network of non-profit businesses that are part of the social economy and we represent a majority of Quebec's Centres de la petite enfance (CPEs).

We are Quebec's leading voice on early childhood-related issues.



Quebec's Family Policy: A brief reminder

- Born in 1996, from a broad-based economic summit aimed at stimulating boosting employment and stimulating economy;
- Created by a government that had pledged a balanced budget;
- Seeks to promote economic development by helping families to balance work and family AND by promoting equal access to high-quality educational daycare services, thus promoting equality of chances.



A steady financial erosion of Quebec's Family policy



In the past decade, Quebec's CPE program has been subjected to:

- More than \$500-million in funding cuts;
- Numerous government decisions aimed at slowing down its development;
- In parallel, successive governments have boosted the development of a parallel, for-profit network of private daycares that are funded by tax credits;
- Inevitably, quality will suffer in this race to the bottom.

Our project: A public conversation about early childhood education

- The AQCPE plans to create a travelling commission to stimulate discussion of this issue throughout Québec.
- This commission, made up of members of the public, will be independent and apolitical, as well as scientific in its approach.
- The scope of these public consultations will include: accessibility, universality, quality of services, equality of chances.
- The commission's report will lay the basis for a wider conversation that will culminate with a summit in Montreal in June 2017.
- National and international experts and stakeholders will be invited to take part in the event, which will lead to the publication of a white paper that will be presented to Quebec's National Assembly.

Goals



- Ignite a national conversation;
- Make the debate on childcare educational services unavoidable;
- Gather public support of important stakeholders;
- Make room for science in the debate;
- Steer public policy.

Thank you

