

ALTERNATIVE VIEWS C.N.

DAY CARE

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Government of N.W.T.  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

THIS LETTER REPRESENTS TAXPAYERS WHO DO NOT USE DAY CARE FACILITIES AND WANT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT THERE IS ANOTHER SIDE TO THIS ISSUE

ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT ACCOMPANIED WITH THE SIGNATURES WE ARE GIVING IT TO YOU TODAY BECAUSE YOU WILL BE DEALING WITH THIS BUDGET TODAY. THE SIGNATURES WILL FOLLOW.

MOST OF US ARE NOT THE KIND OF PEOPLE THAT USUALLY SPEAK OUT ON MANY ISSUES, HOWEVER WE HAVE HEARD THE N.W.T. ADVISARY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN SAY THEY REPRESENT US LONG ENOUGH. THEIR VIEWS DEFINATELY DO NOT REPRESENT US AND FURTHERMORE THEY HAVE NEVER EVEN ASKED US HOW WE FEEL ABOUT ANY OF THESE MATTERS THEY JUST GO AHEAD AND SAY THE LATEST FEMININE RETORHIC AND SAY THEY REPRESENT US. WELL NOW YOU WILL HEAR THE TRUTH.

THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND THE DAY CARE REPRESENTATIVES TALK ABOUT ALL THE SURVEYS THAT HAVE BEEN DONE ON THIS ISSUE AND THEY SAY THAT BECAUSE ALL THESE SURVEYS HAVE BEEN DONE NOW IS THE TIME TO HAND OUT THE MONEY, HOWEVER WE WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT TO YOU THAT NOW THAT ALL THESE SURVEYS HAVE BEEN DONE PERHAPS THEY SHOW THAT THE MONEY SHOULD NOT BE HANDED OUT AT ALL.

~~ANOTHER POINT~~ WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE HERE IS THAT IT WAS THE PEOPLE THAT WANT THE DAY CARE TO BE FUNDED THAT RECEIVED THE MONEY TO DO THESE SURVEY NOT US. NOW WE ARE NOT ASKING FOR FUNDING, HOWEVER IF YOU FEEL BECAUSE OF THESE SURVEYS THE MONEY SHOULD BE HANDED OUT THEN WE WOULD HAVE TO DEMAND THAT WE HAVE EQUAL MONEY TO CONDUCT OUR OWN SURVEY ON THIS ISSUE.

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO POINT OUT TO YOU THAT PEOPLE THAT ARE IN THE WORK FORCE AND HAVE CHILDREN AND ALREADY GETTING A SUBSIDY THROUGH THEIR INCOME TAXES BY BEING ALLOWED TO DEDUCT THEIR CHILDCARE EXPENSES. THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO DO NOT HAVE ANY SUBSIDIES AT ALL YET ARE THE ONES WHO CHOOSE TO STAY AT HOME AND CARE FOR THEIR CHILDREN THEMSELVES.

WOMEN WHO WORK OUT OF THE HOME ARE ALSO ALREADY SUBSIDIZED WHEN THEY HAVE THEIR CHILDREN. THEY ARE BASICALLY PAID FOR SIX MONTHS TO HAVE A CHILD THROUGH THEIR MATURNITY BENEFITS. THE MOTHER WHO IS AT HOME IS NOT PAID FOR SIX MONTHS TO HAVE A CHILD.

THE TRULY NEEDY ARE ALREADY RECEIVING SUBSIDIES FOR CHILDCARE THROUGH SOCIAL PROGRAMS THAT ARE ALREADY IN PLACE.

IN SWEDEN THE CHILDREN ARE IN INSTUTIONS SUCH AS DAYCARE THAT IS PAID FOR BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THEY ARE SO HEAVILY TAXED THAT THE MOTHER NO LONGER HAS THE OPTION TO STAY AT HOME . WITH THE EXTRA TAX BURDEN THAT IS INEVITABLE WITH GOVERNMENT FUNDED DAY CARE YOU ARE TAKING AWAY THE OTHER CHOICES OF CHILDCARE SUCH AS NANNIES, GRANNIES, NEIGHBOURS, FRIENDS OR CARING FOR YOUR CHILDREN YOURSELF AND FORCING THE DAYCARE CHOICE ON EVERYONE.

SWEDEN ALSO HAS THE HIGHEST RATE OF CHILD ABUSE AND SUICIDE. ARE WE WILLING TO LEARN FROM THEIR MISTAKES OR DO WE HAVE TO TAKE ALL THE SAME STEPS BEFORE WE REALIZE WHAT WE ARE DOING TO OUR CHILDREN AND OUR FAMILIES.

MANY OF YOU WERE BUSINESS PEOPLE BEFORE YOU WERE AN M.L.A.. YOU KNOW THAT IN A BUSINESS IF YOU START LOSING CUSTOMERS BECAUSE YOUR BUSINESS IS SHODDY OR THE SERVICE AND STANDARDS ARE POOR YOU HAVE TO IMPROVE IT TO GET THE CUSTOMERS TO COME THERE. LIKEWISE IN A DAY CARE CENTRE, IF THE CENTRE IS POORLY RUN AND SHODDY AND THE PEOPLE DO NOT TAKE THEIR CHILDREN THERE THE PEOPLE THAT OWN IT WILL USE COMMON SENSE TO FIX IT UP AND IMPROVE THE STANDARDS. EVERY BUSINESS HAS GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS IT HAS TO FOLLOW FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY REASONS BUT THEY SURE DON'T GET GOVERNMENT FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT THEM, DAY CARE CENTRES SHOULD NOT BE ANY DIFFERENT.

IN CLOSING I WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE YOU WITH THIS:  
IF YOU SUPPORT FUNDING THE CHOICE OF DAY CARE CENTRES ARE YOU PREPARED TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR ALL THE CHOICES OF CHILDCARE?  
MAY I SUGGEST TO YOU EITHER FUNDING FOR ALL OR FUNDING FOR NONE!!!!!!!

THANK YOU

*Sandra Wood*  
*Sarah Silke*