



Manitoba Child Care  
Association

Our mission is to advocate for a quality system of child care, to advance early childhood education as a profession, and to provide services to our members.

April 4, 2011

Hon. Nancy Allen  
Minister of Education  
Room 168, Legislative Building  
450 Broadway Ave  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 0V8

Hon. Gord Mackintosh  
Minister of Family Services & Consumer Affairs  
Room 357, Legislative Building  
450 Broadway Ave  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 0V8

**COPY**

Dear Hon. Ministers:

The Manitoba Child Care Association (MCCA) is a non profit organization that advocates for a quality system of early learning and child care, works to advance early childhood education as a profession, and provides a variety of services to our members.

There is increasing evidence that Manitoba might be formally moving toward province wide implementation of nursery school and full day kindergarten programs under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education.

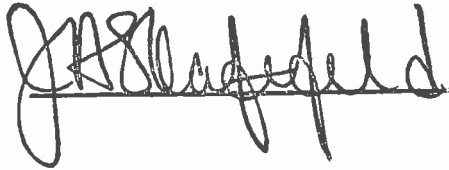
MCCA believes that:

- there must be a true and equal partnership between the education system and the early learning and child care system
- the partnership must be based on the “educaring” principles of consistency, collaboration, communication
- the partnership would be best facilitated if there is a Minister of Early Childhood Care and Education, within the Department of Education, Early Childhood Division
- the preschool years must be respected as an important stage in its own right and not merely a period of preparation for kindergarten entry
- the distinct knowledge, skills, abilities, and contributions of Early Childhood Educators must be included as equal partners

MCCA has attached a briefing note, *Planning for the Future: Nursery and Full Day Kindergarten in Public Schools* as our initial contribution to the conversation on education. Prior to developing it, we consulted with early learning and child care service providers to ensure it reflects the perspectives and experiences of programs currently co-located in schools as well as those operating in school divisions that currently provide full day kindergarten and nursery school.

We request an appointment to meet with you to discuss this emerging issue and our recommendations. Please have your appointment secretary contact our Executive Director, Pat Wege, at 336-5060 to arrange meeting time at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Skaftfeld". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the main body of the name.

Julie Skaftfeld,  
President

cc

Grant Doak, Deputy Minister, Department of Family Services & Consumer Affairs  
Charlene Paquin, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Family Services & Consumer Affairs  
Gerald Farthing, Deputy Minister, Department of Education  
Aileen Najduch, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Education  
Margaret Ferniuk, A/Director, Manitoba Child Care Program