



# NOVA SCOTIA CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

*Head, Heart and Hands*

*Working Together for Nova Scotia's Child Care Practitioners*

**NSCCA Newsletter**

**Fall 2008**

## Inside This Issue

Message from the Chair	p. 1
CCCF update	p.2
ECE Associations Unite	p. 2
Committee Updates	p. 3
CCCF Raises Affiliate Fees	p. 4
Political Child Care Views	p. 4

## Message from the Chair

By Catherine Cross

The past year has been a busy one for the NSCCA. We partnered with the Certification of Early Childhood Educators of Nova Scotia (CCECENS), Child Care Connection NS (CCNS) and Le Centre Provincial de Ressources Prescolaires (CPRPS) to host the first annual provincial Early Childhood Education conference in Nova Scotia. The conference was very successful and we hope to see you at the next one in June 2009! We held a 50/50 draw at on Friday night to support the Canadian Child Care Federation and raised \$158.50 with the winner donating her portion back to the pot for a total of \$317.

The NSCCA was asked to send representatives to sit on the Working Group and a Nutrition Focus Group. The NSCCA along with CCECENS, CCNS and CPRP also launched a series of discussion groups for the

development of the Professional Association of Early Childhood Educators of Nova Scotia (PAECENS). I would encourage you to participate in any of the discussion groups which will be coming up over the next few months as your input as a member is important. Our current membership is down, but we have an increase in new members. Please don't forget to renew your memberships if you have not already.

Just a friendly reminder that **November 20<sup>th</sup> is National Child Day!** Show your support by getting your centre involved in activities! Get out your blue ribbons!

The Canadian Child Care Federation has notified its affiliates that they will be raising their affiliate fees effective January 1, 2009. This raises the current fee from \$15 to \$25. Therefore, we will be having discussion of the NSCCA's membership in the CCCF at the Annual General Meeting as to how this will affect our membership costs. We are currently looking at the need for a fee increase for spring of 2009.

With the federal election slated for October 14, 2008 I encourage you to contact the candidates in your riding and ask them to support a national childcare system and look closely at each candidate's views and platform for Early Learning and Child Care.

**Take a look at the Child Care Platform put forth by each Political Party on Page 4!**

## NSCCA Annual General Meeting

Saturday, November 1,  
10:00-2:00

Halifax Professional Centre  
2551 Spring Garden Road

Including a ½ day workshop on  
Nutrition in Child Care

*We encourage you to bring your questions about nutrition in the early childhood environment, share recipes and ideas.*

We will also be discussing the recent increase in affiliate membership fees to the CCCF.

*Hope to see you there!*

*RSVP @ 423-8199*

## Questions or Comments??

Contact us at: **Phone:** (902) 423-8199 (HRM) 1-800-565-8199 (Atlantic)

**E-mail:** [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca)

**Web Address:** [www.cccns.org/nscca.htm](http://www.cccns.org/nscca.htm)

**Mailing:** c/o 100-1200 Tower Rd., Halifax, NS B3H 4K6

## Early Childhood Education Associations Unite: The Professional Association of Early Childhood Educators of Nova Scotia

By Catherine Cross

Over the past 10 years we have been working hard to develop the infrastructure to support one provincial organization- the Professional Association of Early Childhood Educators of Nova Scotia (PAECENS). Last year the NSCCA along with CCECENS, CPRPS and CCCNS have been working together to start laying the framework for the PAECENS. Each individual organization has specialized in a specific area. Each group recognized that by working together we would be better able to serve our members and be able to deliver more cost effective services. The NSCCA has participated in meetings along with the three other organizations and have prepared a presentation, which explains the benefits of having one united professional association for Early Childhood Educators in Nova Scotia. The presentation was first launched at the child care conference last year with a lot of interest from delegates. The NSCCA presented the presentation at its open meeting last June. Over the next months the presentation will be going across the province. I urge you to participate in this process when the presentation comes close to your community. PAECENS will be your association and we need to have your ideas, comments and feedback. If you are unable to attend one of the presentations this fall please contact the NSCCA. If you would like to offer any input you can email the NSCCA at [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca).



## Canadian Child Care Federation Update

By Sue Melanson (NSCCA Representative for CCCF)



The fall is upon us with many things happening on the National level. A Federal election has been called for October 14, 2008 with the three parties announcing their platforms. The CCCF is urging all practitioners to stay informed on the new developments and keep their parents and co-workers informed. The NDP and the liberals announced their platforms on the CBC website link. Read more at <http://www.cbc.ca/story/canada/national/2008/09/17/layton-child-care.html>

Due to cutbacks from the government last year, the CCCF board made a decision to raise member fees by \$10.00 as of January 2009. Members of the NSCCA will be paying \$25.00, an increase from \$15.00. Individual members will pay an increase from \$55.00 to \$65.00. It is important to continue to support our national organization while they move forward.

On a happier side, **November 20<sup>th</sup> is declared National Child Day**. This year's theme is the *I have the Right to Protection from Sexual Exploitation*, which is reflected in article 34 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. For more information and good ideas to celebrate this important day visit the website at [www.childplay.gc.ca/www.journeeenfant.ca.gc](http://www.childplay.gc.ca/www.journeeenfant.ca.gc).

Interaction on-line vol.2, number 2, August 2008 is now available for reading. In October 2008, the fall issue of Interaction will focus on the practitioner- family partnerships in support of children's social well-being, partnering to build self-esteem, develop problem solving and understanding cultural identity. Also please check out the four new workshops that can be shared in your centers on partnerships with parents.

To all of you practitioners, I praise you for your good work and let's continue working together for a National Child Care plan. Bonne Lecture!

### Questions or Comments??

Contact us at: **Phone:** (902) 423-8199 (HRM) 1-800-565-8199 (Atlantic)

**Mailing:** c/o 100-1200 Tower Rd Halifax, NS B3H 4K6

**E-mail:** [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca) **WebAddress:** [www.cccns.org/nscca.htm](http://www.cccns.org/nscca.htm)

## Committee Reports

The NSCCA has three committees dedicated to reaching specific goals. These include the Standards of Practice/Membership Committee, Ethics Committee, and Advocacy Committee. As a member you are encouraged to become involved in these committees to ensure that your voice is included in the work done by the NSCCA. To become involved you can email the NSCCA at [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca).

### Membership Committee Report

By Sarah Connell

The membership committee is currently made up of 5 association members, 3 board members and 2 members at large. We look forward to explore new options this year to increase membership. We welcome any new members who would like to help out. Please contact the association for information on dates and times of meetings.

### Advocacy and Communications

#### Committee Report

By Carrie Melsom

The Advocacy and Communication Committee continues to meet on the third Thursday of each month at Child Care Connections. We welcome new members who are interested in sharing or learning skills related to advocacy, communication, and sharing information about early learning and child care with the public. Our recent activities include work on updating the minimum salary guideline and exploring the possibility of advertising on metro transit.

### Working Group Representative Update

By Vicki Chaisson

As representative for the Working Group, I will continue to help open the line of communication between the department of community services and the members of NSCCA. For information regarding the working group you can contact the Nova Scotia Child Care Association Board via email at [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca).

**The NSCCA is currently recruiting new Board Members. Applicants must have their NSCCA membership in good standing. Board meetings are normally held the first Wednesday of each month at the Child Care Connections office. Please submit a resume and a cover letter explaining why you are interested in serving on the NSCCA Board to [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca) or by mail to 100-1200 Tower Road, Halifax, NS B3H 4K6.**

## *Engaging Creative Minds!*

### *2009 Child Care Conference and Trade Show*

*June 12-13, 2009*

*Harbourview Holiday Inn,  
Dartmouth NS*



#### **How can you help out??**

All are welcome to volunteer and share their ideas by joining one of the three conference committees:

- Auction Committee:  
October 7, 2008
- Program Committee:  
October 21, 2008
- Tradeshow and Promotions Committee:  
October 28, 2008

All above meetings are at being held at CCCNS at 6:30pm on the date specified. For more information please contact NSCCA at 423-8199 or email [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca).

*Sponsored by Child Care Connection NS,  
Le Centre Provinciale de Ressources  
Précolaires, the Certification Council of  
Early Childhood Educators of NS, and  
the Nova Scotia Child Care Association*

#### **Questions or Comments??**

Contact us at: **Phone:** (902) 423-8199 (HRM) 1-800-565-8199 (Atlantic)

**E-mail:** [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca) **WebAddress:** [www.cccns.org/nscca.htm](http://www.cccns.org/nscca.htm)

**Mailing:** c/o 100-1200 Tower Rd Halifax, NS B3H 4K6

**CCCF Raises Affiliate Fees**

By Catherine Cross

The Canadian Child Care Federation has notified the NSCCA that due to federal cuts to funding over that past two years affiliate fees will increase an additional \$10.00 per member. Currently the affiliate fee per member is \$15.00 and will increase to \$25.00 effective January 1, 2009. The CCCF sees this increase as necessary in order to maintain its basic services.

Over the past two years the CCCF has continued to work on projects as a source of revenue. However, the revenue is only tied to specific projects. In an effort to fundraise, the CCCF has also looked into corporate partnerships, and has created an online donation link where individuals wishing to personally support the CCCF show their support. In 2006, the NSCCA along with CCECENS, CCCNS & CPRS co-hosted the national child care conference and gave a donation to the CCCF of just over \$5,000. At the provincial conference in June we held a 50/50 draw and raised \$158.50 for the CCCF to help out. The winner of the draw decided to donate the winnings back to the pot for a total donation of \$317.00.

The NSCCA Board is asking for your comments and concerns regarding the fee increase. Please join us at our AGM on November 1<sup>st</sup> when we will be voting on our support to the affiliate fee increase.

*“Does the Nova Scotia Child Care Association Membership support an increase in affiliate fees to maintain membership in the CCCF?”*

*Vote at this year’s AGM!*

	<i>Conservative Party of Canada</i>	<i>Liberal Party of Canada</i>	<i>New Democratic Party of Canada</i>
<p><i>Where do the three major parties stand on Early Learning and Child Care??</i></p> <p><i>Take a look!</i></p>	<p><i>Universal Child Care Benefit:</i> \$1,200 per year in direct support for every child under six. The current \$100 per month is taxable.</p> <p><i>Creating new child care spaces:</i> Previously invested \$250 million per year to assist the provinces and territories in creating these spaces <i>*information taken from the party website: <a href="http://www.conservative.ca">www.conservative.ca</a></i></p>	<p><i>Funding to Provinces and Territories:</i> Allocate funds over 4 years to help establish new agreements (\$1.25 billion per year).</p> <p><i>Child Tax Credit:</i> Will maintain the \$100/month cheques introduced by the Conservatives. Will introduce a new refundable child tax credit worth \$350.00 for each child under 18yrs.</p> <p><i>Family Supplement:</i> .Provide \$1,225 per year to Canada’s poorest families with children. <i>*information taken from the party website: <a href="http://www.liberal.ca">www.liberal.ca</a></i></p>	<p><i>Creating Spaces:</i> Work with the provinces in a careful, step-by-step fashion to build the affordable spaces your families need. Invest \$1.45 billion dollars in the first year and as finances permit steadily build on that funding until the program is fully phased in. An initial 150,000 spaces, with the longer term goal of a space for every child needing one.</p> <p><i>Child Tax Credit:</i> Use the current \$100 per month under the Conservative government to boost the Canadian Child Tax Benefit, making the funds non-taxable. Increase the child tax credit over 4 years to \$250 per each child under 18 years. <i>*information taken from the party website: <a href="http://www.ndp.ca">www.ndp.ca</a></i></p>

**Questions or Comments??**

Contact us at: **Phone:** (902) 423-8199 (HRM) 1-800-565-8199 (Atlantic)

**Mailing:** c/o 100-1200 Tower Rd Halifax, NS B3H 4K6

**E-mail:** [nscca@istar.ca](mailto:nscca@istar.ca) **WebAddress:** [www.cccns.org/nscca.htm](http://www.cccns.org/nscca.htm)