



## **Now that we know the Liberals are here to stay, let's get back to work**

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**COAST SALISH TERRITORY/ VANCOUVER** – The BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS) is relieved that the election is now over. Canada has a Liberal minority government and Justin Trudeau, and all Members of Parliament, can get back to addressing the priorities of Indigenous People and communities.

We are looking forward to all the parties working together with this government to get “back to work” on key priorities such as: the full implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework Implementation, and Jordan’s Principle.

As a leadership mandated provincial organization dedicated to Indigenous early learning and child care (ELCC), we have seen the impact of the pandemic and how Indigenous families face inequality at every turn whether it is related to employment, food security, clean water or access to health, including early intervention supports for young children.

We can’t forget the atrocities that have been brought to light this summer, which have hopefully reminded all of us, especially governments, of the importance of honouring the children who never made it home and the children who remain among us.

“We owe it to our children to create and work toward a vibrant future determined by us, that honours our rich and diverse cultures and languages, and privileges traditional ways of learning and being. The Indigenous ELCC Framework provides a pathway to uphold UNDRIP Articles and achieve a different reality for our children that recognizes the right of indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children,” said Karen Isaac, BCACCS Executive Director.

BCACCS will continue to work with our First Nations leadership, the federal government, as well as all MPs, to make ongoing progress on the Liberal government’s commitment to invest in Indigenous ELCC and provide high-quality programs designed by and with Indigenous partners.

Acting on Indigenous ELCC and fully implementing Jordan’s Principle will prove the federal government’s commitment to Reconciliation and the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action. It is time to make progress on promises for Indigenous People and close the gaps for our children, families, and communities. BCACCS will be looking closely at the priorities in the upcoming budget and hope to see further investments in the Indigenous ELCC sector and support for Indigenous needs in general.

BCACCS is committed to nurturing excellence through community outreach, education, research, and advocacy to ensure every Indigenous child in BC has access to spiritually enriching, culturally based, high quality early learning and child care services. [Link to BCACCS website](#)

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