

2025 Federal Election

With the federal election approaching, engaging parents and the public on issues affecting children and families is vital. These key messages help start conversations, build connections, and highlight policies that can make a real difference for children and families.

Multi-Issue

- Right now, we have national programs that support children and families: affordable child care, school food programs, dental, and pharmacare. We can't risk electing a government that will cut services Canadians rely on.
- We need leaders who will stand up for children and families, and continue to invest in affordable child care, school food programs, dental, and pharmacare that keep them healthy. Your vote can help protect the programs students need.

National Child Care

- Affordable child care is essential for families and the economy.
- The \$10-a-day child-care program, which is to be fully implemented by March 2026, will ensure all families, regardless of income, can access high-quality early learning and care.
- As the \$10-a-day child-care program continues to roll out, it is beginning to make a difference. With fee reductions underway, more families have improved access to quality child care, helping parents/guardians participate in the workforce, which contributes to economic growth.
- Expanding child care spaces is crucial to meet demand. Increased investment is needed to create more licensed child-care spaces, ensuring that every family has access to affordable, quality care when they need it.
- A strong child-care system benefits everyone. Electing a government that will continue to invest in Canada's child-care program is the best way to ensure families have access to affordable high-quality child care.

Dental and Pharmacare

- Canada's healthcare system should include dental care and pharmacare as essential services. No one should have to choose between paying for rent and affording medication or dental treatment. Investing in these programs ensures better health outcomes for all Canadians, including our students and their families.
- Many children in our schools suffer from preventable dental issues and lack access to necessary medications. Expanding dental care and pharmacare helps students focus on learning without dealing with pain or illness.
- As educators, we see firsthand how health barriers impact student success. This election is an opportunity to support policies that put children's health and well-being first.
- Pharmacare and dental care should be publicly funded and accessible to all, rather than driven by private, for-profit interests.
- Lack of access to dental care and medication disproportionately affects low-income, racialized, and marginalized communities.
- A national pharmacare and dental care plan promotes fairness and equity, ensuring all Canadians—regardless of income—have access to the healthcare they need.

Child Poverty

- Stronger federal supports and affordable housing are essential to lifting families from financial hardship and breaking the cycle of poverty.
- Programs like the Canada Child Benefit help families meet basic needs. Continued investment in direct financial support ensures families can provide for their children.
- A strong social safety net benefits everyone. When families have the support they need, children have a better chance to succeed in school and in life.

Food Security

- No child should go to school hungry.
- Investing in food security is an investment in children's well-being. Access to healthy, affordable food improves physical and mental health outcomes.
- School food programs ensure all children who need support have access to healthy meals, helping them focus and learn.
- We need a federal government that will not only protect current investments in school food programs, but grow them.
- We need a federal government that provides stronger support for food banks and community programs.

Mental Health Supports for Children

- Children's mental health is just as important as their physical health. Early intervention and community services are essential to helping them thrive.
- Families need better access to mental health care. Wait times for children's mental health services are too long, and parents shouldn't have to navigate a complex system alone.
- We need a government that will continue to invest in mental health programs. Increased funding for accessible, community-based services will ensure no child is left behind.

Tariffs

- Higher tariffs mean higher prices for families. When tariffs are placed on essential goods, the cost of everyday items—like groceries, clothing, and school supplies—increases, making it harder for families to provide the necessities for their children.
- Job losses from tariffs hurt communities and families.
- Families need economic stability to plan for their children's education and well-being.
- Canada's response to U.S. tariffs should ensure that parents/guardians have stable jobs, communities thrive, and children can grow up in a society that supports their success.