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EXCERPTS

Advocates of a national child care program are calling on Canadians to send Lego to Ottawa in support of the plan. "Slip a piece of Lego into an envelope and send it to your political leaders to show them, symbolically, to build a new system," said Sue Delanoy, a board member with the Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada, at a child care conference in Winnipeg yesterday.

"I am going back to my province and I am going to mail a piece of Lego to all my politicians and to Ken Dryden…everyone in Canada should do the same thing."

On Saturday, federal Social Development Minister Ken Dryden told about 650 delegates at the three-day conference he hopes the \$5 billion over five years the Liberals promised for child care in the election campaign can begin flowing as soon as next April.

Dryden said he hopes a meeting this January by the country's social services ministers will lead to the beginning of a new child care and early childhood education system.

He said if the system is approved, he would ask for it to immediately be put in February's federal budget.

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