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EXCERPTS

The Early Child Educators of B.C. invite the public to join them in October for an important briefing session on their Community Plan for a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning.

The session will be held in the city council chambers Tuesday, Oct. 11, from 7 to 9 p.m.

"The community plan is part of our response to B.C.'s implementation of full-school day Kindergarten for five-year olds and the promise of pre-kindergarten for three and four year olds to follow," says early childhood educator Joan Lozier.

"On the one had, the extension of universal, publicly funded, free services for young children is progressive and welcomed. On the other, to date B.C. is proceeded without a strategy that recognizes and is inclusive of existing services or meets the needs of all families."

The association's community plan offers a new and creative approach to how B.C. can and should integrate early care and learning. It has the exciting potential to move B.C. forward with a new system that meets the needs of children and families through quality services much like those offered elsewhere in the country and around the world.

For more information go to cccabc.bc.ca/cccabcdocs/integrated.html.

"We want to give you the opportunity to be part of a briefing session where we will share our community plan and learn from you questions and responses. We hope you will join us and be part of the discussion that we hope will shape the future of early care and learning in B.C."

People interested in attending the session are asked to show their interest by calling Joan Lozier at 250-296-4270 or e-mailing her at joan.lozier@.bc.ca [2].

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