

Subject: FW: Response to letter from

Date: Tue, 21 May 2002 08:48:52 -0700

From: Ernie Crist <CristE@dnv.org>

To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

> *Dear Name deleted*

>

> *Subject: Your letter re Taxation Exemptions Pursuant to Section 341 of the
> Local Government Act.*

>

> *Thank you for your extensive and well thought out letter in which you make
> a case for local government support for Childcare in the form of tax
> exemption.*

>

> *I am sure that you are aware that in all developed countries other than
> Canada and as far as I know the US, childcare is universal and is paid for
> by national, provincial and/or state funds as the case may be. That is
> to say in all countries but Canada and the US childcare is part of the
> educational system. In most European countries universal childcare has
> been in existence since the end of WW I which is a long time ago. That in
> a country like Canada this is still not the case should make us truly
> ashamed.*

>

> *You are making a case for the municipality to pick up where Federal and
> Provincial governments have failed. The reason why municipalities find it
> difficult to support day care is that under the Local Government Act
> municipalities have no power of taxation other then the property tax.
> This too makes Canada sadly unique since in all countries other than third
> world countries municipalities and cities have access to other forms of
> taxation.*

>

> *Indeed under Canada's constitution municipalities are not even recognized
> as legitimate levels of government even though more then 90 % of Canada's
> population lives in Cities and even-though those same Cities are faced
> with all the staggering problems of a modern society. What is also sadly
> curious is that even though cities are expected to carry this burden
> unilaterally, the general public does not think local government to be
> important as may be seen by the poor voter turnout during local elections.*

>

>

> *Notwithstanding the above, I agree that support for childcare is essential
> and that despite the colossal lack of social consciousness by the general
> public not to speak of their elected representatives to Parliament or the
> Legislature, we cannot turn our back on this problem.*

>

> *In light of this, I have always supported childcare including exempting
> such facilities from paying municipal taxes provided they are truly non
> profit.*

>

> *I trust that this will help you understand my position on this subject.*

>

> *Yours truly,*


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> *Ernie Crist*

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