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| CCRC 25th Anniversary web 4 |                 May 8, 2017  |
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| **Child Benefit Alone Will Not                   End Poverty** |
| **Food security needs to be part of an effective strategy to end child poverty.  It is a missing piece in current policy, and it illustrates the lack of a coherent approach to public policy for children in Canada. These are both addressed in a CCRC submission for the consultations that will shape Canada’s National Poverty Strategy.  The Canada Child Benefit is a big improvement, but it is not adequate alone to end the persistent high rates and depths of child poverty in Canada.  Child care, housing, and support of indigenous children were addressed in the last federal budget, but we now have a patchwork with gaps that can easily trap children and families.   The CCRC proposes using multiple indicators of deprivation to address all factors that can help a child escape poverty.  It also proposes a mix of household income support and public programs for children as the best approach to develop the full potential of all children.  The CCRC recommends short-term rolling targets for progress and using Child Rights Impact Assessments to help ensure the strategy is effective.  Canada has not made much progress in reducing child poverty in the last twenty years, through good times or bad.  The new national strategy needs to be robust to ensure progress this time. The CCRC invites its members to use the points in the CCRC submission to help make their own contributions to the consultation.  Use the easy on-line form.  Share stories from your experience to illustrate these points.  A show of public support is important to raise the priority of children and a rights-based approach.  The consultation ends in June.**  |
| **Citizenship under 18 and Bill C-6** |
| **Young people under age 18 will be able to apply for citizenship if Bill C-6 is adopted in the House of Commons.  This is a step forward for children’s rights.  It will help young people who do not have parents to apply, such as unaccompanied children and wards of the state.  It helps to address statelessness and fulfill a child’s rights to have a nationality under Article 8 of the Convention. The Senate amended Bill C-6 to include this provision; it was not included in the bill passed earlier in the House of Commons.   CCRC members are encouraged to send a message to your MP asking them to make sure this amendment is adopted by the House of Commons in its final passage**  |
| **Preparing for Review of   Children's Rights in Canada** |
| **The CCRC is planning a focused fall campaign to push for progress on all  areas of children's rights in Canada before the next official review in 2018.  Many recommendations from 2012 could be implemented before Canada goes back to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.  The CCRC invites all interested parties to be part of a concerted effort in Canada prior to UN review.  We welcome data, analysis, reports that can help to prepare a coordinated, comprehensive, and strategically effective picture of how children's rights are being fulfilled or not. We also welcome identification of emerging issues for discussion before the next review.  Details in the next newsletter.**  |

**Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Childrenwww.rightsofchildren.caContact:  info@rightsofchildren.ca**  | **Let’s Work Together**Join the CCRC to prepare for the 5th/6th review of children’s rights in Canada.The low level of coherence and coordination within our sector in Canada is widely recognized as a factor impeding progress on children’s rights.  We have a chance to change that over the next year. The CCRC is a broad-based coalition that maximizes what each one can contribute and helps to ensure we complement rather than undermine efforts of others.  Our effectiveness in the next review process will depend on how well we work together. More specific plans will be outlined in the next newsletter. Download a [CCRC membership form](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?CanadianCoalitionfor/6e077185d5/TEST/f98d2265ce) here or join on-line, at www.rightsofchildren.ca.  |

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