

EXC/11/12/2228

December 12, 2011

Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain and Ms. Kelly McCuaig
Margaret & Wallace McCain Family Foundation
1500 – 30 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, ON M4V 3A2

Dear Ms. McCain and Ms. McCuaig:

Thank you for your correspondence of November 25, 2011 regarding the *Early Years Study 3: Making Decisions, Taking Actions*.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is committed to providing families and young children with the supports they need to reach their full potential. The Department of Education, as the lead department, along with partner departments that provide services for children, is developing an early childhood learning strategy that will enhance early learning opportunities for young children and support a seamless transition into the school system. The Department of Education is working closely with early childhood learning partner departments to strengthen early childhood services offered in this province.

We acknowledge and appreciate the valuable information included within the *Early Years Study 3: Making Decisions, Taking Actions*, as it has helped to highlight pertinent areas on which to focus as we build a strong early childhood system for our youngest learners.

We appreciate your offer to meet with us regarding this very important study, and are interested in discussing this further in person. Ms. Paula Hennessey, Director of Early Childhood Learning will contact Ms. Allison Black to coordinate a time to meet in January 2012.

Thank you for your continued research and work on behalf of the children of this country.

Sincerely,



Darrin Pike, M.Ed.
Deputy Minister

cc: Ms. Janet Vivian-Walsh, Assistant Deputy Minister
Ms. Paula Hennessey