

Province-wide childcare system best start for Nova Scotia children

Nova Scotia Federation of Labour President Rick Clarke attended a press conference at Province House on February 9 with Nova Scotia NDP Leader Darrell Dexter and child care representatives. Dexter urged Community Services Minister David Morse to use anticipated federal funding for childcare to develop a province-wide system of early childhood education in

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From left to right: N.S. NDP Leader Darrell Dexter; Lisa Stewart of St. Joseph Early Childcare Centres; Laurie St. Amour, Executive Director of the Wolfville Children's Centre and Margo Kirk of the Childcare Advocacy Association. Below: A group of children from St. Joseph's Centre for Early Childhood Education were present to construct a childcare centre out of building blocks, representing the need for a province-wide system of early childhood education. Workers there are members of CUPE Local 3845.



Celebrate International Women's Day

Please join the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour Womens Committee and the Halifax Dartmouth & District Labour Council Women's Committee on Saturday March 5, 2005 to celebrate International Women's Day. This is the 2nd annual pot luck dinner and silent auction and will be held at the Canadian Autoworkers'

Union office @ 63 Otter Lake Court, Bayers Lake, Halifax. Doors will open at 4:30 pm.

Come enjoy good food and sisterhood as we recognize this year's recipient of the



Nova Scotia Federation of Labour Woman of the Year! For more information, please call Cheri Meehan at 454.6735 or email: cheri@accesswave.ca

Women's & Anti-Racism/Human Rights Committees Conference coming up in May

The Nova Scotia Federation of Labour Women's & Anti-Racism/Human Rights Committees are co-hosting a conference on May 13, 14 & 15, 2005 at the Delta Hotel in Sydney.

Registration will be on Friday, May 13 at 6 pm and the conference will be all day Saturday and Sunday til noon. It will feature workshops on a number of topics.

Details will be sent to you in a future mailout. Please mark your calendars!

Childcare con't from page 1

Nova Scotia. President Clarke has written the Minister Responsible for Child Care Ken Dryden urging him and his provincial and territorial counterparts that Nova Scotians want an early learning and care system based on a strong foundation. "Children in Canada deserve the best possible start in life," said Clarke. "The federal government has an opportunity to do this so we are sending a strong message to Ottawa."

The Canadian Labour Congress **Child care - get it right!** Campaign calls for a

Child Care Act with: sustainable public funding and non-profit delivery; public accountability tied to clear plans, goals and timelines; and a guarantee that public money goes to children for care, not to investors for profit. This vision, which 90% of Canadians support, will be lost without leadership.

Dryden and his provincial and territorial counterparts are meeting on February 11.

N.S. Worker UPDATE

The Nova Scotia Worker UPDATE is published by the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour, CLC

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CAW Local 4005