

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G5

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Ms. Helen Ward
President
Kids First Parent Association of Canada
4819 Albert Street
Burnaby, BC V5C 2H2

Dear Ms. Ward:

On behalf of the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Bill Morneau, thank you for your correspondence of March 8 and 20, 2018, the latter of which was referred by the Office of the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, regarding the views of Kids First Parent Association of Canada. Please excuse the delay in replying.

A little over two years ago, Canadians made an ambitious choice to build an economy that works for Canadians and their families. That choice has paid off with almost 600,000 new full-time jobs, the fastest-growing economy in the G7, and immediate help to Canadians who needed it most.

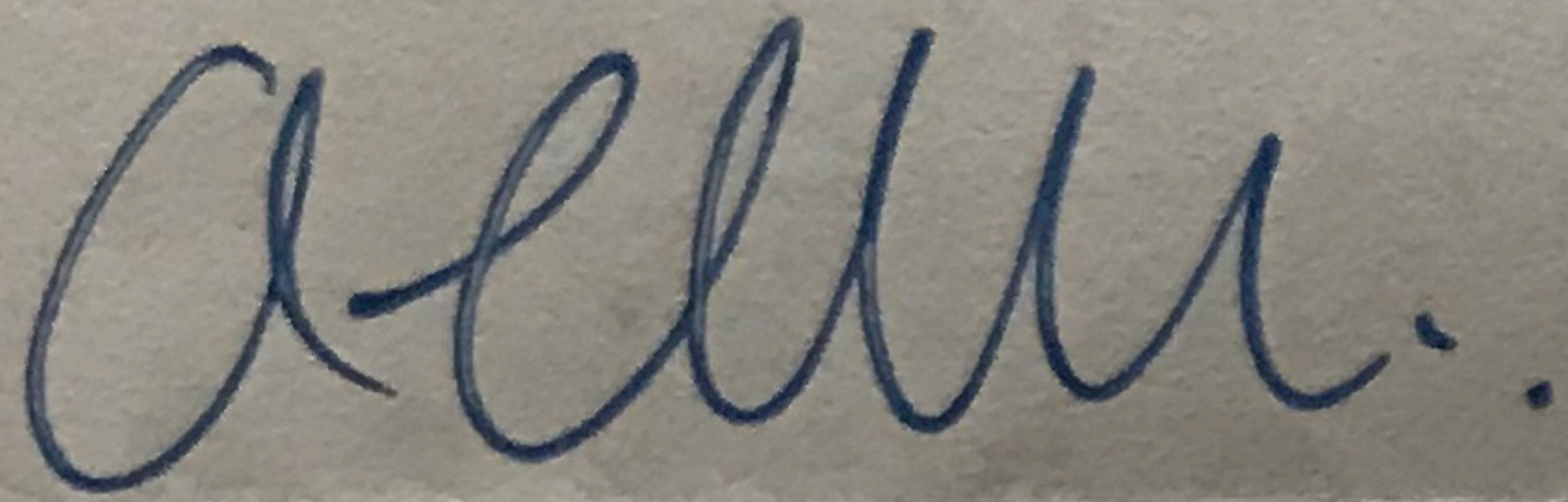
Today, we believe that now is the right time to focus on the deeper challenges that hold our economy – and our people – back. That means making sure that every Canadian who wants to work has a real and fair chance to do so. This is important not just as a matter of fairness, but as a way to ensure Canada's long-term growth.

Over the last 40 years, the rising number of women participating in the workforce has accounted for about a third of Canada's real gross domestic product per-capita growth. At the same time, for as much progress as we have seen, there continue to be persistent barriers that hold too many women back, including the lack of affordable, high quality child care for parents who want to participate in paid employment. By taking steps to remove these barriers – such as with new federal investments of \$7.5 billion over 11 years in early learning and child care – we can enhance growth and make a change which helps all Canadians. Simply put, when women have the support and opportunities to fully contribute to Canada's economy, households have more choice and the entire economy does better.

As many of the points you raise relate to the responsibilities of the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, we have taken the liberty of copying our response to his office.

Thank you again for taking the time to share the thoughts of Kids First Parent Association of Canada.

Sincerely,



Allie Chalke
Policy Advisor
The Office of the Honourable Bill Morneau – Minister of Finance

c. The Office of the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, P.C., M.P.