Brigitte L'Heureux General Director Fédération des parents du Manitoba

Based on research from the OECD, the final report of the Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care Commission, and the recent report from the Office of the commissioner of official languages « Early Childhood : fostering the vitality of francophone minority communities" my brief presentation will focus on the importance of investing in <u>quality</u> early child care education and care today because it equals enormous savings for the future. For every dollars spent today, we save between 7 and 16 dollars in the future.

Early childhood is equally a very critical time in language development. To ensure the vitality and future of the francophone community, the federal and provincial governments must understand the importance of accessibility to quality francophone daycare and programming in a minority context.