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March 23, 2013 - Issue #1

URGENT E-NEWS From Multiple Births Canada



*Supporting
Multiple Births
Together*

Welcome to Multiple Births Canada E-NEWS!

Dear Kim,

This E-News focuses on a topic of extreme importance to Canada's multiple-birth community **Bill C-464: *Parental Leave for Multiple Births or Multiple Adoptions***. Canada's multiple-birth community is the closest it has ever been to seeing a positive movement on this issue. As you read it, please consider supporting this important advocacy work to ensure its success.



CLICK HERE

**For an urgent audio message
about Bill C-464
from
Gail Moore
Advocacy and Awareness
Coordinator
Multiple Births Canada**



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[Bill C-464 Vote - March 27th!](#)

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This is a big week for Canada's multiple-birth families. On March 27 our federal MPs will vote in the House of Commons on Bill C-464: Parental Leave for Multiple Births or Multiple Adoptions. If the MPs vote yes, the positive outcome for multiple-birth infants and their working parents will be tremendous. That first year of life will be more like the other 97% of infants that are born as singletons. The fundamental principles of the Parental Leave Benefits program will finally be applied for all families, putting Canada's multiple-birth families on equal footing with the rest of Canadians.

There's a problem though. The Progressive Conservatives have decided they want to say no to this Bill. They say they need to be fiscally responsible. To me this sounds like a convenient excuse when many federal dollars are being used for less essential reasons. Saying yes to Bill C-464 will allow the PC caucus to do two things - adhere to the fundamental principles of the EI program AND allow the PCs to live up to their "family values" principles. They talk the talk, it would be fantastic if they would walk the walk.

I'm going to try to help them. March 25-26-27, I'm taking our message beyond the steps of Parliament Hill. I'm going inside to meet with some MPs before the vote. But, that's not enough. Our MPs need to know that there are lots of families across Canada that support this Bill and want to see a yes vote on March 27th.

As I'm preparing for a six hour drive down to Ottawa, so that I can make a difference for future families who will benefit from extended Parental Leave, I would like to ask you to do something very important - please take a half hour of your time and send an email or fax to your Member of Parliament and these key PC Ministers - The Honourable Diane Finley, The Honourable Tony Clement, The Honourable Jim Flaherty, and Prime Minister Stephan Harper. I've provided you with the contact information at the end of the written message below.

Your message should say:

Current Parental Leave Benefits do not address the extra needs of newborn multiples and their parents on three key Parental Leave pillars - promoting child development, balancing the demands of work and very young children, and allowing businesses to retain valuable, experienced employees. For the sake of our families - this must change. On March 27th please say yes to Bill C-464: Parental Leave for Multiple Births or Multiple Adoptions.

Please encourage everyone in your family and your circle of friends to send Ottawa this message. The goal is to get 5,000 messages into these MPs offices during the three days leading up to the vote.

Remember - together we can make a difference!

The Honourable Diane Finley - Telephone: 613-996-4974, Fax 613-996-9749, E-Mail: diane.finley@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Tony Clement - Telephone 613-944-7740, Fax 613-992-5092, E-Mail: tony.clement@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Jim Flaherty - Telephone 613-992-6344, Fax 613-992-8320, E-Mail: jim.flaherty@parl.gc.ca

Prime Minister Stephen Harper - Telephone: 613-992-4211, Fax: 613-941-6900, E-Mail: stephen.harper@parl.gc.ca

Click here to find for the contact information for your Member of Parliament -

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/MembersOfParliament/MainMPsCompleteList.aspx?TimePeriod=Current&Language=E>

For more information please contact Gail Moore at gail.moore@multiplebirthscanada.org.

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