

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Beyond the front door

Engaging families for strong economic and social policymaking

OTTAWA, CANADA - March 8, 2010 – On Thursday, March 11, the Institute of Marriage and Family Canada (IMFC) will host a conference to examine the intersection between family, social and economic policy.

No where is this intersection more evident than in the debate over the federal role in child care. Money for parents or a national system? Which serves Canadian families better? The Institute of Marriage and Family Canada is happy to host the **Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, Diane Finley** to represent the Conservative view, and **Mr. Mike Savage**, Opposition Critic, for the Liberal side. Both sides will elucidate their views on the federal role in child care. Come and listen to this moderated forum for this perennial debate.

Dr. Brian Lee Crowley sets the stage in the morning by describing the relationship between Canada's economic success and strong families. This is something he discusses at length in his recently published book *Fearful Symmetry: The Fall and Rise of Canada's Founding Values*. "If we accept that family is where we learn many of the behaviours that make things like economic exchange and contracts and even democracy possible," writes Crowley, "then family becomes a matter of central public importance."

The day carries on with **Dr. Wade Horn**, former assistant secretary for children and families under then president George W. Bush. Responsible for a budget of \$47 billion, Dr. Horn worked to ensure the success of those programs aimed at improving the well-being of children and families and will discuss how and where the federal government ought to be involved in family life. He is also a clinical psychologist and former president of the National Fatherhood Initiative, a non-partisan group that recognizes the importance of dads for the economic and emotional wellbeing of children.

Miriam Grossman, MD, rounds out the main speakers with her presentation about how ideology has driven science out of sex education. She made a name for herself with her 2006 book, *Unprotected: A Campus Psychiatrist Reveals How Political Correctness Endangers Every Student*, which revealed how girls on campus suffer at the hands of incorrect information. In 2009 Miriam Grossman, MD published *You're Teaching My Child What? A Physician Exposes the Lies of Sex Education and How They Harm Your Child*.

The Institute of Marriage and Family Canada is happy to bring forward the most recent research on family wellbeing and public policy. How does family policy impact the economy? Join us on March 11 and see.

– 30 –

Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 101 Lyon Street, downtown Ottawa

When: Thursday, March 11, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Media passes will be issued at registration. To arrange an interview, please contact Andrea Mrozek or Dave Quist at: 613-565-3832