

Press Release

Canadian Families the Real Winners in Budget 2006

(Ottawa, May 2, 2006) The Institute of Marriage and Family Canada was pleased to see that the first Conservative budget in 13 years has identified families as a “building block of society.” Dave Quist, Executive Director stated “This important recognition of the Canadian family is reflected in many of the budget items that was tabled today.”

Amongst the positive aspects of the 2006 budget are:

- \$1200 annual payment for children under six years of age;
- \$250M set aside for the creation of new childcare spaces;
- A decrease in personal income tax levels;
- Increased benefits for families with disabled children;
- A children’s fitness tax credit for physical fitness programs;
- A decrease in the GST;
- An employment tax credit.

“This amounts to a significant benefit to Canadian families. The Conservative government has recognized and listened to the needs of families as they made these budget announcements today,” continued Quist.

In addition to all the positive news around the significant tax relief for families and the choice in child care program, there is one concern that we hope the government will be able to address in the future

While the budget reduces the gap in taxes paid by a one-income family earning the same as a two-income family, however, the difference is still significant and needs to be addressed. We hope the government will seriously explore ways of reducing this gap by taking a close look at joint filing, income splitting or flattening the tax rates.

“Overall the government has addressed many of the issues that are facing Canadian families today,” closed Quist. “Canadian families are the real winners in this budget.”