



Social Research and Demonstration Corporation  
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Date: 16 October 2007  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*"Je pars en grand"*  
**Child Care Pilot Project**

Do you live in Cornwall (ON), Durham (ON), Edmonton (AB), Orleans (ON), or Saint John (NB)? Then we invite you to participate in the Child Care Pilot Project, "*Je pars en grand*," a national study conducted by the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC) and funded by Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC). This important project aims to find the best ways to enhance the school-preparedness of children living in francophone minority areas.

**Who can participate?**

If you have a child born in 2004, or in January 2005, who is admissible for enrolment in a French school, if you live in a minority francophone community, and, most importantly, if you care about your child's success, then you are invited to participate in the Child Care Pilot Project "*Je pars en grand*."

**What is this new preschool program about?**

The new preschool program will be implemented over two years in a number of francophone childcare centres in the region. The program includes two phases:

- 1) A preschool program administered in daycare centres;
- 2) Parent/children workshops designed to help parents encourage their child's development.

**Why participate?**

In addition to evaluating the potential benefits of this new preschool child-care program, the project's overall goal is to better understand the factors that encourage the overall development and school-preparedness of young children living in minority francophone communities. Parents will be given the results of the child's final evaluation, scheduled for 2010. Although this evaluation is not intended for diagnostic purposes, the results may highlight abilities acquired by a child that could impact on his or her school-preparedness, as well as looking at the abilities currently being acquired and those requiring special attention. In addition, school organizations will be given general information on participants, which will allow them to better meet the needs of young children in their area. The results of this project may also help inform provincial and federal policies on the needs of young francophone children living in a minority environment.

**I'd like to participate but my child does not attend this daycare centre**

If your child is enrolled in a different daycare centre than the one offering the preschool program, we still need your help to ascertain if the program is really helping children be better prepared for school.

**I'd like to participate but my child does not attend a daycare centre at all**

Not only can you still participate, but your participation is essential for the successful completion of this project. We need the participation of parents who stay at home with their child or whose child is cared for in family-based daycare.

**How can I enroll for the project "*Je pars en grand*"?**

We hope you are interested in this project, which will not only help to promote French culture in the area, but also aims to help our children achieve better results in French schools.

To participate in the project or to obtain more information about it, please contact Louise Legault at **613-237-4312** or by e-mail at [llegault@srdc.org](mailto:llegault@srdc.org).