



NEWS RELEASE

Fraser Institute and The W. Garfield Weston Foundation launch new Centre for Improvement in Education

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For Immediate Release

VANCOUVER, BC—The Fraser Institute, Canada's leading public policy think-tank, with the support of The W. Garfield Weston Foundation today announced the creation of the Barbara Mitchell Centre for Improvement in Education, which will assist in the improvement of K-12 education across Canada.

"The Centre will seek out ways to remove the structural impediments to improvement that exist in provincial education systems. These hurdles must be overcome so that we can raise the bar for education from coast to coast," said Peter Cowley, the Centre's director.

"We are guided by the principle that all schools, whether public or private, can do better."

Research conducted by the Centre for Improvement in Education will explore practical solutions to the challenges parents face as they pursue the best possible education for their children.

Named for the late Barbara Mitchell, daughter of Mr. W. Garfield Weston, the Centre was established with the generous support of its founding donor, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation.

"As the mother of six children and a trained teacher, access to the best education for every Canadian child was a lifelong concern for our mother. We are proud to support this initiative in her name," said Eliza Mitchell, director of the W. Garfield Weston Foundation.

National in scope and importance, the Centre will be the only non-government initiative of its kind in Canada. It will initially focus on three areas: improvement in teacher effectiveness, improvement in essential curricula, and increased school choice for families.

Additional support for the Centre will be sought from other philanthropic foundations, corporations, and individuals over the coming months. Organizations and individuals who believe in the Centre's mission will also be invited to become involved in its work.

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