

Putting Children First –
magazine of the National
Childcare Accreditation
Council Inc (NCAC)

Funded by the Australian
Government Department of Education,
Employment and Workplace Relations
(DEWR)

Putting Children First is published quarterly
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ABN: 82 270 247664
ARBN: 110 877 524

ISSN 1835-579X (Print)
ISSN 1835-5803 (Online)

NCAC's Guiding Principle:
Putting Children First.

NCAC's Vision:
Quality experiences and positive
outcomes for all children.

NCAC's Mission:
To set standards to improve the quality
of child care and accreditation services that
meet the standards.

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Printed by:
Contact and Clarendon Printing Pty Ltd
Commemorative Issue – September 2011

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Celebrating the successes of 18 years of NCAC



Welcome to the final issue of *Putting Children First* magazine. As I look back over the past 18 years of NCAC, and in particular the past six years as Board Chairperson, I cannot help but feel proud of all that NCAC has achieved, as well as sad that this significant and pivotal period in assuring quality child care in Australia is drawing to a close.

NCAC's many successes have been the direct result of a strong team effort and I feel privileged to have worked so closely with a group of such dedicated and passionate individuals. NCAC's CEO Denise Taylor and the NCAC staff have demonstrated a consistent and unshakeable focus on assuring quality outcomes for children. Each of our Board Directors has also made significant contributions to the organisation, and the Board as a whole has positively governed NCAC through many shifts in Australian child care and early education policy over the years. Congratulations and thank you to everyone.

This commemorative issue of *Putting Children First* not only celebrates the achievements of NCAC, but is also an opportunity to thank the many child care services and individuals, both within the child care field and external to it, who have contributed to *Putting Children First* magazine and its predecessor, *Accreditation Update*, over the years. For everyone involved in the production of *Putting Children First* it has been both a challenge and a pleasure to continually evolve and improve the magazine to meet the increasingly diverse and sophisticated professional needs and interests of all our stakeholders. We hope that you have enjoyed reading it as much as the editorial team have enjoyed developing it.

On behalf of the NCAC Board and staff, I would like to thank the management, educators and staff of all of the services participating in the Child Care Quality Assurance systems for their ongoing commitment to promoting positive outcomes for all children. Many of the children who attended the first Accredited services in 1994 are now adults who have benefited from the positive outcomes which attending quality child care brings.

I wish all of our stakeholders, both past and present, all the best for your future endeavours, and I hope that you continue to recognise and value the inherent importance of 'putting children first' ■

June McLoughlin
NCAC Board Chair, 2005 – 2011