

AFFIDAVIT

I, [REDACTED], of [REDACTED] in the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, MAKE OATH AND SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. I have personal knowledge of the matters included in this affidavit, except where statements are made based on information and belief, in which case I verily believe them to be true.
2. I am a 32 years old Indigenous woman. I have a 5 years daughter and a 23 month old daughter. Both children reside with my husband and I, and I am their primary caregiver. ~~We also have an adult friend who resides with us to help out.~~
3. I am employed two to three days per week as a social worker. I work part-time because I feel that my younger daughter is too young to be in full-time child care and because we cannot afford to pay for additional child care for her. If the cost of child care was not an obstacle, I would work three to four days per week until ~~she turns two, and five days per week after that.~~
4. My older daughter attended a licensed family child care provider from the age of two until she started kindergarten. We had an excellent experience with that child care provider and we were very happy with the care our daughter received. We got her space with that provider because of luck and a strong recommendation from a friend. The cost of that child care was approximately \$950 for full-time care five days per week.
5. When my younger daughter was about six months old, in or around January 2015, we placed her on the waitlist with the same licensed family child care provider that our older daughter attended. She is still waitlisted for a space there. We have been told that the child care provider may have a space for her in

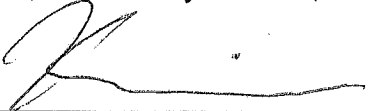
September 2017. We have also been told that although we are high on the waitlist for that space, there is no guarantee that it will be available.

6. I have also tried contacting a number of other licensed child care providers that I found using an online directory to ask about a child care space for my younger daughter, but most have not returned my calls. Sometimes I have wondered whether I should just drop-in to see the providers in person, but between work and caregiving for my daughters, it is difficult to find the time to do that. I would need to bring my children with me.
7. Since I have gone back to work, a nanny has been caring for our younger daughter outside of our home for two days per week. She also picks up our older daughter from school and cares for her after school. I am very happy with the care and experiences our daughters get with our nanny. I provide care for my daughters two weekdays each week, and my husband provides care one weekday each week.
8. I am committed to paying our child care provider a living wage, so we pay our nanny \$18 per hour for eight hours of work on the days that she provides care for our daughters. ~~Our total child care costs work out to approximately \$1,000 per~~ month. I earn \$36 per hour before deductions, so more than half of my income goes directly to pay for child care for my daughters. We cannot afford to pay our nanny for more than two days per week of care.
9. My husband is also a social worker. He started school after I did, but his career has advanced much faster than mine has because my career was delayed by pregnancy, child birth and maternity leave. My husband now has a full social work practice and earns approximately five times what I earn. As a result, I am financially dependent on him.
10. Because my husband earns more than me, I am the one who provides primary care for our daughters. If the nanny is sick, I am the one that stays home from work to care for the kids.

11. I am very happy with my husband, but I never want to have to stay in a relationship because of financial dependence. It is not a current stressor, but my husband and I have discussed my concerns about what would happen if our relationship ever ended. I know that he would be financially secure and I would not be.

12. My husband and I prioritize putting money in an RESP for each of our daughters so that they can get an education and avoid having to rely on others for their financial security.

13. I consent to the use of this affidavit in any court proceedings.

AFFIRMED BEFORE ME at the City of)
Vancouver, in the Province of British)
Columbia, this 6th day of June, 2016.)
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_____)
A Commissioner for taking Affidavits)
within British Columbia)
)
Kendra Milne)
555-409 Granville Street)
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2)

