



Association of Childhood Professionals  
The Professional Body Representing Practitioners in  
Early Years and School Age Care & Education

21<sup>st</sup> November 2013

### A Note from the Chair

2013 has been a really hectic year as I have been engrossed in the work of the ACP since before the launch in June. Yesterday I took some time to reflect on the many exciting things that have happened since that momentous day when we launched the national organisation.

One of the most interesting events occurred on the day of the budget. I received a phone call from the Minister for Children, Frances Fitzgerald so that she could outline her budget allocation of additional money for quality support and training. It wasn't so much what she said but that she rang the ACP directly to give us the news. The professional is finally getting a voice at the table and the ear of the decision makers.

If you have become a member of the ACP, congratulations you are a leader in your sector and a forward thinking professional.

The most important thing we can do now is to grow our membership. I need your help to do this. If you are one of the many who intend to join but haven't got around to sending back the form please do so today. If your colleagues haven't joined yet why not show them the Face Book page and website and encourage them by giving them a form.

Anyone in training can avail of the student fee of €10. For the rest of us it will be the best €20 investment we will make in our career. The time has come for us to stand up and be counted. Be part of the change you want to see in your sector. Join today or encourage a colleague to join!

Regards,

Marian