



**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **KINDERGARTEN PARENTS VICTORIA REVIEWS STATE BUDGET. INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE.**

Gerard Mansour, CEO of Kindergarten Parents Victoria (KPV) has a mixed review of today's state budget. Positives include:

- \$12.5 million over four years to finance the pay increases for kindergarten teachers that was successfully lobbied for by KPV;
- the \$300 one off payment for families when their children make the transition from kindergarten to primary school;
- funding of foster care and child protection reforms as well as the new 'Growing Communities Thriving Children' program.

KPV disappointments include:

- no removal of fees for low income families;
- lack of funding for three year old kindergarten;
- lack of funding for a quality accreditation system;
- lack of funding for capital works projects
- lack of significant improvement for children with additional needs.

### **About KPV**

KPV is the leading peak organisation that develops promotes and sustains quality early childhood education. KPV has extensive membership from the broader children's services industry, including kindergartens, childcare centres, local government, cluster managers and other affiliated organisations. Through its membership base, KPV represents over 60,000 families statewide.

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:** KPV CEO Gerard Mansour will be available for interview on 0410 418 631 or via Brett de Hoedt, KPV media advisor on 0414 713 802.