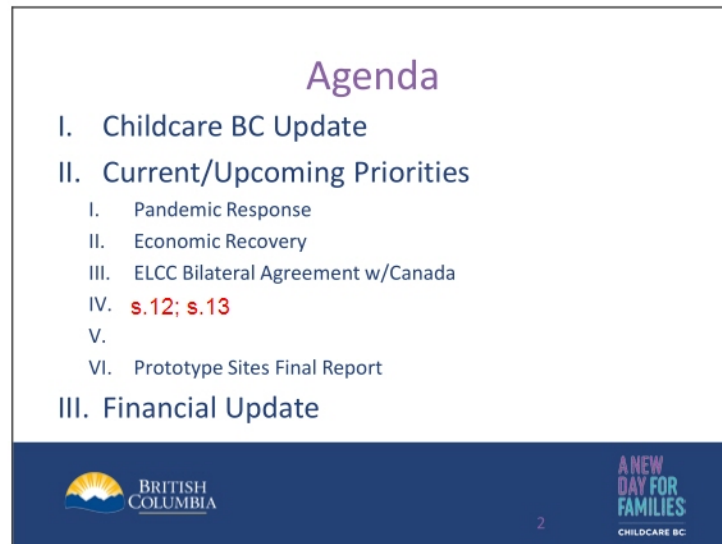


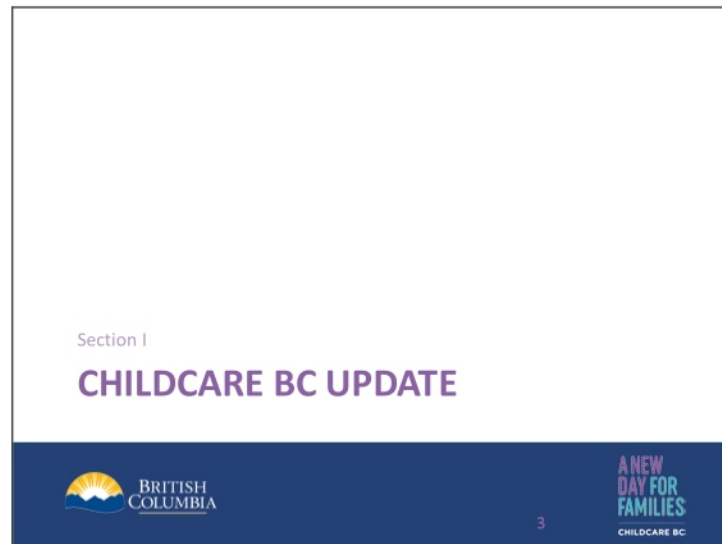
Slide 1



- I am pleased to be back for our regular quarterly update on Childcare BC



- We have a full agenda today, starting with an update on progress on Childcare BC.
- I will then move to a number of our most important initiatives related to the pandemic and to how we plan for our next steps in implementing universal child care.
- Staff will wrap up the presentation with an update on the Ministry's current financial position.



- So, let's move to progress on the 3 Childcare BC pillars of affordability, access, and quality.

Affordability Update

Universal Child Care Prototype Sites

- Contracts for all 50+ Sites extended to March 2021
- Final evaluation report received and currently under review



Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative

- 46% of 20/21 funding agreements were renewed with no fee increases
- Renewal for 21/22 year will begin in January 2021

Affordable Child Care Benefit

- Over 53,500 families / 71,500 children, have been approved for ACCB for at least one month since Sept 2018

As a combined impact of these initiatives, between September 2018 to July 2020, more than 32,700 children received child care for \$10 a day, including more than 14,100 children from low income families who received child care at no cost for at least one month.



- The Affordability Pillar includes a range of programs and initiatives that reduce the out-of-pocket cost of child care for families.
- The combined impact of these initiatives is significant – between September 2018 and July 2020, more than 32,700 children received child care for \$10 a day. This includes more than 14,000 children from low income families who received child care at no cost for at least one month.
- Our **Prototype Sites** are in place to March 31, 2021, covering over 2,800 children.

- s.13

- The **Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative** also went well this year, with almost half of all child care facilities (46%), approved with no fee increases. That is 27,700 spaces with no fee increase.
- And we continue to see a high rate of child care operators opting into the program with 94% of eligible child care spaces approved for the CCFRI program.
- With regard to the **Affordable Child Care Benefit**, over 71,500 children (53,500 families) are part of the program
- When compared to the old Child Care Subsidy program, the ACCB is supporting more than twice as many children and families.

Accessibility Update

Provincial Space Creation Programs:



- Target: funding for 22,000 new licensed child care spaces by March 2021.
- Over 17,700 spaces approved (August 2020).

New Spaces Fund 2020/21:

- Two Calls for Applications - both prioritize a provincial cost/space of \$40K or less.
- First Call for Applications (closed May 2020) - 53 applications recommended for Treasury Board approval to create 2,752 new spaces.
- Second Call for Applications is open, closing November 1, 2020.

UBCM:

- **Space Creation (ELCC funding):** A total of 16 applications approved, including six which jointly applied to the New Spaces Fund.
- **Community Planning Grants:** A total of 59 planning projects funded – 33 submitted to MCFD for review.



- Next, I'll provide a quick progress update on the Access pillar, which includes a range of programs and projects aimed at supporting the creation of new, licensed spaces.
- As you know, our target is to support the creation of 22,000 new licensed child care spaces by March 2021, and we are on our way to meet or exceed the target.
- Over 17,700 spaces have been approved to date.
- This fiscal, we have two Calls for Applications.
- The First Call for Applications closed May 2020. s.12; s.13
s.12; s.13
- Second Call for Applications is open, closing November 1, 2020.

- Finally, through our partnership with **UBCM**, we've approved 16 projects.
- Also, through our partnership with UBCM, 59 community child care planning projects have been funded, supporting 88 municipalities.
- These community plans will provide us with important information on local child care community needs.

Quality Update

Wage Enhancement for front-line ECEs:



- Increase to \$2/hour April 1, 2020.
- Over \$30 million distributed (March 31, 2020) and program evaluation underway

ECE Education Support Fund - education and workforce development for students and ECEs

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- Program Evaluation (early 2020) shows positive impacts, will guide future direction.

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6

- On the Quality pillar, we've also worked hard to support the workforce and recruit new professionals to the field.
- To begin addressing the wage issue, the ECE wage enhancement for licensed child care facilities is now \$2 per hour.
- Last fiscal, more than 11,000 ECEs benefitted from this wage enhancement.
- Through our **Education Support Fund**, approximately 8,290 bursaries have been awarded to ECE students across the province, including 7,560 Student bursaries and 730 workforce bursaries.
- Due to greater than expected demand, the original \$10M budget was increased by \$5.9M through reallocated ELCC funding.

- As of the Summer 2020 semester, the full \$15.9M budget has been expended and additional funds will be allocated once the ELCC Agreement with the Federal Government has been signed.
- Results of the Education Support Fund Program Evaluation found that the bursaries are positively impacting student decisions to enroll or continue with their ECE programs, that the majority of ECE program graduates go on to be certified with the ECE Registry and that the majority of ECE program graduates expect to be working as an ECE in five years' time.

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- s.12




- I will move to some of our current and upcoming priorities for Childcare BC.

Pandemic Response

- Temporary Emergency Funding (TEF) discontinued August 31st
 - Almost 90% of facilities signed up supporting over 110,000 (open and closed) spaces in over 4,300 facilities
- Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) Matching Service for essential service workers
- Regulatory Changes
 - ACCB: parents maintain eligibility during temporary absences or if they lose their “reason for care” due to COVID-19

BRITISH COLUMBIA


A NEW DAY FOR FAMILIES
CHILDCARE BC

- The COVID-19 pandemic has emphasised the importance of child care for the economic recovery of the province.
- In response, the Ministry implemented several initiatives to support child care providers and families through the COVID 19 pandemic.
- As you know, Temporary Emergency Funding (TEF), which ended August 31st, was critical for child care operators.
- Between April and June, almost 90% of facilities signed up for TEF, supporting over 110,000 (open and closed) spaces in over 4,300 facilities.
- By August 25, providers had received over \$250M in support.

- We are continuing with our **Child Care Matching Service**, through Child Care Resource and Referral Centres .
- And, the changes we made to the Affordable Child Care Benefit remains in place, so that families can still receive ACCB if they have become unemployed due to the pandemic and/or if their child is temporarily absent from child care due to COVID-19.

Economic Recovery

- On September 2, Treasury Board approved funding for two child care economic recovery options, including:
 - \$6M accelerated space creation through short-term public sector renovations = approximately 1,200 new spaces
 - \$40M Health and Safety Grant = \$325/space for family and group providers
- Two additional child care initiatives were included in partner ministries' submissions:
 - Outdoor Play Spaces Grants for Aboriginal Head Start Programs of BC (\$15M); and
 - Expanded Supports for ECE Training (\$2M)



9

- I want to thank you and the Board for approving two key aspects of our economic recovery proposal, specifically, the creation of new spaces and a new one-time health and safety grant for child care operators to adapt their operations to BCCDC guidelines.
- These initiatives will make an important contribution to the child care sector this fall.
- I also want to flag that two additional child care initiatives were included in submissions led by other ministries:
 - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's proposal for Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program, which included a request Outdoor Play Spaces Grants for Aboriginal Head Start Programs of BC;

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Page 15 of 25

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Page 20 of 25

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Page 21 of 25

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- I will now turn it over to staff to provide the financial update.

Page 23 of 25

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Page 24 of 25 to/à Page 25 of 25

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