



Childcare BC

UPDATE for Minister of Finance

September 10, 2020



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

A NEW
DAY FOR
FAMILIES

CHILDCARE BC

September 2020 Update - Agenda

- I. Childcare BC Update
 - I. Childcare BC Progress and Achievements
 - II. Pillar Updates: Affordability, Access, and Quality
- II. Current/Upcoming Priorities
 - I. ELCC Bilateral Agreement w/Canada
 - II. Pandemic Response
 - III. Economic Recovery
 - IV. s.12; s.13
 - V.
 - VI. Prototype Sites Final Report
- III. Financial Update

Section I

CHILDCARE BC UPDATE



Childcare BC Progress and Achievements

- Introducing the **Affordable Child Care Benefit, Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative** and **Universal Childcare Prototype Sites** to help make child care more affordable for more families;
- Increasing the number of licensed, available child care spaces by helping child care providers **maintain their existing facility, create new spaces, and/or operate licensed child care**;
- Making **funding** available **for local governments** who wish to plan for and/or create new, licensed child care spaces within their own facilities or in a facility under a long-term lease agreement; and
- Supporting the workforce via **wage enhancements**, expanding post-secondary ECE programs, and supporting ECE education and training through **bursaries and financial supports** for ancillary costs.

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

• s.12; s.13

Affordable Child Care Benefit

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

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) - s.12; s.13
- 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.

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

- s.13
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- Program Evaluation (early 2020) shows positive impacts, will guide future direction.

Professional Development Funding assists ECEs and other ECL professionals

- BC Early Year Professional Development Hub: online training modules, platform for networking and communities of practice; launched May 2020.
- Connected 200 ECEs across 19 communities through pilot ECE Mentoring Project

s.12; s.13

Section II

CURRENT/UPCOMING PRIORITIES

Canada – BC ELCC Bilateral Agreement

- Canada has confirmed BC's 20/21 notional allocation under the ELCC Framework of \$52.37M to maintaining existing programs that are increasing child care affordability and enhancing equity through targeted investment in underserved communities.
- These investments will maintain current space numbers and levels of service throughout 2020-2021 and will not aim to increase spaces or service levels this year. This will ensure no service impacts for families currently accessing services.

Initiative	Targeted improvement	2020-2021 (\$M)
Early Care and Learning Prototype Sites – Operations	Affordability	31.00
Indigenous child care	Underserved communities	10.00
Children with extra support needs	Underserved communities	10.00
ECE Bursaries	ECE Professional Development	3.84
Total Invested (including \$2.47M in 2019-2020 carry-over)		54.84

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
 - Providers received over \$250M between April 1 and August 25
- 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
 - ECE Certification: extends expiration dates for ECE certificates where unable to complete required professional development
- Temporary Inclusion Support Fund

Economic Recovery

- On September 2, the Ministry presented options to Treasury Board^{s.12; s.13}
s.12; s.13
 - \$16M accelerated space creation through public sector and Indigenous organizations = approximately 1,575 new spaces
 - \$40M Health and Safety Grant = \$325/space for family and group providers

s.12; s.13

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Page 12 of 18 to/à Page 14 of 18

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s.12; s.13

Section III

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Page 16 of 18 to/à Page 17 of 18

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s.13; s.17

Thank You.

QUESTIONS?