

Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC

Working for a non-profit child care system that is high quality, affordable, accessible and accountable.

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BC signs a federal agreement for early learning and child care

“Our expectations are high,” says Susan Harney, chairperson. “With the announcement of this Agreement and significant federal funding, the BC government must be accountable for building a child care system that truly meets the needs of children and families.”

With nearly 80% of mothers in the labour force, BC needs to build a comprehensive system of child care services that is not dependent on a welfare-like system of subsidies.

Over the last four years child care services in BC have been underfunded and destabilized. With this new agreement and funding, child care advocates expect to see significant investment in building a not for profit system that lowers fees for all families and raises the wages of qualified and trained staff.

“Demand for quality day care spaces is huge and waiting lists are tremendous. The majority of working parents can't afford the current fees or access enough quality daycare spaces needed to meet the needs,” says Sharon Gregson.

The Coalition will continue to call on the BC government to set out its timelines and targets for how the federal money will be used to build the much needed quality child care system.

In addition to the federal funding, we expect the BC government to restore its own provincial spending on child care and the Coalition will continue to demand that the BC government make provincial spending on school aged child care a priority given that this federal money is for children up to six years only.

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