

Provincial Child Care Funding Rates are still going DOWN

On June 28, 2007, Minister Linda Reid, BC's Minister of State for Child Care issued a media release titled "PROVINCE INCREASES CHILD CARE FUNDING RATES" in which she announced new Child Care Operating Fund (CCOF) rates for infant and toddler spaces in licensed group and family care as of July 1, 2007.

To set the record straight:

- On January 8, 2007 Minister Reid announced a series of cuts to child care funding in BC.
- These included cuts to CCOF for all types of care for children under the age of 6 effective July 1, 2007.
- The biggest cuts were to CCOF rates of Infant and Toddler spaces.
- From January to June, communities across BC sent government a consistent message that the cuts were harmful and unnecessary.
- At the same time, providers and parents across BC prepared for the worst. Many programs had no choice but to raise fees to cover CCOF cuts.
- Days before the cuts were to come into effect, Minister Reid backtracked on the size of the CCOF cuts for infant/toddler care.
- This demonstrates that community action does make a difference!
- But, as the table below shows, her reversal has NOT led to increased child care funding.
- **CCOF rates for Infant/Toddler care are still going down on July 1 and fees are still going up.**

Analysis of BC Child Care Operating Fund (CCOF) Rates for children in licensed group centres, preschools and family child care programs								
CCOF Rates	1 Actual until June 30 2007		2 Announced Jan 5/07 Jul 1/07 - Mar 31/08		3 Announced Jun 20/07 Jul 1/07 - Mar 31/08		Actual Funding Decrease (column 3 - 1)	
	Daily	Mthly**	Daily	Mthly**	Daily	Mthly**	Mthly**	%
<i>Children under 3*:</i>								
group centres	\$14.04	\$295	\$10.28	\$216	\$12.00	\$252	(\$43)	-15%
family child care	4.34	91	3.18	67	3.70	78	(13)	-15%
<i>Preschools</i>	1.87	39	1.37	29	1.37	29	(11)	-27%
<i>Children aged 3-5*:</i>								
group centres	7.48	157	5.48	115	5.48	115	(42)	-27%
family child care	3.86	81	2.82	59	2.82	59	(22)	-27%
<i>School aged children*:</i>								
group centres	2.80	59	2.80	59	2.80	59	0	
family child care	1.46	31	1.46	31	1.46	31	0	
*care for more than 4 hours/day; funding changes consistent to those shown above for care < 4 hours/day **based on 21 days/month								