

Canada-Wide Early Learning & Child Care System

APRIL 2023

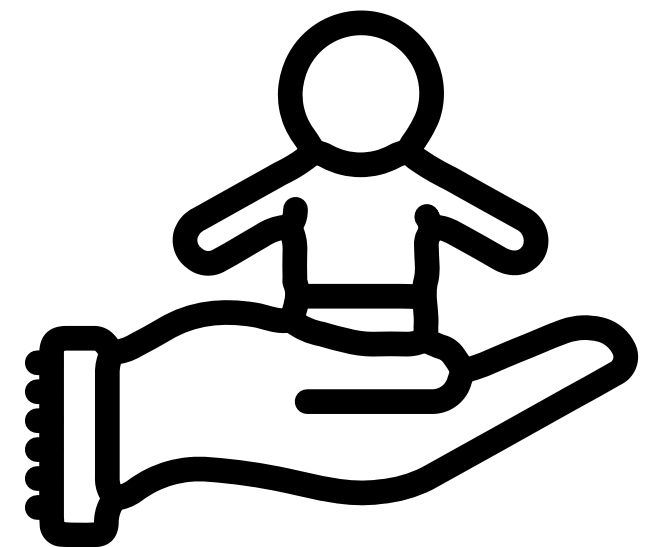


What is the Canada – Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) System

The Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system supports quality, accessibility, affordability, and inclusivity in licensed child care. It was initiated and funded by the Government of Canada. and CWELCC is a five-year plan to reduce the cost of child care to an average of \$10 per day by 2026.

All future expansion must be part of the local service system manager's targeted expansion plan.

More information about CWELCC can be found [here](#).



Funding Guidelines for CWELCC Participating Child Care Programs



Frozen Fees

Centres that have enrolled in the CWELCC system are legislated to maintain their rates at the March 2022 level. Centres may not increase fees for children 0 - 6 years old



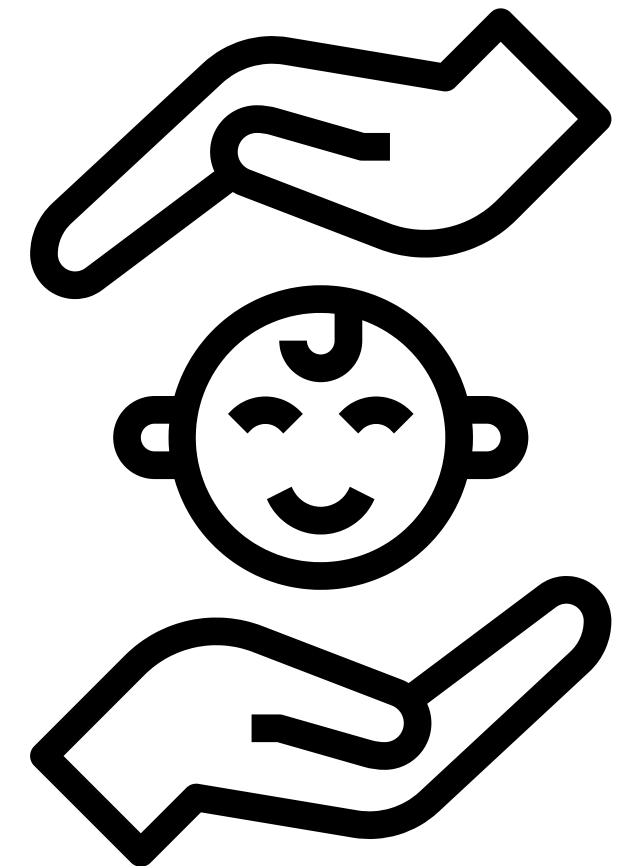
Cost Escalation Rates

The Ministry of Education has provided a 2.75% funding increase to participating programs. For example, if a program was charging \$40.00/day they receive a \$1.10/space/day increase for 2023



Reduced Fees for Families

Families with eligible children enrolled in a CWELCC participating centre have had their fees reduced by 52.75% in 2023. For example, if a parent was paying \$40.00/day in 2022, they are currently paying \$18.90/day. The participating program is reimbursed the balance of \$21.10 through the CMSM.



What are the issues with: **Workforce**



Recruitment

- The current expansion plan will require 14,700 new RECEs by 2026.
- To get to the existing local operating capacity (without expansion) requires an additional 120 staff.



Retention

- The College of ECEs data shows that 20% RECEs are leaving the college membership after three years



Barriers

- Wages, benefits and lack of professional supports.
- Lack of recognition of the profession.
- Complicated application process for grants to support qualifications upgrade.



Opportunities

- CMSMs will continue to advocate for 'thriving' wages for ECEs.
- Large amount of grants available.
- Pandemic brought increased awareness of the need of licensed child care to support community development.

What are we doing to support the workforce?



Professional Learning

Ongoing professional development opportunities to support and inspire.
Funding to support training time



Mentorship Pilot

Opportunity to receive one-on-one support to set goals to grow as a supervisor
On-going support to address issues or concerns as they arise.
Developing a stronger supervisor network



Early Learning Hub

Resources to support HDLH
No cost to early learning and child care staff



Advocacy

Ongoing advocacy to EDU to support increase wages, benefits and supports to attract and retain quality staff in the sector

