

Backgrounder: Alberta Liberal Action Plan for Child Care

www.AlbertaLiberal.com

10247 124 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5N 1P8

P: 780.414.1124

F: 780.414.1125

T: 1.800.661.9201

E: office@albertaliberal.com

- Boost front line child care worker wage enhancements by 15 to 30 per cent, depending on the worker's level, to help child care centres recruit and retain staff.
 - Cost: \$40 million per year
 - Every staff member that is recruited or retained can create spaces for up to 4 infants and toddlers, up to 8 young children and up to 15 older children in a day care center.

- Trigger the creation of new child care centres and help existing centres to flourish through increased start-up funding, and operational funding for accredited centres, pre-school, out-of-school care, and day homes.
 - Cost: \$12.5 million a year
 - This will help to create over 1,600 new child care spaces.
 - Every child care centre that is created can provide up to 80 new child care spaces.
 - Every family day home that is created can provide up to 6 new child care spaces.

- Provide financial support for students in early childhood education and forgive student loans for those who remain in Alberta as child care workers for three years after graduating.

- Provide specialized financial assistance to centres and day homes that offer infant and toddler care to address their higher staffing costs and to encourage more centres to create spaces for very young children.
 - Cost: approximately \$2 million a year
 - These funds can be used to pay a Level 3 worker an additional \$1 or \$2 per hour, or hire another staff member.

- Make spaces for children aged 6 to 12 eligible for subsidies, just as they are in every other Canadian province.
 - Cost: \$8 million
 - Alberta currently has child care subsidies that help eligible low and middle-income parents of preschool children with the cost of child care.

- Work with employers and industry to develop a set of best practices to improve conditions for employees with children, and to increase understanding between employers and parents who work with them. Employers will also be eligible for start-up funding and operating funding once accredited.

Total cost of child care plan: approximately \$63 million a year

It's time.
AlbertaLiberal