

BC CHILD CARE REALITY CHECK: \$10aDay or tax credit?



	\$10aDay child care system	Refundable child care tax credit
WHICH POLITICAL PARTIES SUPPORT IT?	The BC government and the federal Liberal and NDP parties . Along with most provinces, BC signed a five year federal funding agreement to build a \$10aDay system.	The federal Conservatives say they will cancel this agreement and the current child care expense deduction (CCED), replacing both with a tax credit that refunds a portion of parent fees.
WHAT IS IT?	A universal, publicly funded system of licensed child care for all families who choose it, with parent fees capped at \$10aDay and fair wages for educators.	A partial refund of parent fees (maximum \$6,000) paid for licensed or unlicensed care. Refund depends on family income and actual fees paid.
DOES IT REDUCE AND CAP FEES?	YES. Fees are capped at maximum \$10 per day (\$200 per month – \$2,500 per year), with no fees for lower-income families.	NO. Only 6,600 Canadian families will likely receive maximum credit. No cap on fees, which typically increase faster than inflation.
HOW MUCH WILL BC FAMILIES SAVE NEXT YEAR?	On the road to \$10aDay, BC families using full-time licensed child care save about \$6,000 .	BC families using full-time licensed child care save about \$3,000 .
DOES IT CREATE MORE LICENSED SPACES?	YES. 30,000 new public, non-profit and Indigenous-led spaces for children under six in BC over next five years. Another 10,000 additional spaces in the two years following.	NO commitment or funds to create new spaces.
DOES IT INCREASE WAGES?	YES. A wage grid to fairly compensate early childhood educators.	NO commitment or funds to increase educator wages.
DOES IT IMPROVE QUALITY?	YES. Public funding for licensed programs with accountability for quality and inclusion of children and families in all their diversity.	NO commitment or funds to improve quality or inclusion.
DOES IT PRIORITIZE INDIGENOUS-LED CHILD CARE?	YES. Committed funds for Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement, with additional funding in BC agreement.	NO explicit commitment or funds for Indigenous-led child care.
DOES IT WORK ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD?	YES. \$10aDay programs are already life-changing for BC families. Effective systems include \$10aDay Plan elements: universal access, public funding and management, and a well educated and compensated professional workforce.	NO. There are no examples of effective child care systems funded through tax credits.