

Early Childhood Education and Care in Ontario Provincial Political Party Platforms: A Report Card

On October 6th 2011, Ontarians are headed to the ballot boxes to elect our MPPs and Premier. Which candidates for Premier and political parties are going to stand up for early childhood education and care? Here's a run-down of party policies as they affect our sector.

We'd be happy to re-grade if parties change their positions!



Ontario Green Party

There is no reference to child care or early learning in the Ontario Green Party's 5-point party platform.



Ontario PC Party

Committed to fully implementing full-day kindergarten.

No reference to child care in entire party platform.

Therefore:
No protection of child care space in school

No funding to assist child care centres with loss of 4- and 5- year-olds and;

Nothing to stop fee increases and child care closures



Ontario Liberal Party

Fully implementing full-day kindergarten.

No extended-day for 6-12 year-olds until 2015

No protection of child care space in schools

"We'll also work with our partners to modernize Ontario's childcare system and support centres as they transition to offering affordable care to families with younger children."
No funding has been allocated to make this happen.

Therefore:
Nothing to stop fee increases and child care closures



Ontario NDP

Fully implementing full-day kindergarten.

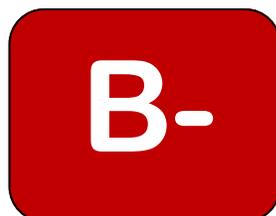
"New Democrats are committed to moving ahead with full day kindergarten, but we won't let parents who need child care spaces fall through the cracks"

\$125 million in each of the next two years will be allocated to:

- Freeze child care fees
- Keep child care centres open

Funding deals with stabilization of current crisis, does not present long-term vision for child care

No protection of child care space in schools



Produced by the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care

Visit www.childcareontario.org for child care news and www.4outof5.ca to learn about the child care crisis