
INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Children and Family Development

GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT CHILD-CARE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

VICTORIA – Linda Reid, Minister of State for Child Care, has issued a letter to all child-care providers in the province, giving child-care providers and parents an assurance that the current child-care subsidy will continue into the future.

The correspondence reassures parents that the provincial government will be maintaining the current Child Care Subsidy Program for parents to protect the province's most vulnerable families. As a result, those who receive subsidy will continue to receive subsidy, and the increased subsidy rate and income threshold will remain in place. In September 2005, the Province increased subsidy rates to help parents to cover the cost of child care, as well as increasing the subsidy threshold from \$21,000 to \$38,000.

Furthermore, the federal \$100-a-month Universal Child Care Benefit that parents are now receiving will not be considered as income when determining eligibility for child-care subsidy.

Despite the cancellation of the federal early learning and child care agreement, which represents a loss of \$455 million in federal funding, the letter also reassures parents and child-care providers that, in addition to maintaining the increases to subsidy over the long term, the Province will endeavour to maintain all other child-care services to the end of the current school year..

Moving forward, the Province will continue to look at innovative ways to ensure B.C. families have a range of quality, flexible and inclusive child care options to accommodate the loss of federal funding.

The letter to parents and child care providers is available at:
www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/pdfs/subsidy_letter.pdf

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