

Public Consultation Early Learning and Child Care - What Matters to You?

We're moving forward

With the conclusion of the *Family Choices* agenda, the Manitoba government is committed to moving forward with early learning and child care in the province. We will continue to build on past accomplishments and improve our system for Manitoba families. Public input is very important at this stage as we plan for the future of licensed early learning and child care.

We want to find out what is working well and learn where we can best direct our efforts to strengthen Manitoba's early learning and child care system. To do this, we are asking you to provide comments about the current system and share ideas and suggestions for the future.

The Importance of Quality Early Learning and Child Care

We know that finding high-quality child care is a major concern for Manitoba families. The availability of child care is a major factor in the choice families make about employment and education. It is an important part of a family's quality of life.

The process of locating and securing a child care spot for a child of any age can be stressful for families who require care to work or attend school. In many cases, expectant parents begin their search for a child care spot long before a child arrives.

We know that the cost of child care can be challenging for both families and providers. Whether parents seek care through a child care facility or in a private home, the cost of child care can be a major household expense. Parents who opt for home-based care also want to know that their child is safe and well cared for. Families are also concerned that child care is located close to home, available at a variety of hours during the work week and that it is co-ordinated with children's school attendance.

The Manitoba government is committed to supporting Manitoba families seeking child care by creating more spaces and centres, strengthening the child care workforce and improving the quality of care across the province.

*Focused on
what matters most
> to families.*



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