

CHILD CARE

INNER CITY VOTES

2019 FEDERAL ELECTION



What's Happening?

It is getting more expensive to raise children in Canada. For many families, childcare is the 2nd largest expense after rent with the average family spending 22.2% of their income on childcare. Childcare costs have risen faster than inflation in 61% of Canadian cities.

As well as the high cost, childcare can be hard to find even if you make enough to afford it. Canada only has enough regulated child care spaces for 1 in 4 of our children under the age of 5 and only 1 in 5 for children 5 to 12. Make Poverty History Manitoba calculates that we need to create 17,000 new childcare spots just to meet the current demand.

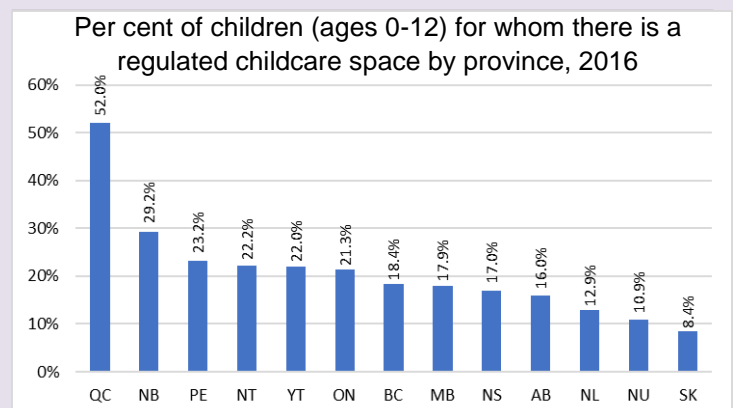
Why is This Happening?

Canada does not have a national childcare program. A cash benefit, such as the UCCB, can help families with the cost but will not address the space shortage.

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives 2018 report shows that an estimated 776,000 children (44% of all non-school-aged children) in Canada live in childcare deserts, communities that are parched for available childcare. Families are struggling to find good childcare in their communities. A national childcare system would help parents find safe and affordable services that will help children find success later in life. High quality, regulated childcare is in the interest of all Canadians.

Questions to Ask

- How will your party lower the cost of childcare and increase the amount of regulated childcare spaces?
- Will your party create a national childcare system for all Canadians?
- How will your party ensure that there is a high-quality early learning and childcare (ELCC) available and accessible to all?



Source: Child Care Now, 2019