



# 2023 Survey of Licensed Child Care Spaces in Metro Vancouver

December 2023

Prepared by: Metro Vancouver Regional Planning

# Indigenous Territorial Recognition

Metro Vancouver acknowledges that the region's residents live, work, and learn on the shared territories of many Indigenous peoples, including 10 local First Nations: ǰíǰǰǰ' (Katzie), ǰǰǰǰǰǰǰ (Kwantlen), kǰǰǰǰǰǰǰ (Kwkwetlem), máthxwi (Matsqui), xǰǰǰǰǰǰǰǰ (Musqueam), qiqéyt (Qayqayt), se'mya'me (Semiahmoo), Skǰǰǰǰǰǰǰǰ (Squamish), scǰǰǰǰǰǰǰǰǰǰ (Tsawwassen) and sǰǰǰǰǰǰǰǰǰ (Tseil-Waututh).

Metro Vancouver respects the diverse and distinct histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit, which collectively enrich our lives and the region.

## Thank you

Many thanks to the members of the Peer Review Group who helped guide and inform this study. We are grateful to the following individuals who participated in the Peer Review Group and shared their expertise and knowledge in support of the project:

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# Introductions and Key Findings

## Introduction

Access to quality child care is vital to the well-being of working families and children, is a fundamental ingredient for regional economic prosperity, and is a critical component of complete and equitable communities. Access to convenient and affordable child care supports families in many ways, enabling parents to work or pursue education outside the home, and quality care in early childhood supports school readiness and healthy child development. Child care can often be a major household expense for families, and thus affordability of child care is of critical importance. Child care availability is also essential for economic development in the region – lack of appropriate, accessible, and affordable child care can negatively impact employee recruitment

and retention which in turn stunts productivity as well as the financial wellbeing of families. For these reasons, child care supply, accessibility, quality, and affordability that keeps up with growth continues to be priority issues in Metro Vancouver.

*Metro 2050*, the Regional Growth Strategy, sets out the long-term regional vision for livability, sustainability and prosperity. It includes the following two strategies and two specific policies, which are new from *Metro 2040*, that require Metro Vancouver to support member jurisdictions to better plan for child care and adopt policies that advance the creation of child care spaces in compact, complete communities:



## **Strategy 1.2 Focus Growth in Urban Centres and Frequent Transit Development Areas:**

*Member Jurisdictions will:*

- 1.2.24 Adopt Regional Context Statements that:
- vi) *consider support for the provision of child care spaces in Urban Centres and Frequent Transit Development Areas;*

## **Strategy 1.3 Develop resilient, healthy, connected, and complete communities with a range of services and amenities**

*Metro Vancouver will:*

- 1.3.1 *Support member jurisdictions and work with First Nations and other agencies in developing resilient, healthy, connected, and complete communities through regional strategies, research, and best practices that:*
- a) *promote greater local access to affordable community services and child care, healthy food, and public spaces (including regional parks and greenways);*

*Member Jurisdictions will:*

- 1.3.7 *Adopt Regional Context Statements that:*
- b) *locate and support community, arts, cultural, recreational, institutional, medical/health, social service, education and child care facilities, and local serving retail uses in Urban Centres or areas with good access to transit.*

The role of the Province in the development and provision of child care spaces has become increasingly important since 2018. The Province provides operating funds, child care subsidies and capital funding through the ChildCareBC strategy, which was launched in 2018. Under the ChildCareBC strategy, the Province, along with the Federal Government, have boosted funding for local governments, Indigenous communities, not-for-profit organizations, families, and child care workers to support child care space creation, to make child care more affordable for families, and to increase the recruitment and retention, and enhance wages, of Early Childhood Educators (ECE). The Province also licenses and regulates child care facilities through the

Health Authorities, and liaises with local governments and child care providers. In 2022, the Province shifted the responsibility of child care into the Ministry of Education and Child Care, which signified important early learning opportunities and support for the future educational success of children.

Local governments also play a significant role in the provision of child care spaces. Local governments regulate land use and development, which affects the size, location, and operation of child care facilities much of which is not regulated by the Province through health and safety regulations or *BC Building Code* requirements. Local governments also aim to facilitate the provision of additional quality child care spaces in a number of ways, in the right locations to match their growing populations.

Community stakeholders including not-for-profit and private operators, developers, and parents also play important roles in the development and operation of child care facilities. The *2023 Survey of Licensed Child Care Spaces and Policies in Metro Vancouver (2023 Survey)* is concerned primarily with the municipal role in child care, and it is prepared as a resource for municipal government planners and policy makers. Therefore, this report presents an up-to-date inventory of child care spaces in the region and the findings of a region-wide municipal survey of policies and regulations relating to the provision of child care spaces.

The 2023 Survey was completed with the guidance and support of a child care expert Peer Review Group, which comprised staff representatives from municipalities, Health Authorities, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, and in cooperation with the members of the Regional Planning Advisory Committee Social Issues Subcommittee. The intent of the Peer Review Group was to help inform and guide the project, to ensure for data accuracy and to update the 2019 municipal survey to capture a more robust view of and to better understand the challenges of current child care planning in the region.



Specifically, the 2023 Survey highlights the number of children 0-12, the number of all child care spaces, the number of child care spaces for the three group child care licence types, and local government policies and resources that aim to facilitate and enhance the supply of child care spaces in the region. These include: planning policies, zoning regulations, business licence requirements and fiscal actions.

Appendix A provides a detailed inventory of child care spaces, by community, using data from the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health Authorities collected in May 2023. Appendix B summarizes the relevant zoning, planning and regulatory policies and financial contributions. Appendix C shows the number of regulated spaces available per 100 children under 12 by province and territory, as reported by the 2021 *Early Childhood Education and Care in Canada* report.

## Key Findings of the 2023 Survey

- The number of children under the age of 12 is expected to continue to grow slightly in the near term by 1.1 percent (from an estimated 323,796 in 2023 to 327,397 in 2028).
- As of 2023, the number of child care spaces grew by 35 percent (up from 60,970 in 2019 to 81,264 in 2023) in Metro Vancouver.
- As of 2023, Metro Vancouver has on average 25.1 spaces per 100 children 12 and under, which is an increase of 6.5 spaces per 100 children 12 and under from 2019 (35 percent increase), but remains slightly below the 2021 national average of 29 spaces but above the BC average of 21 spaces.
- As of 2023, Metro Vancouver has an average of 13.9 spaces per 100 children 0-3 (Group Child Care under 36 months), 38.7 spaces per 100 children 3-5 (Group Child Care 30 months to School Age), and 9 spaces per 100 children 5-12 (Group Child Care School Age).
- The survey results show that major challenges in the provision of child care are mainly:
  - Lack of funding to cover capital operating and maintenance costs and operator lease/rent challenges;
  - Staffing shortages / low wages for child care workers;
  - Insufficient provincial funding to build new spaces;
  - Persistent demand for new child care spaces.
- 15 respondents have a standalone child care strategy and identify child care facilities as a community amenity in the development approvals process.
- 5 respondents have a standalone child care bylaw for the provision of child care.
- 16 respondents support child care through the provision of local governments building space (e.g., rent-free, reduced lease, or market lease).
- 16 respondents have staff resources dedicated to child care work and 9 respondents have a dedicated staff person specifically for child care work.
- 7 respondents offer grants for child care capital projects; 3 offer grants for child care operating costs; and 7 offer property tax exemptions for child care provision.
- 14 of 21 respondents have \$10/child care facilities within their communities offering affordable child care to families.

# Provincial Role in Child Care

## Child Care Regulation in British Columbia

The Province of British Columbia regulates licensed child care facilities under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, *Child Care Licensing Regulation*, and the standards of practice. There are four broad types of child care in British Columbia: Licensed, Registered Licence-Not-Required, Licence-Not-Required, and In-Child’s-Own Home Care (Table 1). Only licensed child care spaces are inventoried in this report.

Under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act and Child Care Licensing Regulation*, Health Authorities are legislated to issue child care licences, inspect facilities, suspend or cancel licences and investigate complaints. In British Columbia, there are ten different categories for licensed care, which are summarized in [Appendix D](#). A change in the 2023 Survey from the 2019 report is the introduction of two new licensed child care categories in 2022: School Age Care on School Grounds and Recreational Care.

TABLE 1: TYPES OF CHILD CARE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

CHILD CARE TYPE	REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS
Licensed	Monitored and regularly inspected by regional health authorities; they must meet specific requirements for health and safety, staffing qualifications, record keeping, space and equipment, child-to-staff ratios, and programming.
Registered Licence-Not-Required	Registered licence-not-required child care providers are unlicensed but have registered with a Child Care Resource and Referral Centre. To become a registered licence-not-required provider, operators must have completed a criminal records check, character references, a home safety assessment, first aid training, and child care training. Licence-not-required child care providers are allowed to care for up to two children (or a sibling group) who are not related to them.
Licence-Not-Required Child Care	Unlicensed child care providers can operate legally in BC and are allowed to care for up to two children (or a sibling group) who are not related to them; they may be operating illegally if they have more children in their care than permitted. There is no monitoring or inspection and no health or safety standards.
In-Child’s-Own Home Care	This type of unlicensed care is when parents arrange for child care of their own child within their own home – like a nanny, family member, or a child-minder. There are no legal requirements for monitoring this type of care.



## ChildCareBC Program

In response to the lack of availability and affordability of licensed child care for families in British Columbia, the Province launched the ChildCareBC program with the aim to create universal child care that is affordable and available for all families. Launched in 2018, the ChildCareBC program is the platform through which the investments and partnerships between the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia are implemented. Through the Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, a bi-lateral agreement between the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada, the Province has committed to invest \$5.2 billion in child care from 2018-2025 and the Federal government has committed to investing a total of \$3.2 billion from 2021-2026.<sup>1</sup>

ChildCareBC offers various funding programs to support families, local governments, Indigenous communities, not-for-profit organizations, and child care workers to enhance the quality, affordability, accessibility, and inclusivity of child care. Those programs include:

- New Spaces Fund Primary Stream and School Age Care on School Grounds Stream;
- \$10/day ChildCareBC Centre Program;

- Child Care Operating Funding:
  - Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative;
  - ECE Wage Enhancement Program;
- Maintenance Fund; and,
- Aboriginal Supported Child Development and Supported Child Development programs.

To date, the ChildCareBC program has been highly successful for both creating new spaces and making child care affordable for families. Since 2018, the Metro Vancouver region has seen an increase of 68,640 child care spaces funded through the New Spaces Fund and the \$10/day ChildCareBC Centre Program.<sup>2</sup> In addition, over 2000 Indigenous led child care spaces were created in British Columbia through ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund. In terms of affordability, the Province reached its goal to cut fees for child care by 50 percent, largely due part by the child care fee reduction initiative and expansion of the \$10/day ChildCareBC Centre program. Lastly, to further advance the goal of universal child care, the responsibility of child care moved from the Ministry of Child and Family Development to the newly named Ministry of Education and Child Care in April 2022. This shift signalled the need to bring more certainty and reliability to child care and also the need to recognize child care as a core service of government and education.

<sup>1</sup> Government of British Columbia. "B.C. Reaches Milestone in Newly Funding Child Care Spaces." May 2, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Government of British Columbia. B.C. Child Care Data and Reports. October 3, 2023.



# Data Sources

**Child Care Spaces:** In British Columbia, health authorities are responsible for licensing child care. To support the 2023 Survey, Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health Authorities provided the data for the Metro Vancouver region (current as of May 2023). The 2023 Survey uses data of licensed facilities, and does not include child care facilities located on First Nations reserve lands with the exception of Tsawwassen First Nation.

**Child Care Policies:** Local governments develop policies, land use plans, bylaws, and business licensing requirements for child care. In Metro Vancouver there are 20 municipalities, one Treaty First Nation (Tsawwassen First Nation), and one electoral area (Electoral Area A). Within Electoral Area A, University of British Columbia (UBC) Campus and Community Planning is the entity responsible for land use planning and licensing on campus while planning and licensing in the unincorporated University Endowment Lands (UEL) is conducted by a manager appointed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. The remaining areas of Electoral Area A are administered by Metro Vancouver. Child care policies are reported for UBC Campus and UEL separately.

**Number of Children:** Metro Vancouver's Regional Planning and Housing Services Department provided data on the estimated number of children by community for 2023 and projected for 2028.

Data for small communities including Tsawwassen First Nation, UBC Campus, UEL, and the Villages of Lions Bay, Anmore, and Belcarra was not available in previous child care inventories. In the 2019 and 2023 version of the Survey this data is provided, where available. Note: due to differences in the number of communities surveyed between 2011, 2015, 2019, and 2023, the data is not always directly comparable over time.



# Demographic Profile of Metro Vancouver's Children

The estimated number of children under the age of 12 in Metro Vancouver is expected to grow slightly in the near term. In 2019, there was an estimated total of 325,142 children under the age of 12 living in the Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), and in 2023 that number is estimated to be 323,796, which is a decrease of 1,346 children aged 0-12 (Table 2, and Table 3 for the 2023 estimated population of children by age group). By the year 2028, the projected number of children aged 0-12 is projected to grow by 3,601 to approximately 327,397, or 1.1 percent (Table 2). Nearly half of the projected growth of children under the age of 12 is expected to occur in Surrey, Vancouver, Burnaby, and Richmond, which is the same trend as seen in the 2019 Survey.

The reasons for a decrease in the estimated number of children under the age of 12 from 2019-2023 can be associated with various factors. Metro Vancouver projects population growth using an age cohort model to project the number of children aged 0-12, which was updated in 2023 to reflect data from the 2021 Census and historical data and trends. The Age Cohort Model establishes population by gender and single year of age for a given base year. Then for every subsequent year, the population for that single year of age is predicted by estimating the change in natural increase and migration trends. Demographic components of population growth are expected to generally follow historical trends over the projection period.<sup>3</sup>

By comparing the analysis of the 2016 and 2021 Census years to assess the accuracy of the 2023 projections and better understand the high-level trends, one can see that the results in Table 2 are in line with Statistics Canada's projections, which show a -0.3 percent decrease in children aged 0-5 and an overall increase of children aged 0-12 by 2 percent between 2016 and 2021 (Table 4).<sup>4</sup> Because the children in the 0-5 age cohort will be in the 5-10 age range in 2028, we can expect a slight decrease in the 0-5 age cohort by 2028. Another factor that may be a cause for the decline in number of children aged 0-12 may be a change in fertility rates and number of women of childbearing age given these factors determine the number of newborns in any given year. Between 2019 and 2022, there was a decrease in fertility rates at the regional and municipal levels. To estimate future births, the analysis applies historical data and assumes the change in these historical rates will continue till the year of 2051. This results in lower rates compared to previous projections, and possibly leading to fewer newborns being born over the near-term and therefore, a lower population growth in children aged 0-5.

<sup>3</sup> Metro Vancouver Growth Projections – Methodology Report. June 2021.

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 42-10-0012-01 Number of children in Canada

TABLE 2: CHANGE IN ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 12 IN METRO VANCOUVER (FROM 2019-2023) AND CHANGE IN PROJECTED NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 12 IN METRO VANCOUVER (2023 TO 2028)

ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER					PROJECTED NO. OF CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER			
Geographic Area	2019 Est. No. of Children*		2023 Est. No. of Children*		Change in Est. No. of Children (2019-2023)	2028 Proj. No. of Children*		Change in No. of Children (2023-2028)
	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	
Anmore	249	0.1%	266	0.1%	17	237	0.1%	-29
Belcarra	45	0.0%	25	0.0%	-20	35	0.0%	10
Burnaby	29,319	9.0%	29,056	9.0%	-263	30,229	9.3%	1,173
Coquitlam	19,810	6.1%	19,118	5.9%	-692	19,257	5.9%	139
Delta	13,441	4.1%	13,573	4.2%	132	12,643	3.9%	-930
Langley City	3,735	1.1%	4,301	1.3%	566	4,564	1.4%	263
Langley Township	19,585	6.0%	21,108	6.5%	1,523	20,385	6.3%	-723
Lions Bay	157	0.0%	165	0.1%	8	170	0.1%	5
Maple Ridge	12,394	3.8%	13,954	4.3%	1,560	12,906	4.0%	-1,048
New Westminster	8,596	2.6%	9,206	2.8%	610	10,361	3.2%	1,155
North Vancouver City	6,921	2.1%	6,832	2.1%	-89	8,161	2.5%	1,329
North Vancouver District	12,141	3.7%	12,267	3.8%	126	10,572	3.3%	-1,695
Pitt Meadows	2,825	0.9%	2,858	0.9%	33	2,571	0.8%	-287
Port Coquitlam	8,473	2.6%	8,207	2.5%	-266	7,709	2.4%	-498
Port Moody	4,976	1.5%	4,519	1.4%	-457	4,147	1.3%	-372
Richmond	24,713	7.6%	24,507	7.6%	-206	24,280	7.5%	-227
Surrey	82,295	25.3%	81,034	25%	-1,261	81,586	25.1%	552
Tsawwassen First Nation	114	0.0%	334	0.1%	220	307	0.1%	-27
UBC	1,736	0.5%	1,951	0.6%	215	1,949	0.6%	-2
UEL	403	0.1%	394	0.1%	-9	356	0.1%	-38
Vancouver	67,003	20.6%	63,300	19.5%	-3,703	68,822	21.2%	5,522
West Vancouver	4,823	1.5%	5,114	1.6%	291	4,434	1.4%	-680
White Rock	1,390	0.4%	1,707	0.5%	317	1,716	0.5%	9
<b>Vancouver CMA</b>	<b>325,142</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>323,796</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-1,346</b>	<b>327,397</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,601</b>

\* Source: Metro Vancouver



TABLE 3: ESTIMATED POPULATION OF CHILDREN AGE 12 AND UNDER, BY AGE GROUP, IN METRO VANCOUVER, 2023

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	2023 ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER*		2023 ESTIMATED POPULATION AGE 12 AND UNDER BY AGE GROUPS			
	No.	%	0 to 2 years	3 to 5 years	6 to 9 year	10 to 12 years
Anmore	266	0.1%	42	42	100	83
Belcarra	25	0.0%	8	5	12	0
Burnaby	29,056	9.0%	6,485	6,507	9,171	6,894
Coquitlam	19,118	5.9%	3,653	3,952	6,456	5,057
Delta	13,573	4.2%	2,367	2,793	4,619	3,795
Langley City	4,301	1.3%	1,062	1,034	1,283	922
Langley Township	21,108	6.5%	4,122	4,553	7,049	5,384
Lions Bay	165	0.1%	25	36	55	49
Maple Ridge	13,954	4.3%	2,644	3,070	4,797	3,442
New Westminister	9,206	2.8%	2,314	2,171	2,768	1,954
North Vancouver City	6,832	2.1%	1,845	1,508	1,934	1,545
North Vancouver District	12,267	3.8%	1,961	2,450	4,256	3,599
Pitt Meadows	2,858	0.9%	543	649	962	704
Port Coquitlam	8,207	2.5%	1,537	1,872	2,720	2,078
Port Moody	4,519	1.4%	857	1,000	1,467	1,195
Richmond	24,507	7.6%	4,573	5,368	8,393	6,174
Surrey	81,034	25.0%	16,479	17,448	26,074	21,032
Tsawwassen First Nation	334	0.1%	81	78	105	71
UBC	1,951	0.6%	313	423	687	528
UEL	394	0.1%	64	87	137	105
Vancouver	63,300	19.5%	15,820	14,828	18,694	13,958
West Vancouver	5,114	1.6%	654	843	1,884	1,734
White Rock	1,707	0.5%	344	349	548	465
Vancouver CMA	323,796	100%	67,793	71,066	104,171	80,768

\* Source: Metro Vancouver

TABLE 4: POPULATION OF CHILDREN COMPARISON ANALYSIS BETWEEN 2016 AND 2021 CENSUS DATA

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	CHILDREN AGED 0-12*			CHILDREN AGED 0-5*		
	2016	2021	Change%	2016	2021	Change%
Anmore	310	280	-0.1	90	95	0.06
Belcarra	70	55	-0.21	20	20	0
Burnaby	27160	27965	0.03	12950	12725	-0.02
Coquitlam	19090	18935	-0.01	8325	7880	-0.05
Delta	13775	13790	0	5535	5530	0
Langley City	3445	3935	0.14	1650	1930	0.17
Langley Township	18610	20755	0.12	8085	9055	0.12
Lions Bay	180	160	-0.11	65	70	0.08
Maple Ridge	12445	13850	0.11	5535	6130	0.11
New Westminister	7770	8675	0.12	3860	4250	0.1
North Vancouver City	6235	6295	0.01	2935	2875	-0.02
North Vancouver District	12490	12620	0.01	4985	4895	-0.02
Pitt Meadows	2750	2845	0.03	1265	1270	0
Port Coquitlam	8380	8230	-0.02	3630	3610	-0.01
Port Moody	5195	4650	-0.1	2270	1935	-0.15
Richmond	23395	23955	0.02	10555	10525	0
Surrey	79835	80260	0.01	35210	34010	-0.03
Tsawwassen First Nation	80	290	2.63	30	150	4
Electoral Area A**	2045	2300	0.12	2045	2300	0.12
Vancouver	61550	61145	-0.01	29320	28555	-0.03
West Vancouver	5045	5260	0.04	1615	1755	0.09
White Rock	1515	1665	0.1	655	680	0.04
Vancouver CMA	311,370	317,915	2%	140,630	140,245	-0.30%

\* Source: Metro Vancouver

\*\*Includes UBC and UEL



# Current Inventory of Child Care Spaces in Metro Vancouver

Significant investments and progress have been made since 2019 for creating child care spaces in the region, reducing fees for families, enhancing the wage grid for child care workers, and enhancing the quality of child care. It has been 5-years since the launch of ChildCareBC program and as the results in the following sections illustrate that the increase in child care spaces can be correlated with the investments the Province and Federal Governments have contributed since the 2019 Survey of Licensed Child Care Spaces and Policies in Metro Vancouver was completed.

## 2023 Inventory of Child Care Spaces of Children 12 and under

On average, there are 25.1 child care spaces per 100 children aged 12 and under in Metro Vancouver (Table 5). In 2019 there were 18.6 spaces per 100 children aged 12 and under on average, which is an increase of 35 percent over the previous four years. The 2023 average is also much higher than previous reports where on average there were 16 spaces per 100 children reported in 2011 and 18.5 spaces per 100 children reported in 2015 (Table 6).

The ratio of children to child care spaces varies across Metro Vancouver jurisdictions with the highest ratios seen in UBC (51.1 spaces per 100 children) and Tsawwassen First Nation (at 49.1 spaces per

100 children), and the lowest ratios seen in Belcarra (0 spaces per 100 children) and the UEL (12.2 spaces per 100 children). As shown in Table 5, all but two local governments in the region have increased the number of child care spaces. Both the Tsawwassen First Nation and Village of Lions Bay have fewer spaces per 100 children from 2019 to 2023, noting however, Tsawwassen First Nation still has the highest ratio of children to child care spaces.



TABLE 5: ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN (0-12) AND CHILD CARE SPACES IN METRO VANCOUVER, 2023

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	2023 ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER*		ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILD CARE SPACES **		CHILD CARE SPACES PER 100 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER
	No.	%	No.	%	
Anmore	266	0.1%	91	0.1%	34.2
Belcarra	25	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Burnaby	29,056	9.0%	6,433	7.9%	22.1
Coquitlam	19,118	5.9%	5,299	6.5%	27.7
Delta	13,573	4.2%	3,041	3.7%	22.4
Langley City	4301	1.3%	1,280	1.6%	29.8
Langley Township	21,108	6.5%	5,303	6.5%	25.1
Lions Bay	165	0.1%	40	0.0%	24.2
Maple Ridge	13,954	4.3%	3,316	4.1%	23.8
New Westminster	9206	2.8%	3,164	3.9%	34.4
North Vancouver City	6,832	2.1%	1,930	2.4%	28.2
North Vancouver District	12,267	3.8%	4,156	5.1%	33.9
Pitt Meadows	2,858	0.9%	1,260	1.6%	44.1
Port Coquitlam	8207	2.5%	2,794	3.4%	34.0
Port Moody	4,519	1.4%	1,277	1.6%	28.3
Richmond	24,507	7.6%	8,521	10.5%	34.8
Surrey	81,034	25.0%	14,795	18.2%	18.3
Tsawwassen First Nation	334	0.1%	164	0.2%	49.1
UBC	1,951	0.6%	996	1.2%	51.1
UEL***	394	0.1%	32	0.0%	8.1
Vancouver	63,300	19.5%	15,203	18.7%	24.0
West Vancouver	5114	1.6%	1,732	2.1%	33.9
White Rock	1,707	0.5%	437	0.5%	25.6
Vancouver CMA	323,796	100.0%	81,264	100.0%	25.1

\* Source: Metro Vancouver

\*\* Source: Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health (data as of May 2023)

\*\*\* Source: Licensed spaces received directly from Child Care Centres in UEL (data as of September 2023). UEL does not record data.





TABLE 6: COMPARISON FROM 2011-2023 OF ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND CHILD CARE SPACES

	2011	2015	2019	2023
<b>VANCOUVER CMA CHILD CARE SPACES PER 100 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER</b>	16	18.5	18.6	25.1

Metro Vancouver is below the 2021 national average of 29 spaces per 100 children but is ahead of the British Columbia 2021 average of 21 regulated spaces per 100 children. The ratio of regulated child care spaces to 100 children aged 12 and under varies significantly by province, with the highest rate found in Quebec (54 spaces per 100 children) and the lowest rate found in Saskatchewan (10 spaces per 100 children), which remains unchanged from the 2019 reporting.<sup>5</sup> Appendix C shows the national data by province.

In 2011 and 2015 data was not available for a number of the smaller communities in the region including the Villages of Anmore, Belcarra, and Lions Bay, and Tsawwassen First Nation. Additionally, in 2011 and 2015 child care spaces at UBC and on UEL were

reported under Vancouver. Excluding the smaller communities listed above, the number of child care spaces region-wide has increase by 20,329 spaces between 2019 and 2023, and by 33,603 between 2011 and 2023 (from 47,547 to 81,060) (Table 7). Looking at the Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), including the smaller municipalities, the number of child care spaces has increased by 20,644 spaces between 2019 and 2023 (Table 7).

The rate of increase in spaces was much higher between 2019 and 2023 compared to the years between 2011 and 2019. This is likely directly correlated with the implementation of the ChildCareBC program and the heightened amount of provincial and federal funding contributed to enhance child care space creation.

5 Early Childhood Education and Care in Canada 2021 (13th edition, April 2023), Childcare Resource and Research Unit.



TABLE 7: ESTIMATED CHANGE IN CHILD CARE SPACES (2011, 2015, 2019, 2023)

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	2011 SPACES	2015 SPACES	2019 SPACES	2023 SPACES
Anmore*	Data not available	Data not available	83	91
Belcarra*	Data not available	Data not available	0	0
Burnaby	4,456	4,820	5,062	6,433
Coquitlam	3,369	3,719	4,095	5,299
Delta	2,097	2,260	2,162	3,041
Langley City	197	598	830	1,280
Langley Township	2,502	2,886	3,404	5303
Lions Bay*	Data not available	Data not available	40	40
Maple Ridge	2,205	2,053	2539	3,316
New Westminster	1,337	1,671	2,049	3,164
North Vancouver City	1,256	1,418	1,680	1,930
North Vancouver District	2,988	3,248	3611	4156
Pitt Meadows	500	648	964	1,260
Port Coquitlam	1,714	1,998	2,083	2,794
Port Moody	668	797	1005	1,277
Richmond	4,580	5,462	5,071	8,521
Surrey	6,452	9,675	10,489	14795
Tsawwassen First Nation*	Data not available	Data not available	116	164
UBC	Data not available	Data not available	735	996
UEL	Data not available	Data not available	104	32
Vancouver	Data not available	Data not available	12,758	15,203
Vancouver + UBC + UEL Subtotal**	11,708	14,539	13,597	16,231
West Vancouver	1,142	1,227	1,439	1,732
White Rock	286	348	301	437
Vancouver CMA (excluding smaller communities)*	47,457	57,367	60,464	81,060
Vancouver CMA	not available	not available	60,620	81,264

\*In 2011 and 2015 smaller member jurisdictions of Tsawwassen First Nation, Anmore, Belcarra, and Lions Bay were not included.

\*\*In 2011 and 2015 UBC and UEL were counted and reported as part of the City of Vancouver.



## 2023 Inventory of Child Care Spaces – Group Child Care Licence Types

New to the 2023 Survey is an assessment of the ratio of children to child care spaces for Group Child Care (under 36 months), Group Child Care (30 months to School Age), and Group Child Care (School Age). Access rates were only calculated for the three group child care licence types, because local governments in Metro Vancouver typically only report out on these categories in their child care needs assessment.

It is important to note that the population by age category per licence type is estimated and some ages are rounded up from half ages. For example, population for Group Child Care (30 months to school age) is estimated based on children aged 3-5, given that 30 months is 2.5 years old population estimates were rounded up to age 3 for the purpose of this analysis. For Group Child Care (school age) the age range selected was 5-12 even though some children entering kindergarten may not be 5-years of age upon starting.

### Group Child Care (under 36 months)

On average, there are 13.9 spaces per 100 children aged 0-3 in Group Child Care (under 36 months), and in total there are an estimated 12,694 Group Child Care spaces in Vancouver CMA (Table 8). The highest access rates are seen in UBC (45.6 spaces per 100 children aged 0-3), Pitt Meadows (40.3 spaces per 100 children aged 0-3), Tsawwassen (37.4 spaces per 100 children aged 0-3), (Richmond (29.5 spaces per 100 children aged 0-3), and North Vancouver District (25.1 spaces per 100 children aged 0-3). Belcarra, Lions Bay, and UEL have 0 spaces per 100 children aged 0-3, but also have a very low count of children in this category, which implies little need for spaces. Both Vancouver and Surrey have the highest population counts for children aged 0-3 (20,898 and 22,245 respectively) but have two of the lowest number of spaces per 100 children aged 0-3 (Vancouver with 7.5, and Surrey with 9.8) indicating a higher need for more child care spaces in this licence type.



TABLE 8: ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN (0-3) AND GROUP CHILD CARE (UNDER 36 MONTHS) SPACES IN METRO VANCOUVER

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	2023 ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILDREN 0-3*		ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILD CARE SPACES - GROUP CHILD CARE (UNDER 36 MONTHS) **		GROUP CHILD CARE (UNDER 36 MONTHS) SPACES PER 100 CHILDREN 0-3
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Anmore	52	0.1%	8	0.1%	15.4
Belcarra	8	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Burnaby	8,666	9.5%	1,276	10.1%	14.7
Coquitlam	4,949	5.4%	662	5.2%	13.4
Delta	3,235	3.6%	239	1.9%	7.4
Langley City	1,410	1.5%	285	2.2%	20.2
Langley Township	5,542	6.1%	1,023	8.1%	18.5
Lions Bay	40	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Maple Ridge	3,579	3.9%	370	2.9%	10.3
New Westminster	3,034	3.3%	602	4.7%	19.8
North Vancouver City	2,351	2.6%	514	4.0%	21.9
North Vancouver District	2,732	3.0%	686	5.4%	25.1
Pitt Meadows	745	0.8%	300	2.4%	40.3
Port Coquitlam	2,140	2.3%	425	3.3%	19.9
Port Moody	1,159	1.3%	206	1.6%	17.8
Richmond	6,282	6.9%	1,853	14.6%	29.5
Surrey	22,245	24.4%	2,175	17.1%	9.8
Tsawwassen First Nation	107	0.1%	40	0.3%	37.4
UBC	447	0.5%	204	1.6%	45.6
UEL***	92	0.1%	0	0.0%	0.0
Vancouver	20,898	22.9%	1,573	12.4%	7.5
West Vancouver	915	1.0%	204	1.6%	22.3
White Rock	480	0.5%	49	0.4%	10.2
Vancouver CMA	91,108	100%	12,694	100%	13.9

\*Source: Metro Vancouver

\*\*Source: Licensed spaces by Fraser Health and Coastal Health, May 2023

\*\*\*Source: Licensed spaces from Child Care Centres in UEL. UEL does not record data





### Group Child Care (30 months to School Age)

On average, there are 38.7 spaces per 100 children aged 3-5 in Group Child Care (30 months to school age). In total, there are an estimated 27,511 Group Child Care spaces in Vancouver CMA (Table 9). The majority of municipalities tend to be above the Vancouver CMA average, with a few resting just below the average. Belcarra and UEL have 0 Group Child Care spaces, but also have very low population count of children in this category which may indicate there is little need for this child care type within these communities. In comparison to the ratio of children aged 0-3 to the number of spaces of Group Child Care (under 36 months) (Table 8), Group Child Care (30 months to school age) shows a much higher

access rate (Table 9). This could be because of the different requirements for staff qualifications and a higher staff to child ratio between the two licence types (see Appendix D for specific requirements). Also, the population of children ages 3-5 is lower by 20,042 (Table 9) than the population of children aged 0-3 (Table 8), indicating that more spaces are needed to accommodate children in the 0-3 age range

TABLE 9: ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN (3-5) AND GROUP CHILD CARE (30 MONTHS TO SCHOOL AGE) SPACES IN METRO VANCOUVER

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	2023 ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILDREN 3-5*		ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILD CARE SPACES - GROUP CHILD CARE (30 MONTHS TO SCHOOL AGE) **		GROUP CHILD CARE (UNDER 36 MONTHS) SPACES PER 100 CHILDREN 0-3
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Anmore	42	0.1%	25	0.1%	59.5
Belcarra	5	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Burnaby	6,507	9.2%	2,273	8.3%	34.9
Coquitlam	3,952	5.6%	2,085	7.6%	52.8
Delta	2,793	3.9%	725	2.6%	26.0
Langley City	1,034	1.5%	441	1.6%	42.6
Langley Township	4,553	6.4%	1,889	6.9%	41.5
Lions Bay	36	0.1%	16	0.1%	44.4
Maple Ridge	3,070	4.3%	844	3.1%	27.5
New Westminster	2,171	3.1%	1,229	4.5%	56.6
North Vancouver City	1,508	2.1%	799	2.9%	53.0
North Vancouver District	2,450	3.4%	1,428	5.2%	58.3
Pitt Meadows	649	0.9%	488	1.8%	75.2
Port Coquitlam	1,872	2.6%	751	2.7%	40.1
Port Moody	1,000	1.4%	484	1.8%	48.4
Richmond	5,368	7.6%	3,682	13.4%	68.6
Surrey	17,448	24.6%	4,846	17.6%	27.8
Tsawwassen First Nation	78	0.1%	52	0.2%	66.7
UBC	423	0.6%	509	1.9%	120.3
UEL***	87	0.1%	0	0.0%	0.0
Vancouver	14,828	20.9%	4,150	15.1%	28.0
West Vancouver	843	1.2%	622	2.3%	73.8
White Rock	349	0.5%	173	0.6%	49.6
Vancouver CMA	71,066	100%	27,511	100%	38.7

\*Source: Metro Vancouver. Population estimates are rounded up from 30 months (2.5 years) to 36 months (3 years) for reporting purposes

\*\*Source: Licensed spaces by Fraser Health and Coastal Health, May 2023

\*\*\*Source: Licensed spaces from Child Care Centres in UEL. UEL does not record data





### Group Child Care (School Age)

On average, there are 9 spaces per 100 children aged 5-12 in Group Child Care (school age). In total, there are an estimated 18,747 Group Child Care (school age) spaces in Vancouver CMA (Table 10). The highest ratio of children aged 5-12 per Group Child Care (school age) spaces are seen in Tsawwassen First Nation (23.8 spaces per 100 children aged 5-12), UBC (19.1 spaces per 100 children aged 5-12) Anmore (15.2 spaces per 100 children aged 5-12), and Vancouver (14.7 spaces per 100 children aged 5-12). Following the same trend as the other two Group Child Care licence types, the communities of Belcarra, Lions Bay and UEL have the lowest ratios.

With population of children 0-12 showing a low population growth to 2028 (approximately a 1.1 percent projected growth rate) and with a low child to child care space ratio for this licence type, we can infer that there will likely be an increase in population of school age children (5-12) in the near-term. As such, this could tell us that there is a greater need to create spaces for school age children to accommodate the growth of children entering this the 5-12 age range. Positively however, the Province has created a new child care licence type for school age children (School Age on School Grounds) and has prioritized funding in the New Spaces Fund program for school age space creation, which could mitigate the growth in demand in this age category over time.

TABLE 10: ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN (5-12) AND GROUP CHILD CARE (SCHOOL AGE) SPACES IN METRO VANCOUVER

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	2023 ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILDREN 5-12*		ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILD CARE SPACES - GROUP CHILD CARE (SCHOOL AGE)**		GROUP CHILD CARE (SCHOOL AGE) SPACES PER 100 CHILDREN 5-12
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Anmore	198	0.1%	30	0.2%	15.2
Belcarra	17	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Burnaby	18,284	8.7%	1,436	7.7%	7.9
Coquitlam	12,847	6.1%	1,123	6.0%	8.7
Delta	9,402	4.5%	699	3.7%	7.4
Langley City	2,532	1.2%	145	0.8%	5.7
Langley Township	14,011	6.7%	818	4.4%	5.8
Lions Bay	115	0.1%	0	0.0%	0.0
Maple Ridge	9,305	4.4%	1,018	5.4%	10.9
New Westminster	5,458	2.6%	420	2.2%	7.7
North Vancouver City	3,995	1.9%	416	2.2%	10.4
North Vancouver District	8,773	4.2%	1,171	6.2%	13.3
Pitt Meadows	1,910	0.9%	192	1.0%	10.1
Port Coquitlam	5,432	2.6%	455	2.4%	8.4
Port Moody	3,021	1.4%	272	1.5%	9.0
Richmond	16,464	7.9%	1,657	8.8%	10.1
Surrey	53,078	25.4%	2,429	13.0%	4.6
Tsawwassen First Nation	202	0.1%	48	0.3%	23.8
UBC	1,353	0.6%	259	1.4%	19.1
UEL***	270	0.1%	0	0.0%	0.0
Vancouver	37,553	17.9%	5,504	29.4%	14.7
West Vancouver	3,932	1.9%	561	3.0%	14.3
White Rock	1,107	0.5%	94	0.5%	8.5
Vancouver CMA	209,259	100%	18,747	100%	9.0

\*Source: Metro Vancouver. Population estimates are rounded up from 30 months (2.5 years) to 36 months (3 years) for reporting purposes

\*\*Source: Licensed spaces by Fraser Health and Coastal Health, May 2023

\*\*\*Source: Licensed spaces from Child Care Centres in UEL. UEL does not record data



# Child Care Access in British Columbia

Not all families choose or require licensed child care (e.g., some will have a family caregiver, nanny, or other child care option); however, it is clear that the supply of licensed child care is not meeting the demand. The 2023 Statistics Canada Survey on Early Learning and Child Care Arrangements (SELCCA) found that of BC families with children 0-5 years, 58.8 percent had difficulty accessing child care<sup>6</sup>. Of those, the most common types of difficulties encountered in finding child care included the lack of availability in the community (74.4 percent), the affordability of the child care (47.1 percent), finding care that fits the desired work or study schedule (29 percent), finding quality child care (24.5 percent), finding licensed care (29.1 percent), and difficulty finding subsidized child care spaces or spaces eligible for child care fee subsidy (22.3 percent)<sup>7</sup>.

According to SELCCA some of the consequences of families having difficulties finding child care include<sup>8</sup>:

- Having to change work or school schedules (40.5 percent),
- Working fewer hours (40.2 percent);
- Postponing return to work (35.4 percent);
- Using multiple care arrangements or a temporary arrangement (33.6 percent);
- Paying more for child care than wanted (32.2 percent);
- Deciding to work from home (19.8 percent);
- Deciding to have parent stay at home with the child (18.2 percent);
- Changing jobs, quitting job or closing business (15.1 percent); and,
- Postponing or discontinuing school or training (9.9 percent).

6 Statistics Canada. Table 42-10-0001-01 Difficulty for parents and guardians in finding a child care arrangement, children aged 0 to 5 years

7 Statistics Canada. Table 42-10-0008-01 Type of difficulty encountered by parents and guardians in finding a child care arrangement, children aged 0 to 5 years

8 Statistics Canada. Table 42-10-0009-01 Consequences of having encountered difficulties in finding a child care arrangement, children aged 0 to 5 years



# Local Government Child Care Policies

One way that local governments can enable an adequate supply of child care spaces is by developing a local plan, strategy or bylaw around child care that outlines municipal policies and expectations for child care provision. 15 of 20 respondents in Metro Vancouver have approved a stand-alone child care strategy for their respective community, which is a significant increase from 2019 which showed 8 of 21 municipalities had a standalone child care strategy (Table 11), these include:

- Burnaby;
- Coquitlam;
- Delta;
- Langley City;
- Langley Township;
- New Westminster
- North Vancouver City;
- North Vancouver District;
- Pitt Meadows;
- Port Coquitlam;
- Port Moody;
- Richmond;
- Vancouver;
- West Vancouver District; and,
- UBC.

14 of 19 local governments in Metro Vancouver identify child care objectives and/or policies within Official Community Plans (OCPs). 7 of 16 respondents have a social plan that addresses child care provisions (Table 11).

TABLE 11: CHILD CARE STRATEGIES, PLANS, AND POLICIES IN METRO VANCOUVER

2019 STRATEGIES / POLICIES ON CHILD CARE	2023 ESTIMATED NO. OF CHILDREN 5-12*	
	No.	%
Child Care Strategy / Policy	15 of 20	75%
Child Care is addressed in OCP	14 of 19	74%
Child Care is Addressed in Social Plan	7 of 16	44%
Child Care is defined as Community Amenity	15 of 21	71%
Child Care Bylaw	4 of 20	20%

Source: Metro Vancouver Municipal Survey

\*Number of municipalities are based off the number of municipalities that answered the question in the survey.

Over half of the communities (15 out of 21) have identified child care as a “community amenity” in policy documents to encourage the provision of child care facilities through the development approvals process (Table 11), which is up from 11 out of 21 reported in 2019.

The 2023 Survey asked respondents to identify if their municipality has a standalone child care bylaw, which was a new addition for this edition of the survey. 4 of 20 survey respondents identified that their municipality has a child care bylaw to enhance child care provision within their respective communities (Table 11).



# Zoning and Business Licence Bylaws for Child Care Facilities

Local governments have two main roles when it comes to regulating child care – zoning and business licensing. Zoning for child cares refers to indicating where child care uses are permitted. Local governments are also responsible for issuing business licences. There may be different requirements for home-based businesses. Municipal business licensing of child care spaces is a separate process from health authority licensing.

17 of 20 local governments in the region permit child care facilities in single-detached residential zones and in institutional zones. Outside of these two zones, communities vary as to other zones where child care facilities may be located (see [Table 12](#) and [Appendix B](#)). The majority of Metro Vancouver communities permit child care in multi-unit residential zones such as duplex (13 of 18 municipalities), row house and townhouse zones (13 of 18 municipalities), apartment zones (15 of 19 municipalities), and mixed use/comprehensive development zones (17 of 19 municipalities).



TABLE 12: ZONING AND BUSINESS LICENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILD CARE FACILITIES IN METRO VANCOUVER

ZONING AND BUSINESS LICENCE REQUIREMENTS	NUMBER OF MUNICIPALITIES	
	No.	%
Zoning Classification That Allows Child Care		
Residential zones:		
Single-Detached	17 of 19	89%
Duplex	13 of 18	72%
Row Townhouse	13 of 18	72%
Apartment	15 of 19	79%
Mixed use / CD Zones	17 of 19	89%
Commercial zones	18 of 19	95%
Institutional	17 of 18	94%
Public Use / Assembly Zones	9 of 12	75%
Industrial zones	9 of 16	56%
Agriculture	6 of 15	40%
Child Care Zone	5 of 12	42%
Additional Zoning or Licence Requirements		
Municipal Business Licence Required	17 of 21	81%
Parking Requirements (primary use child care)	18 of 19	95%
Parking Requirements (accessory use child care)	16 of 17	94%
Non-resident staff are permitted in home-based child care (additional staff to assist resident)	17 of 19	89%
Additional Outdoor Play Space Requirements Above Provincial Regulations.	8 of 20	40%
Municipality secures child care for long-term use	12 of 19	63%

Source: Metro Vancouver Municipal Survey

\*Number of municipalities is based off the number of municipalities that responded to the question in the survey



Most communities in Metro Vancouver permit child care facilities in non-residential zones other than public use or assembly zones; 18 of 19 local governments allow child care facilities in commercial zones, 17 of 18 allow child care in industrial zones (although this may not include all types of industrial zones within a community), and 6 of 15 local governments allow child care in agricultural zones (note: not all municipalities have agricultural zoned lands). Although all local governments allow child care facilities in single-detached zones, the number of child care spaces permitted varies (Table 12).

The presence of on-site non-resident staff and parking are other issues addressed by local government bylaw or licensing. Most communities (17 of 19 responses) permit home-based child care services to have non-resident staff. 18 of 19 respondents require parking for child care as a primary use and 16 of 17 require parking for child care businesses as an accessory use.

8 of 20 respondents require additional outdoor play space beyond the provincial minimums. Some require additional outdoor play space in City-owned child care facilities. It is worth noting that the City of Richmond requires city-owned child care facilities to meet the Richmond Child Care Design Guidelines, the City of White Rock has additional outdoor space requirements for commercial zones, and the City of Vancouver's Childcare Design Guidelines make several recommendations beyond provincial health and safety standards for indoor/outdoor space including additional indoor and outdoor space requirements and direct access to outdoors. The City of Vancouver also has building requirements that exceed the *BC Building Code*.

Municipalities can also secure child care for long-term use through various mechanisms such as through municipally-owned facilities, covenants, developer agreements through rezonings, density bonusing, and/or long-term leases. For example, Coquitlam, New Westminster, North Vancouver City, North Vancouver District, Port Moody, Vancouver, and UEL reported that they secure child care for long term use through Section 219 covenants, and Burnaby, Maple Ridge, and Vancouver reported the use of lease agreements to ensure long-term child care. Richmond and Burnaby identified using city-owned facilities to secure child care for long-term use.

# Local Government Financial Support and Resources for Child Care Providers

Some communities offer financial and other types of resources to facilitate child care (Table 13). The most common of these is the provision of space to child care providers (15 of 20 municipalities), through either a nominal rate agreement, reduced lease rates, or space at market lease rate within city-owned buildings. Several communities offer grants for child care providers, both for operating costs (3 of 21 respondents) and/or for capital projects (7 of 20 respondents). 7 of 19 respondents offer property tax exemptions for child care facilities and 10 of 18 respondents offer municipal incentives for developers. The details of how funds for grants are established

and administered, as well as the criteria for grant eligibility, are unique to each community.

Municipalities provide non-financial resources as well (Table 13). 16 of 21 respondents have a staff resources dedicated to child care work and 9 of 20 have a staff person dedicated to child care work. 13 of 21 Metro Vancouver communities provide local information to assist residents seeking child care and/or people wishing to establish and operate child care facilities (note: Health Authorities and the [Union of British Columbia Municipalities](#) also have child care planning guides available).

TABLE 13: LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCES FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

MUNICIPAL RESOURCES FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS	NUMBER OF MUNICIPALITIES	
	No.	%
Financial Support / Resources		
Municipal building space available for child care (rent-free, reduced lease, or market lease)	15 of 20	75%
Municipal Grants - for Operating Costs	3 of 21	14%
Municipal Grants - for Capital Projects	7 of 20	35%
Municipal Child Care Reserve Fund	4 of 19	21%
Property tax exemptions	7 of 19	37%
Municipal Incentives for Developers	10 of 18	56%
Other Municipal Support / Resources		
Staff resources dedicated to Child Care work	16 of 21	76%
Dedicated staff person to Child Care work	9 of 21	43%
Child Care Design Guidelines (Operator)	5 of 20	25%
Child Care Information Documents (Resident)	13 of 21	62%
Child Care Technical Guidelines (e.g., specifications for materials, millwork)	11 of 18	61%

Source: Metro Vancouver Municipal Survey

\*Number of municipalities is based off the number of municipalities that responded to the question in the survey



# Municipal Child Care Operations

Municipalities can also own and operate child care facilities or own facilities to rent or lease to child care operators. Of all 21 responses, 16 local governments indicated that their community owns child care facilities (Table 14). The majority of local governments that own child care facilities lease space to child care providers, with a few operating child care facilities themselves. The primary funding mechanism for municipally owned child care facilities has been through the funding programs provided under the ChildCareBC program (New Spaces Fund and Child Care Operating Funding), Community Amenity Contributions, and municipal tax funding.

10 of 14 respondents use municipal tax dollars to support the operation and maintenance of municipally-owned child care facilities, 7 of 17 respondents charge the tenant for repairs/maintenance and 16 of 19 respondents cover capital/life cycle repairs of municipally-owned child care facilities.

Local governments can also partner with child care providers in the operation of child care. The survey results show that 8 of 19 respondents partner with child care providers. The most common partnerships identified are with School Districts and non-profit societies.

TABLE 14: MUNICIPAL CHILD CARE OPERATIONS

MUNICIPAL CHILD CARE OPERATIONS	NUMBER OF MUNICIPALITIES	
	No.	%
Financial Support / Resources		
Municipally owned Child Care Facilities	16 of 21	76%
Tax dollars to support operation and maintenances of municipally owned child care facilities	10 of 14	71%
Municipality charges tenant for repairs/maintenance	7 of 17	41%
Municipality covers capital/life cycle repairs	16 of 19	84%
Municipality Partners in operation of child care	8 of 19	42%
Municipal staff has priority access to city-owned or operated child care facilities	3 of 20	15%

Source: Metro Vancouver Municipal Survey

\*Number of municipalities is based off the number of municipalities that responded to the question in the survey

3 of 20 respondents provide priority access to municipal staff in city-owned or operated child care facilities. The Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN) offers child care spaces to TFN members and staff at a 10 percent discounted rate. The City of West Vancouver offers priority access at two city-owned facilities and UBC offers priority access for academic child care for UBC students, faculty and staff and for prioritizes campus neighbourhood residents for neighbourhood child care spaces.

# ChildCareBC \$10/Day Child Care Facilities

As part of the ChildCareBC program, the Province of British Columbia has committed to making child care more affordable for families and introduced the \$10/day child care program. To date, the \$10/day child care program prioritizes spaces for children ages 0-5. The 2023 Survey was updated to identify which municipalities have \$10/day sites and how many \$10/day sites those municipalities have within their respective communities.

Survey results show that 14 of 21 municipalities have \$10/day child care facilities and 10 of 15 respondents said they are municipally-owned (Table 15). The City of Vancouver has the highest number of \$10/day child care facilities at 52 facilities (38 of 52 are municipally-owned), followed by UBC with 15 facilities (14 of 15 are municipally-owned), then the Cities of

Richmond and Surrey each with 13 facilities (7 of 13 in Richmond and 2 of 13 in Surrey are municipally-owned) and the City of Burnaby with 11 facilities (1 of 11 are municipally-owned) (Appendix B). Notably, the District of North Vancouver has 7 \$10/day child care facilities (3 of 7 are municipally-owned) where one of those facilities is located on the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Reserve and prioritizes spaces for Tsleil-Waututh members. The majority of respondents who have \$10/day child care facilities lease the space out to child care providers.

TABLE 15: MUNICIPAL \$10/DAY CHILD CARE FACILITIES

MUNICIPALITIES WITH \$10/DAY CHILD CARE FACILITIES	NUMBER OF MUNICIPALITIES	
	No.	%
Financial Support / Resources		
Municipalities with \$10/day child care facilities	14 of 21	67%
Municipally owned \$10/day child care facilities	10 of 15	67%

Source: Metro Vancouver Municipal Survey

\*Number of municipalities is based off the number of municipalities that responded to the question in the survey



# Local Government Challenges in Child Care Provision

The 2023 Survey added a new section to better understand the challenges faced by communities in the provision of child care. 14 responses were received and the top challenges identified include (Table 16):

- Lack of funding (10 of 14);
- Child care staffing shortages/wages (9 of 14);
- Persistent demand for new child care spaces (7 of 14);
- BC New Spaces Fund does not provide enough funding to build new centres (5 of 14); and
- Land constraints for new child care facilities (5 of 14).
- Other challenges identified include:
  - Difficulty realizing affordable child care spaces;
  - Park space conflicts;
  - Old facilities; and
  - Difficulty meeting outdoor play space in higher-density areas.

TABLE 16: CHALLENGES EXPERIENCES BY MUNICIPALITIES IN THE PROVISION OF CHILD CARE

CHALLENGES IN THE PROVISION OF CHILD CARE	NUMBER OF MUNICIPALITIES	
	No.	%
Lack of funding to cover capital/operating/maintenance costs and rent/lease affordability challenges	10 of 14	71%
Child care staffing shortages / child care wages	9 of 14	64%
Persistent demand for new child care spaces (e.g., there is a shortage of out of school care and children under 36 months spaces in 2 municipalities)	7 of 14	50%
BC New Spaces Fund does not provide enough funding to build new centres	5 of 14	36%
Land constraints for new child care facilities	3 of 14	21%
Difficulty realizing affordable child care spaces	2 of 14	14%
Park space conflicts (e.g., City parks and School District playgrounds)	2 of 14	14%
Very old facilities	2 of 14	14%
Difficulty meeting outdoor play space in high-density areas	1 of 14	7%

Source: Metro Vancouver Municipal Survey

\*Number of municipalities is based off the number of municipalities that responded to the question in the survey



# Conclusions

This report shows that the ChildCareBC program is proving to have a positive impact on the creation of child care spaces since its implementation. Since 2019, there has been an increase of 20,644 spaces in Metro Vancouver which equates to a 35 percent increase in child care spaces across the region. In addition, the ChildCareBC program has and cut the cost of child care in half making child care more affordable for families across the Province. Child care in BC has taken strides to become universal for all families, which is recognized in the shift in responsibility of provincial ministry to the newly named Ministry of Education and Child Care.

Although the number of spaces has significantly increased since 2019 (excluding small communities), Metro Vancouver is slightly below the rate of child care spaces per 100 children under 12 than the Canadian average (i.e., 25.1 in Vancouver CMA compared to 29 nation-wide). Notably however, Metro Vancouver is ahead of the rate of child care spaces per 100 children under 12 when compared to the British Columbia average of 21 regulated spaces per 100 children.

Another noticeable change seen in the 2023 Survey is the much lower population projection from 2023 to 2028. Although both the 2019 and 2023 reports project a growth in children under the age of 12 in the near term, the projection from 2023 to 2028 indicates only a 1.1 percent increase, which is much lower than seen in 2019. This indicates that the number of children in the infant/toddler age brackets is projected to decline whereas the number of school age children (5-12) will grow, resulting in a higher demand for school age child care. This highlights the continued need for local governments, the Province, the not-for-profit sector, the private sector and others

to collaborate on projects, programs, and policies that support the creation of new child care spaces to meet the growing demand. It also signifies a stronger need to partner with school districts to ensure sufficient space to meet existing and future demand.

The 2023 Survey shows local governments recognize that child care contributes to the social and economic well-being of communities and many are taking a range of actions to facilitate additional child care spaces in their communities. Most survey respondents permit child care facilities in a range of residential and non-residential areas. Many have a child care strategy in place and/or recognize child care as a community amenity in the development approvals process. Many provide financial or non-financial resources to support new or existing not-for-profit child care facilities.

As the Metro Vancouver region continues to grow, and increasing numbers of families choose to live in denser urban areas close to transit, locating child care in Urban Centres and along the Frequent Transit Network will become increasingly important. By siting child care opportunities in walkable, transit-accessible places “on the way” to other daily destinations, local governments can support more sustainable transportation choices, making it easier and more affordable for families to choose alternatives to personal vehicles. One example of this is co-locating child care facilities on or close to school properties so that children of different ages can be dropped off in one trip. While child care is in demand in all communities across the region, Urban Centres and other appropriate areas along the Frequent Transit Network are key locations for future child care opportunities that will support the region’s growth management, climate action, and social equity objectives into the future.



# Appendices

## Appendix A – Child Care Space Inventory

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	TOTAL CHILD CARE SPACES				GROUP CHILD CARE (UNDER 36 MONTHS)	GROUP CHILD CARE (30 MONTHS TO SCHOOL AGE)	PRESCHOOL (30 MONTHS TO SCHOOL AGE)	FAMILY CHILD CARE
	2023	2019	2015	2011	2023	2023	2023	2023
Anmore	91	83	n/a	n/a	8	25	20	0
Burnaby	6,433	5,062	4,820	4,456	1,276	2,273	485	225
Coquitlam	5,299	4,095	3,719	3,369	662	2,085	490	244
Delta	3,041	2,162	2,260	2,097	239	725	555	119
Langley City	1,280	830	598	197	285	441	114	28
Langley Township	5,303	3,404	2,886	2,502	1,023	1,889	684	133
Lions Bay	40	40	n/a	n/a	0	16	0	0
Maple Ridge	3,316	2,539	2,053	2,205	370	844	491	238
New Westminister	3,164	2,049	1,671	1,337	602	1,229	170	63
North Vancouver City	1,930	1,680	1,418	1,256	514	799	55	61
North Vancouver District	4,156	3,611	3,248	2,988	686	1,428	300	153
Pitt Meadows	1,260	964	648	500	300	488	151	35
Port Coquitlam	2,794	2,083	1,998	1,714	425	751	282	131
Port Moody	1,277	1,005	797	668	206	484	40	21
Richmond	8,521	5,071	5,462	4,580	1,853	3,682	683	167
Surrey	14,795	10,489	9,675	6,452	2,175	4,846	2,034	356
Tsawwassen	164	116	n/a	n/a	40	52	0	0
UBC	996	735	n/a	n/a	204	509	0	0
UEL	32	104	n/a	n/a	0	0	32	0
Vancouver	15,203	12,758	n/a	n/a	1,573	4,150	2,293	706
Vancouver+UBC+UEL	16,231	13,597	14,539	11,708	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
West Vancouver	1,732	1,439	1,227	1,142	204	622	167	7
White Rock	437	301	348	286	49	173	52	21
Vancouver CMA	81,264	60,620	57,367	47,457	12,694	27,511	9,098	2,708

Source: Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health (data as of May 2023). 2011 data table does not show all categories. "Occasional Care" and "Child Minding" are included in the total, although not shown as separate columns.

## Appendix A – Child Care Space Inventory

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	GROUP CHILD CARE (SCHOOL AGE)	SCHOOL AGE ON SCHOOL GROUNDS	RECREATIONAL CARE	MULTI-AGE CHILD CARE*	OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE	CHILD MINDING
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
Anmore	30	0	0	8	0	0
Burnaby	1,436	252	0	390	0	96
Coquitlam	1,123	282	0	341	0	72
Delta	699	261	155	288	0	0
Langley City	145	84	130	53	0	0
Langley Township	818	500	0	256	0	0
Lions Bay	0	16	0	8	0	0
Maple Ridge	1,018		0	355	0	0
New Westminster	420	528	0	136	16	0
North Vancouver City	416	0	0	85	0	0
North Vancouver District	1,171	42	0	318	58	0
Pitt Meadows	192	24	30	40	0	0
Port Coquitlam	455	488	0	262	0	0
Port Moody	272	162	0	77	15	0
Richmond	1,657	278	0	191	10	0
Surrey	2,429	1,209	0	1,589	84	73
Tsawwassen	48	0	0	24	0	0
UBC	259	24	0	0	0	0
UEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	5,504	270	0	432	213	62
Vancouver+UBC+UEL	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
West Vancouver	561	60	0	80	31	0
White Rock	94	24	0	24	0	0
Vancouver CMA	18,747	4,504	315	4,957	427	303

Source: Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health (data as of May 2023). 2011 data table does not show all categories.

"Occasional Care" and "Child Minding" are included in the total, although not shown as separate columns.

\*Categories "Multi-Age Child Care" and "In-Home Multi-Age Child Care" are combined for reporting purposes.



## Appendix B – Municipal Survey of Child Care Policies and Initiative

MUNICIPAL SURVEY RESULTS 2023	MUNICIPAL CHILD CARE POLICIES AND INITIATIVES - 2023									
	Burnaby	Coquitlam	Delta	Langley City	Langley Twp	Lions Bay	Maple Ridge	New Westminster	North Van City	North Van District
Planning and Policy										
Child Care Strategy / Policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Child Care is addressed in OCP	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Child Care is Addressed in Social Plan	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	N/A
Child Care is defined as Community Amenity	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Staff resource dedicated to Child Care work	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
If yes, is there a point person or fully dedicated staff?	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
Child Care Design Guidelines (Operator)		No	No	No	P	No	Yes	No	No	No
Child Care Information Documents (Resident)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Child Care Bylaw	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Child Care Technical Guidelines	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Other Policy items for Day Care	P	Yes	N/A	No	Yes	No	No	Yes		Yes
Financing Tools										
Municipal building space available for child care	Yes	Yes		No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Municipal Grants - for Operating Costs	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Municipal Grants - for Capital Projects	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Municipal Child Care Reserve Fund	No	Yes	No	No	No	No		Yes	No	No
Property tax exemptions	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No		No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Incentives For Developers		Yes	Yes	No	No	No		Yes	No	Yes
Is child care creation supported in any other way not listed?	No	No		No	No	No		Yes	No	Yes
Other Financial Items	No	No		No	No	No		Yes	No	
Zoning: Is daycare use permitted?										
Residential zones:										
Single Detached	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Duplex	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Row Townhouse	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Apartment	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Mixed use / CD Zones	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commercial zones	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Institutional	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public Assembly Zones	Yes	No	Yes			N/A		N/A	Yes	Yes
Industrial zones	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Agriculture	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	N/A	No	No	No	N/A
Other - Child Care Zone (CCR)		Yes	Yes			N/A	Yes	N/A	No	No
Parking requirements - accessory use daycare		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes
Parking requirements - primary use is daycare	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Note: Blank cells mean the questions were unanswered.

MUNICIPAL SURVEY RESULTS 2023	MUNICIPAL CHILD CARE POLICIES AND INITIATIVES - 2023										
	Pitt Meadows	Port Coquitlam	Port Moody	Richmond	Surrey	Tsawwassen	Vancouver	West Vancouver	UEL	UBC	White Rock
<b>Planning and Policy</b>											
Child Care Strategy / Policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Child Care is addressed in OCP	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		N/A	No	No	Yes	Yes
Child Care is Addressed in Social Plan	No	No	N/A	Yes	No		N/A	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Child Care is defined as Community Amenity	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Staff resource dedicated to Child Care work	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
If yes, is there a point person or fully dedicated staff?	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Child Care Design Guidelines (Operator)	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Child Care Information Documents (Resident)	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Child Care Bylaw	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	N/A	No
Child Care Technical Guidelines	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Other Policy items for Day Care	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	No
<b>Financing Tools</b>											
Municipal building space available for child care	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Grants - for Operating Costs	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Municipal Grants - for Capital Projects	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	N/A	No
Municipal Child Care Reserve Fund	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	N/A	No
Property tax exemptions	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	N/A	No
Municipal Incentives For Developers	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No
Is child care creation supported in any other way not listed?	No		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	N/A	No
Other Financial Items				No		No	Yes	No			No
<b>Zoning: Is daycare use permitted?</b>											
Residential zones:											
Single Detached	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	Yes
Duplex	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Row Townhouse	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Apartment	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A
Mixed use / CD Zones	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commercial zones	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Institutional	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public Assembly Zones	Yes		No	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes
Industrial zones	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	No	N/A	N/A
Agriculture	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	No	N/A	No	N/A	N/A
Other - Child Care Zone (CCR)	No		No	No	Yes	N/A	No	N/A	Yes	N/A	No
Parking requirements - accessory use daycare	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Parking requirements - primary use is daycare	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

Note: Blank cells mean the questions were unanswered.



MUNICIPAL SURVEY RESULTS 2023	MUNICIPAL CHILD CARE POLICIES AND INITIATIVES - 2023									
	Burnaby	Coquitlam	Delta	Langley City	Langley Twp	Lions Bay	Maple Ridge	New Westminster	North Van City	North Van District
<b>Business Licence Requirements</b>										
Municipal business licence required	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
- Required only when more than XX children				Yes		No	Yes	Y=8		Y=2
Traffic management plan	Yes	No	No	No		No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public consultation	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes*
Other license requirements				Yes		No	Yes	Yes		Yes
*May be required if a home-based child care facility proposes between 9-10 children; required if a home-based child care facility proposes more than 10 children Note: Above section assumes no rezoning. A rezoning process may require traffic plans and public consultations as part of rezoning process.										
<b>Regulatory Requirements</b>										
Are non-resident staff permitted?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Municipal Building Code Requirements *	No	No	No	No	No		Yes	Yes	No	No
Outdoor Space requirements *	No	No	No	No	No		Yes	Yes	No	No
Does your municipality secure child care for long-term use?	Yes	Yes	No	No	No		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
*Requirements beyond those in the provincial legislation.										
<b>Municipal Child Care Operations</b>										
Does your municipality own child care facilities?	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are tax dollars used to support the operation/maintenance	Yes		Yes				No		Yes	Yes
Does your municipality charge the tenant for routine repairs/maintenance?		No	No				No	No	Yes	Yes
Does your municipality cover capital or life cycle repairs?	Yes	No	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does your municipality partner in the operation of child care?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes		Yes	No	No	Yes
Do municipal staff have priority access to any city-owned or operated child care?	No	No	No	No	No		No	No	No	No
<b>\$10/Day Sites</b>										
Does your municipality have any \$10/day facilities?	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
If so, how many?	11	4			4		2	1	4	7*
Are the \$10/day sites owned by your municipality?	Yes	No	No		No		No	Yes	Yes	Yes
If so, how many?	1							1	2	3
Do the cost recovery practices differ from other City-owned child care facilities?	No						Yes	N/A	No	No
*One \$10/day child care facility is located in the Tsleil-Waututh Nation reserve										
<b>Challenges in the Provision of Child Care</b>										
Challenges are identified and discussed in the body of the report.										

Note: Blank cells mean the questions were unanswered.



MUNICIPAL SURVEY RESULTS 2023	MUNICIPAL CHILD CARE POLICIES AND INITIATIVES - 2023										
	Pitt Meadows	Port Coquitlam	Port Moody	Richmond	Surrey	Tsawwassen	Vancouver	West Vancouver	UEL	UBC	White Rock
<b>Business Licence Requirements</b>											
Municipal business licence required	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
- Required only when more than XX children				Y=10+					No	Y=10+	
Traffic management plan	No	No		No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Public consultation	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Other license requirements	No			No	No	Yes	No		Yes	Yes	No
<p>*May be required if a home-based child care facility proposes between 9-10 children; required if a home-based child care facility proposes more than 10 children            Note: Above section assumes no rezoning. A rezoning process may require traffic plans and public consultations as part of rezoning process.</p>											
<b>Regulatory Requirements</b>											
Are non-resident staff permitted?	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes
Municipal Building Code Requirements *	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Outdoor Space requirements *	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Does your municipality secure child care for long-term use?	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No
*Requirements beyond those in the provincial legislation.											
<b>Municipal Child Care Operations</b>											
Does your municipality own child care facilities?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Are tax dollars used to support the operation/maintenance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	N/A	
Does your municipality charge the tenant for routine repairs/maintenance?	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Does your municipality cover capital or life cycle repairs?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Does your municipality partner in the operation of child care?	No		No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Do municipal staff have priority access to any city-owned or operated child care?	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
<b>\$10/Day Sites</b>											
Does your municipality have any \$10/day facilities?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
If so, how many?	1	1		13	13		52	1		15	
Are the \$10/day sites owned by your municipality?	Yes	No		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	
If so, how many?	1			7	2		38	Yes		14	
Do the cost recovery practices differ from other City-owned child care facilities?	No			No	No		No	N/A		No	
<b>Challenges in the Provision of Child Care</b>											
Challenges are identified and discussed in the body of the report.											

Note: Blank cells mean the questions were unanswered.



## Appendix C – Regulated Child Care Spaces by Province/Territory and Percentage of Children (0-12) for whom there is a Regulated Child Care Space

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	NUMBER OF REGULATED FULL- AND PART-DAY CHILD CARE CENTRE SPACES FOR CHILDREN 0 – 5 YEARS	NUMBER OF REGULATED BEFORE- AND AFTER-SCHOOL CHILD CARE SPACES	NUMBER OF REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE SPACES 0 – 12 YEARS	TOTAL NUMBER OF REGULATED CHILD CARE SPACES 0 – 12 YEARS	PERCENT OF CHILDREN 0 – 12 YEARS FOR WHOM A PART- OR FULL -DAY REGULATED SPACE WAS AVAILABLE (%)
Province/Territory					
NL	4,702	2,717	623	8,042	14
PE	3,925	2,439	29	6,393	31
NS	11,959	3,589 <sup>1</sup>	1,190	16,738	14
NB	15,222	16,214	980	32,416	34
QC	214,168	340,683	65,281	620,132	54
ON	180,758	283,780	12,734	477,272	25
MB	22,949	12,136	3,312	38,397	18
SK	13,735	1,625	2,306	17,666	10
AB	80,816	50,985	8,708	140,509	20
BC	76,214	38,419	12,729	127,362	21
YT <sup>2</sup>	1,070	388	210	1,869	32
NT	763	808	432	2,003	27
NU	1,052	155	40	1,247	12
CA	627,333	753,938	108,574	1,490,046	29

This includes full-day and part-day programs such as nursery school, not before- and after-school care for kindergarten-age children.

\*Source: [https://childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/Early-Childhood-Education-and-Care-2021-REV-12-23\\_0.pdf](https://childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/Early-Childhood-Education-and-Care-2021-REV-12-23_0.pdf)  
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- 1 The number of before- and after-school spaces for Nova Scotia does not include 672 spaces in Nova Scotia Before- and After- School, so NS spaces are somewhat under-represented.
- 2 Yukon does not license by age group; enrolment figures are used instead. However, the coverage (%) was calculated based on the total regulated spaces for children 0 – 12.



## Appendix D – Licensed Child Care Categories in British Columbia

CHILD CARE LICENCE TYPE	LICENCE REQUIREMENTS*
Group Child Care: Under 3-years old	<p>Ages: 0 to 36 months            Max. No. of Children per group: 12 children</p> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-4 children: One Infant-Toddler Educator (ITE)</li> <li>• 5-8 children: One ITE and one ECE is required</li> <li>• 9-12 children: One ITE and one ECE and one ECE Assistant</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infant Toddler Educator Certificate (approximately 1300 hours of training)</li> <li>• Early Childhood Educator Certificate (approximately 900 hours of training)</li> <li>• Early Childhood Educator Assistant Certificate (completed one early childhood education course)</li> <li>• Setting: Community based facility or centre</li> </ul>
Group Child Care: 2.5 years to school age	<p>Ages: 30 months (2.5) to school age (5)            Max. No. of Children per group: 25 children</p> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-8 children: one ECE is required</li> <li>• 9-16 children one ECE and one ECE Assistant is required</li> <li>• 17 to 25 children one ECE and two ECE Assistant is required</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood Educator Certificate (approximately 900 hours of training)</li> <li>• Early Childhood Educator Assistant Certificate (completed one early childhood education course)</li> <li>• Setting: Community based facility or centre</li> </ul>
Group Child Care – School age before and after school care	<p>Ages: 5-12</p> <p>Max. No. of Children per group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24 children from Kindergarten and Grade 1, or 30 children from Grade 2 and older with no Kindergarten or Grade 1 children present</li> </ul> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One responsible adult for 12 children from Kindergarten to Grade 1</li> <li>• One responsible adult for 15 children from Grade 2 and older</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible adults must be 19 years of age or older and able to provide care and mature guidance to children. Must also have 20 hours of child care-related training, relevant work experience, a valid first aid certificate and a clear criminal record check</li> <li>• Setting: Community based facility or centre</li> </ul>



**APPENDIX D – LICENSED CHILD CARE CATEGORIES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

CHILD CARE LICENCE TYPE	LICENCE REQUIREMENTS*
<p>School Age Care on School Grounds (new licence type)</p>	<p>Ages: 5-12</p> <p>Max. No. of Children per group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24 children from Kindergarten and Grade 1, or 30 children from Grade 2 and older with no Kindergarten or Grade 1 children present</li> </ul> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One responsible adult for 12 children from Kindergarten to Grade 1</li> <li>• One responsible adult for 15 children from Grade 2 and older</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible adults must be 19 years of age or older and able to provide care and mature guidance to children. Must also have 20 hours of child care-related training, relevant work experience, a valid first aid certificate and a clear criminal record check</li> <li>• Setting: School Grounds</li> </ul>
<p>Multi-Age Care</p>	<p>Ages: 0-12</p> <p>Max. No. of Children per group: 8 children</p> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One ECE for 8 children</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood Educator Certificate (approximately 900 hours of training)</li> <li>• Setting: Community based facility or centre</li> </ul>
<p>In-home Multi-Age Care</p>	<p>Ages: 0-12</p> <p>Max. No. of Children per group: 8 children</p> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One ECE for 8 children</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood Educator Certificate (approximately 900 hours of training)</li> <li>• Setting: In child care providers own home</li> </ul>
<p>Family Child Care</p>	<p>Ages: 0-12</p> <p>Max. No. of Children per group: 7 children</p> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One responsible adult (must be licensee) for 7 children</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be 19 years of age or older and able to provide care and mature guidance to children. Must also have 20 hours of child care-related training, relevant work experience, a valid first aid certificate and a clear criminal record check</li> </ul> <p>Setting: In child care providers own home</p>
<p>Preschool – 2.5 to school age</p>	<p>Typically operate September-June for four hours a day</p> <p>Ages: 30 months (2.5) to school age (5)</p> <p>Max. No. of Children per group: 20 children</p> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-10 children: One ECE</li> <li>• 11-20 children: One ECE and one ECE Assistant</li> </ul> <p>Setting: Community based facility or centre</p>

CHILD CARE LICENCE TYPE	LICENCE REQUIREMENTS*
Preschool – 2.5 to school age	<p>Typically operate September-June for four hours a day  Ages: 30 months (2.5) to school age (5 Max. No. of Children per group: 20 children  Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-10 children: One ECE</li> <li>• 11-20 children: One ECE and one ECE Assistant</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood Educator Certificate (approximately 900 hours of training)</li> <li>• Early Childhood Educator Assistant Certificate (completed one early childhood education course)</li> </ul> <p>Setting: Community based facility or centre</p>
Occasional Care	<p>Drop-in child care that can be for a max. 8 hours a day, no more than 40 hours per calendar month  Ages: 18 months (1.5) and up  Max. No. of Children per group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 children (if children under 36 months present)</li> <li>• 20 children (if no children under 36 months present)</li> </ul> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 responsible adult for every 4 children (if children under 36 months present)</li> <li>• 1 responsible adult for every 8 children (if no children under 36 months present)</li> <li>• Staff qualifications: Must be 19 years of age or older and able to provide care and mature guidance to children. Must also have 20 hours of child care-related training, relevant work experience, a valid first aid certificate and a clear criminal record check</li> <li>• Setting: Community based facility or centre</li> </ul>
Recreational Child Care (new licence type)	<p>Drop-in basis for after school care or on a day of school closure.  Ages: 5-12  Max. No. of Children per group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No maximum. Floor area of space for activity must be sufficient to ensure health and safety of children.</li> </ul> <p>Staff qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be 19 years of age or older and able to provide care and mature guidance to children. Must also have 20 hours of child care-related training, relevant work experience, a valid first aid certificate and a clear criminal record check</li> </ul> <p>Child to Staff Ratio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 responsible adult for each 12 children (Kindergarten and Grade 1)</li> <li>• 1 responsible adult for every 15 children (Grade 2 and up)</li> </ul> <p>Setting: Indoor facilities other than single family dwellings or outdoor settings such as public parks.</p>

\*Source: The Province of British Columbia. "Understanding the Different Types of Child Care in BC".



