
Ontario Increasing Access to Affordable Child Care
Province Appoints Expert Reviewer to Conduct Affordability Study
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Ontario has appointed Dr. Gordon Cleveland to lead a new study with the goal of building a child care system that makes child care universally accessible and affordable to all Ontario families.

Quality child care is essential for families. Parents want peace of mind to know they will have access to child care in a location that is convenient, and that it will be affordable for their monthly budget. Yet for too many, child care is unavailable, unaffordable, or has a significant wait time.

Dr. Cleveland will provide policy recommendations, including ways to improve access to child care subsidies. The study is expected to be complete by the end of February 2018.

As part of the 2017 Ontario Budget, the government announced investments in new child care spaces and subsidies in order to realize its target of providing 100,000 more children aged 0-4 with access to affordable, quality and responsive licensed child care in schools, homes, and communities over five years.

Expanding access to child care and making it affordable for families is part of our plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

QUOTES

" Dr. Cleveland's expertise and experience will be invaluable as we work to create a more affordable and accessible child care and early years system. One of our top priorities is making child care more affordable for Ontario's families, to give all children the best possible start in life. I'm confident Dr. Cleveland will help us do that."

- Indira Naidoo-Harris

Minister Responsible for Early Years and Child Care

" I'm honoured to be part of Ontario's plan to transform its early years and child care system – including this study, which will look for ways to make the system more affordable for families.

Our goal is to conduct a comprehensive review, and provide concrete recommendations to improve child care affordability for parents."

- Dr. Gordon Cleveland

Associate Professor of Economics Emeritus in the Department of Management at the University of Toronto Scarborough

QUICK FACTS

- Dr. Cleveland is Associate Professor of Economics Emeritus in the Department of Management at the University of Toronto Scarborough. He has studied economic and policy issues relevant to early childhood education and care, and published a variety of studies on child care costs, demand, services, financing, wages, and quality.
- On June 6, 2017, [Ontario released its Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework and Expansion Plan](#), which outlines a vision for a high-quality, inclusive and affordable early years and child care system.
- Ontario is investing over \$200 million in 2017-18 to increase accessibility and affordability of licensed child care throughout the province, building on the \$65.5 million capital investment announced in the 2016 Fall Economic Statement.
- Ontario has helped create 56,000 new licensed child care spaces over the past three years.
- Through full-day kindergarten, families are saving up to \$6,500 per child per year in child care costs. With more than \$1.5 billion in funding every year, the program is one of the most significant education investments Ontario has made in a generation.

LEARN MORE

- [Ontario's Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework and Expansion Plan](#)
- [Child Care in Ontario](#)
- [Child and Family Programs in Ontario](#)
- [Ontario's Ban on Child Care Wait List Fees](#)

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