

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## A Better Child Care System for Manitoba Families

The Manitoba Child Care Association is looking to the May 31 provincial budget to include a robust announcement on child care that addresses the critical province wide shortage of spaces, that guarantees stable funding for child care centres and licensed home child care, and upholds quality standards for all early learning and care programs.

The Manitoba economy depends on working parents and working parents depend on child care. There is a regulated space for around 18% of children and more than 12,000 names on the online child care waiting list.

"MCCA is calling on the provincial government to announce a robust child care plan that will ensure improvements in key areas, such as quality and learning opportunities, accessibility, affordability, inclusion of children with additional support needs, training and fair compensation for the child care workforce, and better support for administration and governance" said April Kalyniuk, MCCA President. "Young parents have been waiting long enough and are looking to the new government to announce a child care strategy that upholds and enhances Manitoba's reputation as a leader in the care and education of our youngest citizens", she continued.

The Manitoba Child Care Association is a membership funded non-profit organization that advocates for a quality system of child care and works to advance early childhood education as a profession.

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