IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOUR GOVERNMENT DO TO DEVELOP AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH THAT MEETS ALL THE ELEMENTS OF THE SYSTEM – AFFORDABILITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND QUALITY?

Manitoba Liberals believe that a lack of child care should never be barrier for any Manitoba family.

The Manitoba Liberal Plan is designed to be flexible and ensure that spaces are created where they are most needed — whether it is in not-for-profit centres or in schools with K-12. Manitoba Liberals will move Early Childhood Education from under the Department of Families to Education to ensure a continuous educational experience for all Manitoba children. With a focus on affordability for families and we would increase funding to centres to ensure that staff are paid livable wages and centres can give the best care and support to children.

IF YOUR PARTY IS ELECTED, HOW MANY ADDITIONAL SPACES WILL BE LICENSED AND FUNDED FOR EACH CHILD CARE CENTRES AND HOME-BASED PROGRAMS? WILL YOUR PARTY COMMIT TO FUNDING THE EXISTING 2691 UNFUNDED SPACES?

Manitoba Liberals will set a goal of having 55,000 total child care spaces by September 2027, creating 2,250 spaces per year, or 18,000 new spaces. If a federal government were to increase funding, the spaces could be created more quickly.

There are about 2,691 licensed spaces which are unfunded. This is causing severe financial difficulties for some child care centres with unfunded spaces. Manitoba Liberals will include the funding for these spaces.

WILL YOUR GOVERNMENT COMMIT TO A) IMPLEMENTING A WORKFORCE STRATEGY THAT SUPPORTS CURRENT INITIATIVES AND B) ENSURING ECES ARE COMPENSATED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS AT A LEVEL THAT REFLECTS THEIR EDUCATION AND YEARS OF SERVICE?

Manitoba Liberal have announced \$5 million to address the low wages in the child care and early childhood education sector and would partner with child care providers to develop and implement a workforce strategy for ECE.

WHAT WILL YOUR PARTY DO TO ENSURE CHILD CARE FEES REMAIN AFFORDABLE TO ALL MANITOBA FAMILIES?

Manitoba Liberal have announced \$5 million to provide support for those on low incomes. Currently the rates for those on the lowest of incomes, families who often need child care and early childhood education the most, are too high. The subsidy for child care spaces will be adjusted to enable more low-income parents to put their children in child care.