

support every child  
reach every student

**BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL  
PROGRAMS FOR 6 TO 12 YEAR  
OLDS**

November 10, 2016

# Commitments

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- ❖ “Once full-day kindergarten is fully in place, we’ll make sure all schools offer after-school programs for children aged 6 to 12.” (2011 Liberal Party Election Platform)
- ❖ “[We] will keep building a comprehensive early learning and care system, including the successful extension of full-day kindergarten and child care.” (2013 Speech from the Throne)
- ❖ “A system of responsive, high-quality, accessible, and increasingly integrated early years programs and services that contribute to healthy child development today and a stronger future tomorrow.” ([Ontario Early Years Policy Framework](#), 2013)
- ❖ “Ensure school boards offer before- and after-school programs for six- to twelve-year-olds where there is sufficient demand, either themselves or through a third party.” ([Ontario Budget](#), 2014).
- ❖ Greater integration between child care, early learning and education services is central component to the success and wellbeing of every student and child. ([Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario](#), 2014).

# Full Day Kindergarten

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- ❖ School boards are required to ensure the provision of before and after school care for four and five year olds where there is sufficient demand. These programs:
  - Are directly operated by the school board or through a child care centre.
  - Are funded by parent fees (subsidy may be eligible through their local service system manager)
  - May operate on PD days, summer, school holidays.
  - May also serve 6 to 12 year olds
  
- ❖ Since the introduction of FDK, child care spaces in publicly funded schools have more than quadrupled for four and five year olds:
  - Spaces have increased from 15,000 in 2010-11 to almost 74,000 in 2015-16
  - These spaces represent 19% of all licensed child care spaces in the province.
  - This is an increase of 383 % since the introduction of FDK in 2010-11
  
- 42% of 4 to 5 year olds have access to a licensed child care space, as of March 31, 2016.

## School Age Children

- ❖ Over 146,500 licensed child care spaces in Ontario for children 6 to 12 years of age as of March 31, 2016.
  - Represents 38% of the licensed sector.
  - Increase of 56% since the introduction of FDK in 2010-11

# Child Care Modernization Overview

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- ❖ Summer 2012: As part of the *Modernization Child Care in Ontario Discussion Paper*, the ministry sought advice on the provision of after school programs for school-aged children.
- ❖ December 2013: Introduction and First Reading of the *Child Care Modernization Act* including amendments to the *Education Act* to support the expanded duty.
- ❖ December 2014: The *Child Care Modernization Act, 2014* received Royal Assent.
- ❖ August 2015: The *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* comes into effect replacing the *Day Nurseries Act* and a first phase regulatory changes are also introduced.
- ❖ May 2016: A second phase of regulatory changes are introduced including regulatory changes under the Education Act for the provision of before and after school programs for 6-12 year olds.
  - Through this engagement the ministry received over 1300 submissions from municipalities, licensed child care providers, advocacy groups and professional associations, school boards, registered early childhood educators, and parents and individuals.
- ❖ What we heard regarding before and afterschool programs for 6-12 year olds:
  - Recognizing the role of recreation in offering age appropriate programs for school-aged children.
  - Need to ensure consistent approach regardless of whether child is in licensed care, board operated or authorized recreation.
  - Ensure planning of before and after school programs continues to support viable options that build on partnerships and programs that are addressing needs of community.

# Before/After School Care for 6-12 Year Olds

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- ❖ Informed by consultations and feedback received, effective September 2017, school boards will be required to offer a before and after school program for 6-12 year olds in all schools where there is sufficient demand:
  - Directly operated by the school board, or through a child care centre, or an authorized recreation program (after school only), on or off school property.
  - Funded by parent fees (subsidies may be available through local service system manager)
  - Requirement for school boards to consult local service system manager, parents, First Nations, existing third party programs, and Indigenous organizations serving urban Indigenous communities on planning and delivery of programs.

# Next Steps

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- ❖ The ministry is moving forward to develop guidelines to support an integrated approach in the planning and delivery of before and after school programs for 4-12 year olds.
- ❖ These guidelines will:
  - Support local conversations on assessing viability and demand
  - Set out requirements on communicating to parents on availability programs
  - Include programming requirements
  - Reporting requirements to the ministry
- ❖ The ministry completed regional sessions with school boards and CMSMs/DSSABs and sought feedback from community partners on the draft guidelines.
- ❖ Guidelines will be shared in late Fall with school boards and CMSMs/DSSABs

# Tales From the Field

## Panel Discussion

