



February 4, 2026

Honourable Lisa Beare
Minister of Education and Child Care
Government of BC

Via email: ECC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Beare,

Re: Investments in Child Care

On behalf of First Call Child and Youth Advocacy Society and our network of more than 100 affiliate organizations across British Columbia, I write to urge strengthened action to expand and fully realize \$10aDay child care as part of your ministry's work to support children, families, and early learning.

First Call's *2025 BC Child Poverty Report Card* shows that 1 in 6 children in our province — more than 149,000 young people — live in low-income households, with many families falling deeper below the poverty line each year. Lone-parent children face especially acute risk, with a poverty rate more than four times that of children in couple families.

Affordable, high-quality early learning and child care is pivotal, not only for improving overall child outcomes, but also for supporting equitable access to education and workforce participation—especially for women and caregivers. The progress toward \$10aDay care is promising, yet many families still cannot access affordable spaces.

First Call stands with many others — spanning child care, health, education, municipal, labour, business, and community sectors — in calling for your government to fulfill your commitment to achieve \$10aDay child care in BC. This investment is crucial for our economy, the parents who want to work and the businesses who need employees.

Specifically, we urge your government to prioritize new early learning and child care investments to:

- Expand access to \$10aDay child care for all families across the province, including low-income families,
- Ensure the inclusion of children with diverse needs,
- Plan the expansion of on-site school-age care so it is available in every elementary school,
- Implement a province-wide, publicly-funded fair wage grid for early childhood educators of at least \$30-\$40/hour plus benefits,

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- Increase funding for specialized ECE education to support inclusive practices, and
- Work with Indigenous leadership to ensure there are adequate resources and support for the implementation of the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework.

We respectfully urge your leadership to accelerate the implementation and equitable expansion of \$10aDay child care as a key strategy to improve child well-being and long-term prosperity in British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Adrienne Montani
Executive Director

Copy: The Honourable Premier David Eby, Premier@gov.bc.ca

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