



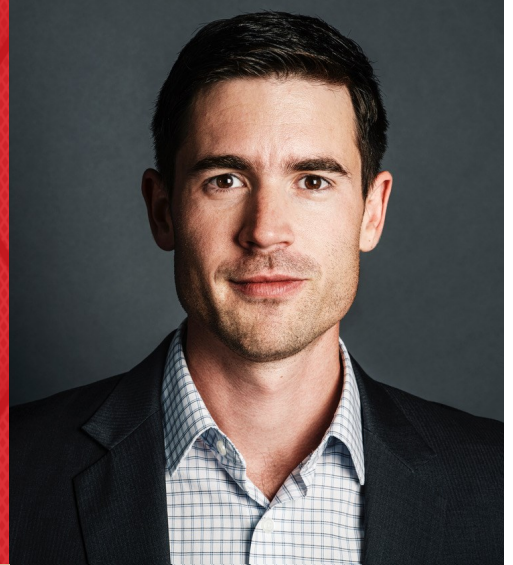
**PATRICK WEILER**

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West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

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## INVESTING IN AFFORDABLE \$10/DAY CHILDCARE

Families deserve to have access to high-quality early learning and childcare to give their children the best possible start to life. However, for decades expensive childcare has weighed heavily on families across the country, especially in communities like ours that have a high cost of living. With more families choosing not to have children, Canada's declining fertility rate reached an all-time low in 2022. We need to do a better job in reversing this trend by working to support would be parents and families, so that everyone has the option of raising a family no matter their means.

In 2021, the Government of Canada made a historic investment to help families with rising childcare costs, building a high-quality \$10/day early learning and childcare system across Canada. The goal is to have all regulated childcare centres be on average \$10/day by 2026.

With childcare fees already cut in half since 2021, this means a family with two children in Metro Vancouver who was paying an average of \$60/day per child for early learning childcare has seen savings of over \$14,000 a year. By 2026, that family will be saving \$26,000.

This is an investment in our future. It makes quality childcare accessible regardless of a parents' income and means, boosting social equity. It helps parents, especially women, continue their careers and balance work with raising a child. Canada now has a record high female labour force participation rate of 85.7%. Most of all, this investment helps hundreds of thousands of children grow up with the vital early support they need to succeed in the future, improving graduation rates, boosting lifetime earnings, and promoting lifelong well-being.



*Photo: Visiting a daycare centre in Squamish in 2022*

## \$10/DAY CHILDCARE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

We know that as important as cost is, spaces are a critical part of making childcare accessible. That is why our \$10/day childcare agreement with the BC government is creating 30,000 new childcare spaces by 2025-26, and 40,000 by 2027-38, with 85% of funding coming from the federal government.

By Spring 2024, we will have created 15,000 \$10/childcare spaces in British Columbia with many more on their way. Here in West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country, we are seeing the impact of these investments. Just last month, I was proud to join Sea to Sky Community Services Society in announcing that the Brackendale Childcare Program has transitioned to \$10/day childcare with 180 new spaces.

Turn the page to see a map of the childcare centres in our communities that have already achieved \$10/day childcare.

## SUPPORTING CHILDCARE WORKERS

Part of expanding childcare is ensuring that caregivers and educators have the training, support, and financial security that they need. Through our agreement with British Columbia, we are investing in early-childhood educators, giving all workers in BC a much needed raise and providing even more financial support to infant-toddler and special-needs educators. With a new median wage of \$28/hour, we are providing a liveable income for the workers who support our children day in and day out.



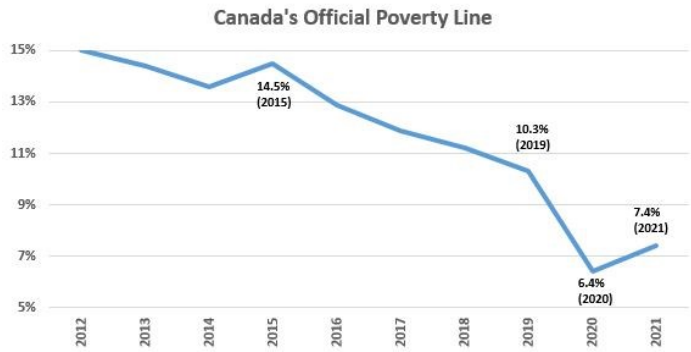
# CANADA CHILD BENEFIT DELIVERING FOR FAMILIES

Since 2015, the tax-free and income-tested Canada Child Benefit (CCB) has put more money back in the pockets of 9/10 families, providing the support they need to raise a child and helping lift hundreds of thousands of children out of poverty. Studies have shown that the CCB has reduced poverty by 11% in single-parent families and 17% in two-parent families. As a result, there have been close to 2.3 million fewer Canadians living in poverty compared to 2015, including 653,000 fewer children, 11,000 fewer seniors, and 556,000 fewer persons with a disability.

This year, the CCB will provide up to \$7,437 for each child under the age of 6 and \$6,275 for each child between the ages of 6 and 17. The CCB is indexed to inflation to meet the cost of living. If your child is eligible for the Disability Tax Credit, you may also be eligible for the Child Disability Benefit. For the 2023-2024 period, you could receive up to \$3,173 (\$264.41 per month) for each child who is eligible for the Disability Tax Credit.

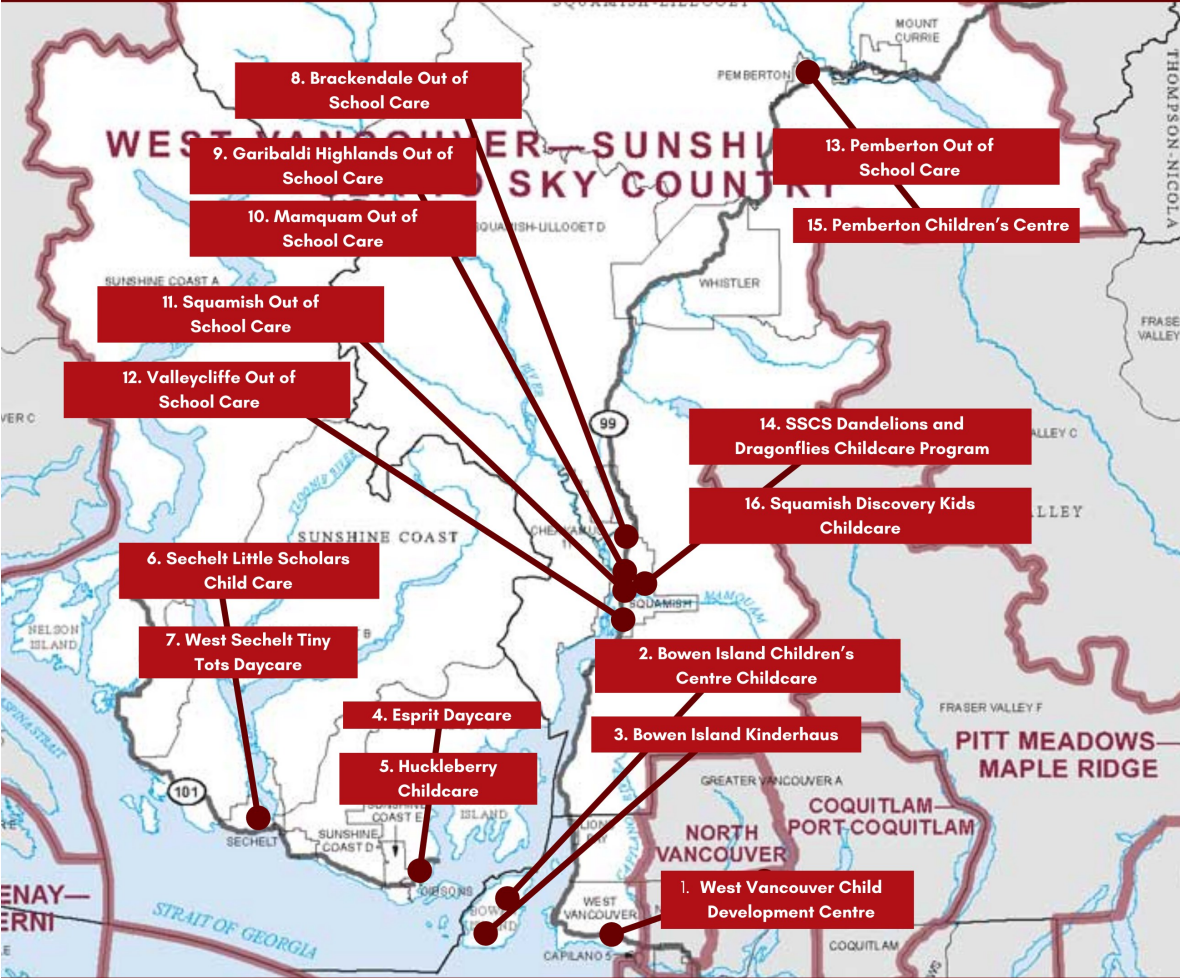
# SUPPORTING FAMILIES WITH THE CANADA CAREGIVING CREDIT

We know that many families need extra help with children who have special needs and physical impairments. In 2017, we launched the Canada Caregiver Credit which provides those supporting a dependent with a physical or mental impairment with a non-refundable tax credit. For 2024, parents supporting a child can claim an amount of \$2,499 in the calculation of line 30400 and up \$7,999 on line 30425.



Source: Statistics Canada

## \$10/DAY CHILDCARE IN WEST VANCOUVER-SUNSHINE COAST-SEA TO SKY COUNTRY



- 2.3 million fewer Canadians living in poverty
- 653,000 fewer children in poverty
- 11,000 fewer seniors in poverty
- 556,000 fewer persons with a disability in poverty

## CONTACT US

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### WEST VANCOUVER & BOWEN ISLAND

- 1. West Vancouver Child Development Centre: 8 Spaces (under 36 months), 25 spaces (age 3-5 years)
- 2. Bowen Island Children's Centre Childcare: 8 spaces (under 36 months), 40 spaces (age 3-5 years), 40 spaces (School-Age)
- 3. Bowen Island Kinderhaus: 7 spaces (family)

### SUNSHINE COAST

- 4. Gibsons Esprit Daycare: 12 spaces (under 36 months), 16 spaces (age 3-5 years)
- 5. Gibsons Huckleberry Childcare: 16 spaces (age 3-5 years)
- 6. Sechelt Little Scholars Child Care: 25 spaces (age 3-5 years)
- 7. West Sechelt Tiny Tots Daycare: 7 spaces (family)

### SEA TO SKY COUNTRY

- Sea to Sky Community Community Services Society programs:
- 8. Brackendale Out of School Care: 48 spaces (School-Age), 16 spaces (Age 3-5 years)
  - 9. Garibaldi Highlands Out of School Care: 48 spaces (School-Age)
  - 10. Mamquam Out of School Care: 48 spaces (School-Age)
  - 11. Squamish Out of School Care: 24 spaces (School-Age)
  - 12. Valleycliffe Out of School Care: 24 spaces (School-Age)
  - 13. Pemberton Out of School Care: 12 spaces (School-Age)
  - 14. SSCS Dandelions and Dragonflies Childcare Program: 32 spaces (age 3-5 years)
  - 15. Pemberton Children's Centre: 24 spaces (under 36 months), 25 spaces (age 3-5 years)
  - 16. Squamish Discovery Kids Childcare: 12 spaces (under 36 months), 25 spaces (age 3-5 years)

Scan the QR Code below to visit our website

