

**Ministry of Education**  
**Early Years and Child Care**  
**Programs and Service**  
**Integration Branch**

900 Bay St., 24<sup>th</sup> floor  
Mowat Block  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

**Ministère de l'Éducation**  
**Direction de l'intégration des**  
**programmes et des services pour la**  
**petite enfance et la garde d'enfants**

900, rue Bay, 24<sup>e</sup> étage  
Édifice Mowat  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



**2017: EYCC12**

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Chiefs of First Nations with Child Care On-Reserve  
Child Care Administrators

**FROM:** Julia Danos  
Director, Programs and Service Integration Branch  
Early Years and Child Care Division  
Ministry of Education

**DATE:** **October 26, 2017**

**SUBJECT:** **Child Care Funding Update**

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The need for improved wages and compensation for the early years and child care workforce was a recurring theme heard through the ministry's province-wide consultation over the fall 2016 and winter 2017. A key priority of the [Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework](#) is the development of an early years workforce strategy.

The Ministry of Education recognizes that increasing operating pressures may lead to increases in parental fees. To support improving wages for the licensed child care workforce, affordability for families, and to address potential fee increases, the ministry will provide Consolidated Municipal Service Managers, District Social Services Administration Boards and First Nations \$12.7 million in incremental funding for the first quarter of 2018, to support those staff currently earning under \$14 an hour.

This investment will be in addition to the \$30.8M allocated in 2017-18 to First Nation communities and is intended to help stabilize operations.

Funding for this initiative will be provided to First Nations through amended 2017-18 transfer payment agreements, which will be released in the fall of 2017. Further information, including allocation amount, eligibility and reporting requirements, will be available at that time.

This funding supports our government's commitment to make licensed child care more affordable and accessible for Ontario families.

We appreciate and value your ongoing partnership as we continue to transform the child care system across the province.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

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Julia Danos  
Director, Programs and Service Integration Branch  
Early Years and Child Care Division

Copy:           Shannon Fuller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Years and Child Care Division  
                  Early Years Advisors, Programs and Service Integration Branch  
                  Financial Analysts, Finance Accountability and Data Analysis Branch