

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

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Ministère de l'Éducation
Direction de l'intégration des
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2018: EYCC3

MEMORANDUM TO: Chiefs of First Nations with Licensed Child Care
First Nations Child Care Administrators

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

DATE: February 20, 2018

SUBJECT: Fee Stabilization Support Funding Update

I am writing today to provide an update on Fee Stabilization Support Funding, first announced in October 2017.

In response to concerns that increasing operating pressures may lead to increases in parental fees in licensed child care, the ministry will provide an additional \$0.58 million in 2018-19 to First Nations for Fee Stabilization Support Funding to support improving wages for the licensed child care workforce, affordability for families and to address potential fee increases. This is a continuation of the funding that was allocated for January-March 2018.

Fee Stabilization Support Funding is made available to increase hourly wages of staff in licensed centres and licensed home child care agencies earning less than \$14 per hour (excluding wage enhancement), as of December 31, 2017. The new investment does not require service system manager cost sharing and includes administration funding to support implementation.

The additional funding for this initiative will be provided to First Nations in the 2018-19 child care service agreement package, which will be released in the near future. Child care licensees will also receive a communication from the ministry on this additional investment.

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.

As we move to give families immediate relief on the cost of child care, Ontario's Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework will enhance access, affordability, quality and responsiveness of Ontario's early learning and child care programs in the near term and beyond.

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

Sincerely,

Original signed by

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, Financial Accountability and Data Analysis Branch