

Community controlled child care in BC

BC communities have the knowledge, experience, and commitment to build and govern a child care system. Now it's time to give them the power, mandate, resources, and tools to get the job done.

Good governance is a basic building block for community controlled child care

In addition to establishing the policy, funding, and standards that will ensure a quality, universal, affordable child care system in BC, we also need to develop a governance model that will enable a child care system to operate effectively and accountably.

This is why the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (CCCABC) have opened up a conversation on a good governance model for a child care system in BC.

The purpose of good governance is to build and sustain the child care system that children, families and communities need. Good governance is a tool to this end – not an end in itself.

A good governance model should:

- Be accountable to the community
- Coordinate and integrate services to ensure efficient use of resources
- Provide equitable access across regions and diverse groups
- Respect diversity

What we've learned

The CCCABC studied and reported on five existing governance models – three child care models from other jurisdictions (Denmark, New Zealand, and Quebec), and two from other services in BC (school boards and Community Living BC).

Findings include:

1. Public policy and funding are essential
2. Governance mandates evolve over time
3. Supporting a range of diverse services is possible
4. Communities can exercise control differently

Based on these findings, the CCCABC suggests that a place to start is with Community Child Care Boards. Operating within a strong provincial public policy and budget, over time Community Child Care Boards would evolve into governing bodies that have the mandate and funds to plan, develop and deliver child care services that meet the needs of their community.

It's an ongoing discussion

Rather than answering every question, the CCCABC's call for community controlled child care is the beginning of a conversation with communities about the best way to move forward.

Read the CCCABC governance report *The rEvolution of Community Controlled Child Care in BC* and take part in this important conversation.

http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/cccabdocs/governance/ggcc_final_report.pdf

Child care - let's make it happen!

Coalition of Child Care Advocates of B.C.

www.cccabc.bc.ca

B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union

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