

173 local child care spaces added last year: Newmarket-Aurora MPP ^[1]

The Ministry of Education has released a report detailing public and private child care numbers for 2018-19

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EXCERPTS

A new report from the Ministry of Education shows that 173 licensed child care spaces were created in Newmarket-Aurora by public and/or private sector child care providers in 2018-19. Across Ontario, over 19,000 child care licensed child care spaces were created during that same time period.

Research demonstrates a clear link between a solid foundation in children's early years and their long-term development and success. That is why Ontario is committed to improving access to child care, giving parents more choice and making high-quality programs affordable.

"I am proud to announce the creation of 173 new child care spaces in Newmarket-Aurora," said MPP Christine Elliott. "Parents will have more choice and better access to high-quality and affordable child care programs. We are committed to improving access, affordability and the quality of child care in our community and across Ontario."

"Our government is committed to making life easier for families and that means improving access to child care options," said Education Minister Stephen Lecce. "The creation of over 19,000 new child care spaces means that more families will be able to choose the kind of care that is best for their children so they can go to work, run a business or study to acquire new skills."

"The creation of new child care spaces - by both the public and private sectors - is great news for the families of this province," said Jill Dunlop, Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues. "Our government is taking an inclusive approach to helping them succeed and remains committed to providing child care options to meet the diversity of needs across Ontario."

In 2019, Ontario announced new steps to improve access to child care options for parents. The government will commit up to \$1 billion over five years to create up to 30,000 new child care spaces in schools across the province.

As well, the government introduced the new Ontario Childcare Access and Relief from Expenses (CARE) tax credit, which will provide approximately 300,000 families with up to 75 per cent of their eligible child care expenses.

Quick Facts

- Ontario's total 2019-20 budget for child care and early years is more than \$2 billion.
- In addition to the child care tax credit, the Child Care Expense Deduction provides added tax relief for eligible child care expenses.
- The province has allocated \$208 million in 2019 to help retain Registered Early Childhood Educators within Ontario's child care system, and support access to stable, high-quality child care programs.
- In 2018-19, Ontario received \$146.3 million in federal funding under the Canada-Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Agreement.

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