

Parents on P.E.I. eager for \$10 a day child care — whenever it happens ^[1]

Some P.E.I. parents have been told that fees will drop on Jan. 1, 2024

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Excerpts

Some parents on Prince Edward Island have received notice that their daycare costs will go down to \$10 a day on Jan. 1, 2024, though that date has not yet been officially announced by the province.

The P.E.I. government originally committed to \$10-a-day daycare at designated early years centres by the end of 2025, through a funding agreement with Ottawa.

Then, in last spring's provincial budget, the King government promised to spend \$4 million to get to \$10 a day "before the end of this year."

...

New mom Alicia Chiasson said whenever fees do go down, it'll take a lot of financial pressure off her at a time when other costs are rising — if her baby actually gets a spot in daycare, that is.

She's among the 2,000 Islanders on the waiting list, and demand is expected to grow when child care gets cheaper.

"People are already scrambling to find spots in the system, let alone when it's \$10 a day," she said.

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Whenever it happens, it will be a significant change for her clients, said Melanie Cochrane, director of Tiny Tot Child-care Centre in Charlottetown.

"At one point in time, we were over \$30 a day. So to be able to pay \$10 a day, it's massive. It's a massive, massive savings."

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