Canada Nova Scotia Canada-wide early learning and child care agreement: 2023-2024 to 2025-2026 action plan [1]

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AVAILABILITY Access online [2] Access online [PDF] [3]

Excerpt

Introduction

Nova Scotia families deserve accessible, affordable, high-quality, and inclusive early learning and child care (ELCC). Nova Scotia's ELCC system is for children from infancy to age twelve and includes licensed child care in centre-based and family home settings, as well as before and after school care. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) holds the legislated authority under the Early Learning and Child Care Act and Regulations to deliver early learning and child care throughout Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia's Early Learning and Child Care Vision

Nova Scotia and Canada share common principles set out in the ELCC Multilateral Framework and a vision that all families have access to high-quality, affordable, flexible, and inclusive ELCC spaces.

From 2023 to 2026, Canada will support Nova Scotia in working towards our shared vision by investing approximately \$440,447,617, including \$127,895,380 in 2023-2024 through the Canada-Nova Scotia Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (CWELCCA).

The Indigenous ELCC Framework represents work by Canada and Indigenous peoples to co-develop a transformative Indigenous framework that reflects the unique cultures, aspirations and needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children across Canada. Nova Scotia acknowledges these existing partnerships and the work underway through this Framework and remains committed to working together to advance our shared priorities.

From 2023 to 2026, Nova Scotia will work through various initiatives outlined in its updated Action Plan to continue to work towards creating an inclusive culture within its ELCC system where every child, regardless of their ability, socioeconomic status, gender, or cultural background, can participate, learn, grow, and improve their well-being.

In collaboration with sector partners and the Minister's Engagement Table, a provincial vision for the future of Early Learning and Child Care in Nova Scotia is emerging that aligns with the Multilateral Framework but reflects guiding principles and long-term goals created for Nova Scotians. This vision is iterative and will adapt as the system evolves with ongoing input from the sector, partners, and families.

Related link: Canada-Nova Scotia Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement [4] Government of Nova Scotia and Canada agree on three-year child care action plan [5] Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia release early learning and child care action plan [6] Region: Nova Scotia [7]

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