B.C. premier pressed on \$10-a-day child care promise

Average cost of child care has dropped from around \$50 per day to an average of \$18 per day, David Eby says

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B.C.'s premier says the average cost of child care has plummeted from what it was when his party took power in 2017 — but it's still not the \$10 a day his party promised over two elections.

The average cost of child care has dropped from around \$50 per day to an average of \$18 per day, according to David Eby.

"Our goal around child care is very straightforward," he said Monday in Victoria from a roundtable with community members over his government's latest budget.

Eby was pressed over whether the driving down of those costs would get to a promise his government said was in reach in 2017 — not an average cost for child care, but a universal one at \$10 per day.

"We said over a 10-year period we are going to build out an accessible affordable child care program and our target and goal is \$10 per day for British Columbians," he said.

Currently there are 140,000 licensed child-care spots in B.C., according to Gregson, with 14,000 of them, or 10 per cent, operating at \$10 per day.

"This isn't going to happen overnight," Eby said about adding spots.

"This is building the first new major social program in a generation in British Columbia ... we've got more to do."

He also called on Ottawa this week to continue being a "strong" partner to help continue to build B.C.'s affordable child-care program.

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1