

Child care is getting cheaper in Canada but parents stuck in daycare deserts are still left stranded ^[1]

Despite reduced fees, the creation of new daycare spaces lags behind increased demand, especially in small communities

Author: McGinn, Dave

Source: The Globe and Mail

Format: Article

Publication Date: 31 Oct 2024

AVAILABILITY

Access online via Globe and Mail [limited access] ^[2]

Excerpts

...

"There's a pretty clear relationship between community size and coverage rates," [David Macdonald] says.

That means that smaller communities such as Parry Sound, with a population of approximately 7,000 people in town and just under 50,000 in the entire district, are among the least likely to have child-care spaces for families who many need them. The CCPA report on child-care deserts found Parry Sound has only enough licensed spaces for 27 per cent of children below kindergarten age.

When it comes to creating new child-care spaces in smaller communities, a big part of the problem is the way in which expansion has typically worked, Mr. Macdonald says.

...

But child-care advocates say Ontario's expansion plans need to be much more aggressive.

"The plans for child-care expansion just aren't ambitious enough," says Carolyn Ferns, policy co-ordinator for the Ontario Coalition for Better Childcare. "We're seeing other provinces come up with creative solutions to try to make child-care expansion happen, and in Ontario we're just not there yet."

...

Read full article ^[2]

Related link: Not done yet: \$10-a-day child care requires addressing Canada's child care deserts ^[3]

Child care expansion in Manitoba: Spotlight on the Ready-to-Move initiative ^[4]

Region: Canada ^[5]

Tags: child care deserts ^[6]

staff shortage ^[7]

waitlists ^[8]

Source URL (modified on 5 Nov 2024): <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/24/11/child-care-getting-cheaper-canada-parents-stuck-daycare-deserts-are>

Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/24/11/child-care-getting-cheaper-canada-parents-stuck-daycare-deserts-are> ^[2]

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-daycare-child-care-crisis-10-a-day/> ^[3] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/23/05/not-done-yet-10-day-child-care-requires-addressing-canada's> ^[4] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/24/10/child-care-expansion-manitoba-spotlight-ready-move> ^[5] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7864> ^[6]

<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/9309> ^[7] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/9187> ^[8]

<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/8933>