

What we heard: Perspectives from Indigenous governments and organizations ^[1]

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Excerpt

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Commitment to reconciliation and respect of Aboriginal and treaty rights (Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982)

Responses pointed to the critical need for quality, culturally appropriate ELCC services for Indigenous peoples and communities. A number of Indigenous responses underlined the importance of ensuring that the proposed ELCC legislation respects the right to self-determination. This includes the right to control the design, delivery and administration of an Indigenous ELCC system that reflects their unique needs, priorities and aspirations, as identified in the co-developed Framework. Furthermore, responses suggested that the legislation should be consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as per section 5 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. In keeping with these commitments, some Indigenous governments asserted the importance of being involved in discussions with provinces and territories on child care agreements.

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Related link: Engagement on federal early learning and child care legislation: What we heard report ^[4]

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