

# From child care market to child care system <sup>[1]</sup>

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## AVAILABILITY

[Access Online](#) <sup>[2]</sup>

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"From child care market to child care system" article is from the issue Our Schools/Our Selves: Summer 2015 Moving Beyond Baby Steps: Building a child care plan for today's families.

## Excerpt

The ChildCare2020 conference aimed to address key challenges faced by Canadian child care, to reflect on current research, and – most importantly – to set out a bold vision and a path away from today's child care patchwork towards a comprehensive national system. The ChildCare2020 vision paper identifies Canada's reliance on a child care market as "the key explanation for this persistent patchwork":

Federal and provincial/ territorial child care policy encourages this dependence on markets, flying in the face of clear evidence that public management of child care, including public/non-profit delivery, is a much more effective and fair way to deliver services.

Our mini-plenary session began with the premise that a child care system – not a market that treats child care as a commodity – is fundamental to building full access to the universal, quality child care services envisioned by ChildCare2020. We were asked to address the question: How do we move from child care as a market commodity to child care as a system that treats child care as a public good?

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**Related link:** [A bad bargain for us all: Why the market doesn't deliver child care that works for Canadian children and families](#) <sup>[4]</sup>

**Region:** [Canada](#) <sup>[5]</sup>

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