

# "This is a big problem here"; Cape Breton parents of children with autism say more programs needed <sup>[1]</sup>

**Author:** Sullivan, Nicole

**Source:** Cape Breton Post

**Format:** Article

**Publication Date:** 13 Jan 2025

## AVAILABILITY

Access online <sup>[2]</sup>

## Excerpts

Stephanie Grant's voice is filled with her frustration over the lack of child care options for her three children with autism.

...

When her children were in daycare, they could stay until the end of a work day (5 p.m. or 5:30 p.m.)

Now that they are in school, Grant is unable to register them in their school's after-school program because she said she was told the inclusive spaces in the program are filled.

During the summer months, Grant also has difficulties finding child care spots for her children as well as on holidays and personal development days at school.

...

"We need to look at it from the holistic point of how do we ensure that any child that wants access to this program is included ... there are success stories around Canada and across Nova Scotia around how you can create an inclusive program and be sure that every child that wants to can participate," Tharmaratnam said.

"But there is still a lot of work to do ... At the end of the day, if a child is being told they can't attend something because of their disability, that's human rights discrimination."

**Related link:** Regina parents of neurodivergent kids say there is a shortage of daycare facilities <sup>[3]</sup>

More training needed to help kids with disabilities, say some early childhood educators in N.S. <sup>[4]</sup>

**Region:** Nova Scotia <sup>[5]</sup>

**Tags:** autism <sup>[6]</sup>

discrimination <sup>[7]</sup>

inclusion <sup>[8]</sup>

labour force participation <sup>[9]</sup>

---

**Source URL (modified on 22 Jan 2025):** <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/25/01/big-problem-here-cape-breton-parents-children-autism-say-more>

## Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/25/01/big-problem-here-cape-breton-parents-children-autism-say-more> <sup>[2]</sup>

<https://www.saltwire.com/cape-breton/this-is-a-big-problem-here-cape-breton-parents-of-children-with-autism-say-more-programs-needed> <sup>[3]</sup>

<https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/24/09/regina-parents-neurodivergent-kids-say-there-shortage-daycare> <sup>[4]</sup>

<https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/24/04/more-training-needed-help-kids-disabilities-say-some-early-childhood> <sup>[5]</sup>

<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7853> <sup>[6]</sup> <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/9320> <sup>[7]</sup>

<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/9322> <sup>[8]</sup> <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/8952> <sup>[9]</sup>

<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/8923>