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Most provinces have dropped daycare costs to \$10/day. Why are some Toronto parents still paying full fees?

For-profit daycares continue to join the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care program at much lower rates, particularly in the GTA. **Author:** Kennedy, Brendan **Source:** The Toronto Star **Format:** Article **Publication Date:** 19 Jan 2025

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Excerpts

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After parent fees were cut in half at the end of 2022, the Toronto mother and her partner had an extra \$1,000 each month. The savings were a major factor in their decision to buy a house that spring.

Two years later, Bruno's situation has been upended. In November, her son's daycare told parents it was pulling out of the national program and fees would be increasing 150 per cent in the new year.

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The main cause of the lower rates in Toronto and its surrounding cities are the number of for- profit daycare operators choosing not to participate.

Twenty-five per cent of for-profit daycares in the GTA have opted-out of the national program, according to data collected by the Star. By comparison, just 6 per cent of non-profits have opted out.

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