

Parents, operators and advocates want more details on child-care election promises ^[1]

Many parents, child-care operators and advocates are hoping that whoever forms Canada's next government both maintains and expands the \$10-a-day program, but a lack of clarity on election promises has left some with questions.

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Excerpts

TORONTO - Many parents, child-care operators and advocates are hoping that whoever forms Canada's next government both maintains and expands the \$10-a-day program, but a lack of clarity on election promises has left some with questions.

Liberal Leader Mark Carney, Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre and NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh have all spoken about the importance of affordable child care, but where Carney and Singh have pledged explicit support for the program, Poilievre has stopped short.

At a campaign stop last month, he pledged to "massively expand the availability of child care," but signalled that he wants to see changes in the national program that cuts the fees parents pay, lamenting that there is too much bureaucracy and that too few families can access it.

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The rollout of the \$10-a-day program has seen tension between some groups advocating for non-profit care and for-profit operators. Public money should not go to profits, advocates say, while private operators and others say that there can be no truly national system without the thousands of for-profit centres.

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