

N.B Child Care Coalition wants to change act ^[1]

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EXCERPTS

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"The Legislative Assembly should modify Bill 49, the Early Learning and Childcare Act, to give the provincial government the authority to change how it finances child care programs. The bill should also clearly state that funding will be allocated directly to child-care programs rather than facility operators," Jody Dallaire, executive-director of the coalition said in a news release.

Dallaire said the province's current approach to child care relies on parent fee subsidies and educator wage subsidies, and provides little accountability for public funds. The coalition believes this could lead to the undermining of quality and a waste of taxpayer dollars. She said there is at least one "big box" child care company trying to get listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange to raise capital and expand across Canada.

"The Early Learning and Childcare Act should give the government the power to keep "big box" child care companies out of New Brunswick and foster public and not-for-profit child-care programs. The for-profit programs that already exist could keep operating but the criteria for the allocation of public funds should be based on the principles of quality programming, inclusion, accessibility, public financing and community delivery."

- reprinted from the Times and Transcript

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<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7854> [3] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/advocacy> [4]

<https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/funding> [5] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/legislation-and-regulation>