

Quebec daycare workers approve new deal ^[1]

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EXCERPTS

Quebec's 13,000 unionized home daycare workers have formally ratified a new collective agreement with the provincial government.

In a ratification vote held Sunday, 95 per cent of the workers voted in favour of approving the new deal, which will gradually boost the income of government-subsidized home daycare operators to \$34.43 a day per child by 2013. Prior to the agreement, home daycare providers received \$26 a day per child - \$19 from the Quebec government and another \$7 from parents.

The daycare workers voted 89 per cent in favour of the agreement on Nov. 28, which allowed it to move to a ratification vote. The final approval of the deal brings an end to months of negotiations and union pressure tactics, including a one-day strike on Nov. 9 that affected 92,000 children across Quebec.

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[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/11/01/quebec-daycare-workers-approve-new-deal> [2]

<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7855> [3] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/staff> [4] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/demand>

[5] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/outcomes> [6] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/regulated-family-child-care>