

Daycare, education get cash in 2011-12 Quebec budget ^[1]

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EXCERPTS.

Quebec Finance Minister Raymond Bachand offered new money for daycare in his 2011-2012 Quebec budget Thursday, more for education, including five \$325 annual university tuition hikes, and a carrot-and-stick strategy to keep more Quebecers working until age 70.

...

On the spending side, Bachand announced \$558 million for 15,000 new subsidized \$7 daycare places, at a rate of 3,000 new places a year for five years, bringing the total to 235,000.

"Many measures in this budget are over five years," Bachand said, adding that the government did not act sooner on daycare overcrowding because of the economic slowdown.

Jean Robitaille, president of the Association des centres de la petite enfance du Quebec, said his association won a commitment from Bachand to speed up the creation of daycare places if economic growth is stronger.

- reprinted from Montreal Gazette

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