

Current state of inclusion of children with special needs in child care programmes in one Canadian province ^[1]

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AVAILABILITY

Abstract and purchasing information (may also be available through university libraries) ^[2]

Abstract:

Background: Access to quality child care is an important support for families with children with disabilities. The objectives of this study were to determine: (1) the current state of inclusion of children with special needs in child care programmes, and (2) the presence of child care staff practices and programme characteristics that support inclusion. **Methods:** Mail survey. **Results:** Centre based day care programmes (n = 318) and family day home agencies (n = 25) responded to the survey (47% response rate). Participants reported positive attitudes towards the philosophy of inclusion; however, 36% of the centre-based programmes and 29% of the family day home agencies that had been contacted by families of children with special needs did not accept them into care. A significant proportion of centre-based programmes (36%) and family day home agencies (40%) were unaware of how to access specialised support services for the children in their programmes. Many programmes (i.e. 54% of centre-based programmes and 96% of family day homes) reported they were not physically accessible. **Conclusions:** Child care providers require improved access to supports to increase their capacity to provide child care for children with special needs.

Related link: Alberta inclusive child care project (based on the same data and available online) ^[3]

Region: Alberta ^[4]

Tags: special needs ^[5]

Source URL (modified on 27 Jan 2022): <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/13/04/current-state-inclusion-children-special-needs-child-care>

Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/13/04/current-state-inclusion-children-special-needs-child-care> ^[2]

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13603116.2013.767386> ^[3] <http://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/12/08/alberta-inclusive-child-care-project> ^[4] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7859> ^[5] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/special-needs>