

Early childhood education and care in the fall 2011 provincial/territorial elections

Introduction

This October there are provincial elections in six Canadian provinces and territories: Newfoundland and Labrador ^[1], Prince Edward Island ^[2], Ontario ^[3], Manitoba ^[4], Northwest Territories ^[5] and the Yukon Territory ^[6]. There is also a provincial election in Saskatchewan in November. This ISSUE File aims to collect information about how ECEC is being addressed (or not) in these election campaigns. Each page (see menu at right) provides links to party platforms, NGO positions and campaign materials, and news articles.

We will continue to update these pages as more materials become available.

Mon, 11/07/2011

Tags:

election ^[7]

Newfoundland and Labrador

Election Results: Kathy Dunderdale of the Progressive Conservative Party has been elected as Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Conservatives have won a majority government.

Nomination Deadline: Oct 1, 2011

Territorial Election: Oct 11, 2011

Currently, the premier of Newfoundland and Labrador is Kathy Dunderdale of the Progressive Conservative party.

Kindergarten is offered part-day to all five year olds, but is not compulsory, and is under the Department of Education. Child care centres are mostly for-profit and are under the Ministry of Child, Youth and Family Services.

Party platforms

Progressive Conservative Party

Leader: Kathy Dunderdale

Party Platform: 2011 Policy Blue Book ^[8]

"Child Care Pilot Project...this initiative includes supports for home-based child care business providers offering regulated child care for children of a mixture of ages, with a maximum of six children per home; start-up grants for operators; and, annual infant stimulus grants for offering regulated infant care to children 24 months of age and younger, with a maximum of three children per home."

>>See page 7 of pdf

Liberal Party

Leader: Kevin Aylward

Party Platform: People's Platform

"...will establish a task force... to develop a strategic action plan for the implementation of full-day kindergarten."

"We will... increase the Early Childhood Education Supplement (ELCC) from a maximum of \$6,660/year to \$8,000/year; ... invest in recruiting and retaining early childhood educators; and creating new infant care spaces by providing a monthly supplement to licensed child care centres."

New Democratic Party

Leader: Lorraine Michael

Platform: "NDP plan for Newfoundland and Labrador" ^[9]

"A universal, accessible childcare and early development program flows from justice, fairness and equality"

NGO positions and campaign materials

Candidates Against Poverty Leader Responses (*link no longer available*)

The Religious Social Action Coalition of Newfoundland and Labrador, Oct 2011

Candidates Against Poverty Questionnaire (*link no longer available*)
The Religious Social Action Coalition of Newfoundland and Labrador, Oct 2011

CUPE NL to host three election forums on child care in NL (*link no longer available*)
CUPE Newfoundland Labrador Division, 22 Sep 2011

Provincial election 2011 (*link no longer available*)
Cupe Newfoundland Labrador Division, 20 Sep 2011

89% of NL parents support a public child care system (*link no longer available*)
CUPE Newfoundland Labrador Division, 19 Sep 2011
>> **Full poll results in pdf** ^[10]

Letter about the provincial election (*link no longer available*)
CUPE Newfoundland Labrador Division, 20 Sep 2011

Election Bulletin 2011 (*link no longer available*)
Newfoundland and Labrador's Teacher Association

News articles

Grits promise more for child care ^[11]
CBC News, 26 Sep 2011

Child-care system divided, forum told; Publicly funded system would improve accessibility, fairness candidates hear ^[12]
The Western Star, 26 Sep 2011

No longer talking babysitting, Michael says ^[13]
The Telegram, 26 Sep 2011

Newfoundland election promises include moose safety, early education ^[14]
The Globe and Mail, 25 Sep 2011

Save the children! No, like really. ^[15]
The Independent, 20 Sep 2011

NDP: Raise oil taxes, boost social spending ^[16]
CBC News, 20 Sep 2011
Wed, 09/21/2011

Tags:
election ^[7]

Prince Edward Island

Election Results: Robert Ghiz of the Liberal Party has been re-elected as Premier of Prince Edward Island. The Liberals have won a majority government.

Nomination Deadline: September 16, 2011

Provincial Election: October 3, 2011

Currently, the Premier of Prince Edward Island is Robert Ghiz of the Liberal Party.

Until recently, kindergarten was the responsibility of child care centres. Now it has moved to the public education system and is a mandatory program for five year olds. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is responsible for both kindergarten and child care centres.

Party platforms

Progressive Conservative Party

Leader: Olive Crane

Platform: "The PEI PC Party Taxation Plan" [Link is no longer available]

Liberal Party

Leader: Robert Ghiz

Platform: "Liberal Backgrounder" [Link is no longer available]

"Spaces in the Early Years Centres will grow to 2,150 , up from 1,775 in May of 2011. Liberals will also maintain the existing funding to the non Early Years Centres"

"New investments of \$850,000 over four years will be made to expand infant care"

>>See "Liberal Backgrounder on Educating Island Children" [Link is no longer available]

New Democratic Party

Leader: James Rodd

Platform: "2020 Vision" [Link is no longer available]

"Providing more early childhood specialists, guidance counsellors and social workers will cost money.

However, we are paying the cost now of not making these proper investments in the past."

Green Party

Leader: Sharon Labchuck

Platform: PEI Vision Green [Link is no longer available]

"The Greens are committed to nurturing families and communities through integrated policies that focus on the welfare of the child..."

>>See "Family Focused Program" [Link is no longer available]

NGO positions and campaign materials

PEITF Election Special Newsletter [Link is no longer available]

Prince Edward Island Teachers Federation, Sep 2011

News articles

CBC P.E.I. votes 2011 online debates ^[17]

>>See PEI Election Debate 2- Education from 6:32-6:40

CBC News, 19 Sep 2011

Tags:
election ^[7]

Ontario

Election Results: Dalton McGuinty of the Liberal Party has been re-elected as Premier of Ontario. The Liberals have won a minority government.

Nomination Deadline: September 15, 2011

Provincial Election: October 6, 2011

Currently, the Premier of Ontario is Dalton McGuinty of the Liberal Party.

In 2010, child care moved to the Ministry of Education and is currently part of an Early Years Division with Kindergarten. Ontario has universal kindergarten for four-year-olds called Junior Kindergarten, and Senior Kindergarten for five-year-olds.

Party platforms

Progressive Conservative Party

Leader: Tim Hudak

Platform: "Changebook" ^[18]

"...we will make [full-day kindergarten] fully operational for all four and five year olds in Ontario by 2014."

"We will increase spending on K-12 education by \$2 billion by the end of our first term."

>>See pp. 20-21 of PDF ^[19]

Liberal Party

Leader: Dalton McGuinty

Platform: "The Ontario Liberal Plan 2011-2015" ^[20]

"We'll make sure any family that wants their child to attend full-day kindergarten will be able to do so by 2014."

"Once full-day kindergarten is fully in place, we'll make sure all schools offer after-school programs for children aged 6-12."

>>See pp. 17-19 of PDF ^[21] ^[21]

New Democratic Party

Leader: Andrea Horwath

Platform: "The Plan for Affordable Change" ^[22]

"The New Democrat plan would provide licensed child care centres with \$125 million in each of the next two years to keep spaces open and freeze fees."

"New Democrats are committed to moving ahead with full day kindergarten, but we won't let parents who need child care spaces fall through the cracks"

>>See New Democrats would freeze child care fees, keep spaces open ^[23]

Green Party

Leader: Mike Shreiner

Platform: "It's Time"

^[24]

Communist Party of Canada

Leader: Elizabeth Rowley

Platform: "A People's Agenda for Ontario" ^[25]

"Fund one universal, quality, public, secular school system, open to all"

"Deliver a needs-based funding formula"

"Expand Early Learning to every school"

"Build an accessible, affordable, quality, public childcare system"

"Implement \$7 per day / per child fees"

NGO positions and campaign materials

Take it Over Campaign ^[26]

Canadian Federation of Students, Sep 2011

A Call to Action On Poverty In Ontario ^[27]

Campaign 2000, Sep 2011

Political Platform Grids and Media Release ^[28]

Campaign 2000, Sep 2011

Ontario Election 2011 Report Card ^[29]

I Vote Child Care, 28 Sep 2011

See where the candidates stand on education ^[30]

Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, Sep 2011

ETFO Education Platform ^[31]

Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, Sep 2011

Party platform report card ^[32]

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, Sep 2011

I Vote for Child Care video and brochure ^[33]

I Vote Child Care, Sep 2011

www.4outof5.ca ^[34]

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, Sep 2011

Fact Sheet ^[35]

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, Sep 2011

Sample Questions for Candidates ^[36]

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, Sep 2011

Election Tip Sheet ^[37]

People for Education, Sep 2011

News articles

For parents on wait lists, daycare is a top election issue ^[38]

The Open File, 6 Oct 2011

Hudak defends controversial Tory flyer ^[39]

The Toronto Star, 2 Oct 2011

Raising the political profile of hunger ^[40]

The Expositor, 3 Oct 2011

Grits rule out return to 50% transit funding ^[41]

Toronto Sun, 2 Oct 2011

Thousands call for more public investment in child care in advance of the Ontario election ^[42]

Canada News Wire, 28 Sep 2011

A lot of questions remain unanswered on future of education ^[43]

The Sudbury Star, 26 Sep 2011

Liberal candidates lobby school board ^[44]

The Ottawa Citizen, 26 Sep 2011

Bluewater board organizes debates ^[45]

The Sun Times, 18 Sep 2011

Trustee urges politicians to debate on Education Day ^[46]

The Toronto Star, 17 Sep 2011

Ford calls on Queen's Park to pay for daycare ^[47]

The Globe and Mail, 15 Sep 2011

Parents call on politicians for child-care cash ^[48]

The Toronto Star, 15 Sep 2011

Committee wants votes for a poverty-free Ontario ^[49]

The Caledon Citizen, 15 Sep 2011

OECTA provincial election ads influencing few ^[50]

The Catholic Register, 14 Sep 2011

Daycare escape leads to calls for reform ^[51]

Toronto Star, 9 Sep 2011

Events

Election Forum: Poverty, Child Care and Education ^[52]

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, 28 Sep 2011

Tags:

election ^[7]

Manitoba

Election Results: Greg Selinger of the New Democratic Party has been re-elected as Premier of Manitoba. The New Democrats have won a majority government.

Nomination Deadline: September 13, 2011

Provincial Election: October 4, 2011

Currently, the Premier of Manitoba is Greg Selinger of the New Democratic Party.

In Manitoba, kindergarten and child care are in separate ministries. Kindergarten is under Manitoba Education, and child care is under Manitoba Family Services and Consume Affairs. Kindergarten is a part-day program for all five year olds and is not mandatory to attend.

Party platforms

Progressive Conservative Party

Leader: Hugh McFayden

Platform: "Our Plan" ^[53]

Liberal Party

Leader: Jon Gerrard

Platform: "Our Platform" ^[54]

"Create more day care spaces and improve early childhood education"

New Democratic Party

Leader: Greg Selinger

Platform: "Our Plan"

^[55]"Implementing Canada's first province-wide online child care registry;"

"Creating 6,500 new child care spaces and 1,000 enhanced nursery spaces by 2013"

"Investing in early childhood, play-based curriculum"

>>See Quality Child Care ^[56]

Green Party

Leader: James Beddome

Platform: 2011 Green Party Platform ^[57]

Communist Party of Canada

Leader: Darrell Rankin

Platform: "The Communist Platform"

^[58]"End child hunger and poverty... Raise social assistance to above the poverty line."

NGO positions and campaign materials

The MTS Provincial Election Handbook ^[59]

The Manitoba Teacher's Society, Sep 2011

>>see pages 25-26 for Potential Questions for Candidates ^[60]

MCCA Provincial Election Newsletters ^[60]

Manitoba Child Care Association, Sep 2011

Answers from the PC Party ^[61]

The Manitoba School Board Society, 29 Aug, 2011

Answers from the Liberal Party ^[62]

The Manitoba School Board Society, Aug 2011

Questions to Leaders ^[63]

The Manitoba School Board Society, Aug 2011

News articles

Education no longer atop the issues ^[64]

Winnipeg Free Press, 3 Oct 2011

Room for thought ^[65]

CBC News, 21 Sep 2011

Daycare dollars ^[66]

CBC News, 19 Sep 2011

In Search of Daycare ^[67]

CBC News, 16 Sep 2011

Liberals focus on early education and child care ^[68]

The Canadian Press, 11 Sep 2011

Gerrard vows \$44.5M over five years for more daycare spaces; NDP jeers ^[69]

The Winnipeg Press, 10 Sep 2011

Party leaders pledge millions for health & child care ^[70]

Global News, 1 Sep 2011

Conservatives promise extended child-care benefit ^[71]

Winnipeg Free Press, 1 Sep 2011

Wed, 09/21/2011

Tags:

election ^[7]

Saskatchewan

Election Results: Brad Wall of the Saskatchewan Party has been re-elected as Premier of Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Party have won a majority government.

Nomination Deadline: October 22, 2011

Provincial Election: November 7, 2011

Currently, the premier of Saskatchewan is Brad Wall of the Saskatchewan Party.

Kindergarten is offered part-day to all five year olds. Pre-K is offered part-day to vulnerable children. Both are provided by school divisions at no cost to the parents. Kindergarten, Pre-kindergarten and regulated child care are under Saskatchewan Education.

Party platforms

Progressive Conservative Party

Leader: Rick Swenson

Party Website ^[72]

Liberal Party

Leader: Ryan Bater

Party Platform: 2011 Election Platform ^[73]

"Making the early identification of, and treatment programs for, children with speech and language disorders a priority..."

>>see page 11 of pdf

Saskatchewan Party

Leader: Brad Wall

Party Website ^[74]

News Release: Premier Announces Plan to Help Parents with Costs of Raising Children

"a Saskatchewan Party government will extend the Active Families Benefit to include all children under 18"

"...will also extend the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) exemption on children's clothing to all children under 18"

New Democratic Party

Leader: Dwain Lingenfelter

Party Platform: ^[75]A Plan for Saskatchewan's Future ^[76]

"Make Affordable Child Care a Priority by: ...adding 10,000 new early learning and childcare spaces.... capping fees that licensed childcare facilities (both homes and centres) can charge... Creating a one-stop, online registry for licensed childcare...Providing a refundable tax credit of up to \$1,000 to families in which one parent is staying at home to take care of children three years of age and under..."

>> See pp 14 of PDF ^[75]

"Make Elementary Schools More Responsive to the Needs of Parents and Children by: Funding full-day kindergarten programs and expanding pre-kindergarten education..."

>> See pp 20 of PDF ^[75]

News Release: NDP health platform includes physician recruitment, primary healthcare clinics ^[77]

"25 per cent increase in funding support for childhood disabilities programming and equipment for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, cerebral palsy, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and other conditions"

Green Party

Leader: Victor Lau

Party Website ^[78]

NGO positions and campaign materials

Election 2011 Teacher Political Advocacy ^[79]

Saskatchewan Teachers Federation, Oct 2011

News articles

More child care spaces under Sask Party government: Wall ^[80]

Global News, 31 Oct 2011

Sask. NDP promises to add 10,000 child care spaces by 2015 ^[81]

The Star Phoenix, 19 Oct 2011

Sask. Party focuses campaign on bottom line ^[82]

The Star Phoenix, 17 Oct 2011

Frustrations at Forum ^[83]

CTV News, 14 Oct 2011

Resolving child care and housing shortages^[84]

Leader-Post, 9 Sept 2011

Tags:

election ^[7]

Northwest Territories

Election Results: The winners of each riding are bolded. The premier of the Northwest Territories is still to be determined.
Nomination Deadline: September 9, 2011

Territorial Election: October 3, 2011

The territorial election in the Northwest Territories is different from most other provincial/territorial elections in Canada in that there are no political parties, and the election is held once every four years. The Northwest Territories are run by a Legislative Assembly that functions similarly to a provincial legislature.

Nineteen members elected from nineteen electoral districts make up the Legislative Assembly. These members vote in a secret ballot in order to elect the premier. They operate under a consensus system. In order to become premier, a member of the Legislative Assembly must gain a majority of the votes of the other members. Six Ministers and a Speaker are also elected from the group to become the Executive Council, or the Cabinet. The remaining members still play an important role.

For more information on the **Government of the Northwest Territories**.^[85]

Currently, the premier of the Northwest Territories is Floyd Roland.

Kindergarten in the Northwest Territories are under the Department of Education, Culture and Employment. Kindergarten can be full-day or part-day, and all regulated child care is non-profit.

Candidates by electoral district

Some candidates have provided responses to the Northwest Territories Teacher's Association's candidate questionnaire. These are linked below.

Deh Cho

Michael McLeod

Michael Nadli

Hay River North

Robert Bouchard

Roy (Slim) Courtoreille

Beatrice Emily Lepine

Hay River South

Jane Groenewegen

Response to questions from NWTTA^[86]

Marc Miltenberger

Inuvik Boot Lake

Grant Gowans

Candidate Website^[87]

Chris Larocque

Alfred Moses

Response to questions from NWTTA^[88]

"Any funding that can be allocated to helping children learn and also assist educators with professional development and resources is a priority."

>>See answer to question 2.

Paul Voudrach

Inuvik Twin Lakes

Robert. C. Mcleod

Mackenzie Delta

Taig Connell

Glenna Hansen

Eugene A. Pascal

Joanne Mary Clark
Frederick Blake Jr

Nahendeh
Kevin Menicoche

Bertha Norwegian

Monfwi
Jackson Lafferty

Bertha Rabesca Zoe

Nunakput

Eddie T. Dillon
Jackie Jacobson

Sahtu

Rocky E. Norwegian
Norman Yakeleya

Thebacha

Peter Martselos

Jeannie Marie-Jewell
J. Michael Miltenberger
Response to questions from NWTTA ^[89]

Tu Nedhe
Tom Beaulieu

Frame Lake
Wendy Bisaro

Candidate Platform: No longer available, candidate has retired

Bernard LeBlanc
Response to questions from NWTTA ^[90]

Duff Spence

Great Slave
Glen Abernethy

Candidate Platform: Vision for the 17th Assembly
Response to questions from NWTTA ^[91]

Patrick Scott

Candidate Platform: My Vision for the NWT ^[92]

"It's time for an action plan on daycare. Living costs require two working parents. Parents deserve affordable and accessible daycare."
Response to questions from NWTTA ^[92]

Kam Lake

Victor Mecredi
Dave Ramsay

Darwin Rudkevitch

Bryan Sutherland

Range Lake
Daryl Dolynny

Candidate Platform: Ensuring our Future ^[93]

"Provide more support to early childhood development programs that encourage educational excellence and help working families with heavy child care costs."

Beaton Mackenzie

Norman Smith

David Wasylciw

Weledeh

Mark Bogan
Response to questions from NWTTA ^[94]
Bob Bromley

Candidate Platform: Priorities ^[95]

"Focus on early childhood development, adequate child care, literacy, lifelong learning and recreation."
Response to questions from NWTTA ^[96]

"Providing students with great potential through early childhood development prior to education system is the best support at this time."

>>See answer to question 3.

Yellowknife Centre
Robert Hawkins

"Here is how I have been taking action on education... to support stable funding options for Daycare Operations... better investment i n Early Childhood Education Programs"
Response to questions from NWTTA ^[97]

Arlene Hache
Response to questions from NWTTA ^[98]:

"Strategies that ensure children are prepared for school is important as is family support initiatives that address factors that negatively affect children's ability to succeed in school and in life."

>>See answer to question 3.

Yellowknife South
Bob McLeod

Response to questions from NWTTA ^[99]

NGO positions and campaign materials

Questions to Candidates ^[100]

Northwest Territories Teacher's Association, 15 Sep 2011

Answers from Candidates ^[101]

Northwest Territories Teacher's Association, Sep 2011

News articles

Candidates seek voter support in the Nahendeh ^[102]

The Northern News Services, 22 Sep 2011

Wed, 09/21/2011

Tags:

election ^[7]

Yukon

Election Results: Darrell Pasloski of the Yukon Party has been re-elected as Premier of the Yukon Territories. The Yukon Party has won a majority government.

Nomination deadline: September 19, 2011

Territorial election: October 11, 2011

Currently, the Premier of the Yukon Territories is Darrell Pasloski of the Yukon Party.

Party platforms

Liberal Party

Leader: Arthur Mitchell

Platform: Here for Yukoners (*link no longer available*)

"Working with childcare providers to ensure that parents of special needs children are not charged more for childcare by improving existing government programs to help offset additional costs."

"Modifying the child subsidy policy to prevent child support payments from being considered as income to ensure fairness to parents in all circumstances."

>> [Liberal Party website](#) ^[103]

New Democratic Party

Leader: Liz Hanson

Platform: Where we stand (*link no longer available*)

"We will... expand and improve Early Childhood Education programs which will improve school readiness, student experience and outcomes"

>> [New Democratic Party site](#) ^[104]

Yukon Party

Leader: Darrell Pasloski

Party website: [Announcements](#) ^[105]

Yukon First Nations Party

Leader: Gerald Dickson Sr.

News article: [Yukon's First Nations Party](#) ^[106]

Events

Yukon Election Forum

Date: Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Time: 6-8 pm

Place: Gold Rush Inn Town Hall

The Yukon Child Care Association is co-hosting a Yukon Election Forum around early childhood development and care, and highlighting Yukoners Living With Disabilities.

Free Child Minding available to Forum Attendees with children ages 2-12

There will be 3-4 experienced child care providers, RSVP if you require child care.

To RSVP or if you have any questions, contact Leah Davy Ryckman, Executive Director of Autism Yukon at

leah@autismyukon.org ^[107]

News articles

Liberals champion child care ^[108]

Source URL (modified on 7 Aug 2020): <https://childcarecanada.org/resources/issue-files/early-childhood-education-and-care-fall-2011-provincialterritorial-elections>

Links

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[11] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/11/09/grits-promise-more-child-care> [12] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/11/09/child-care-system-divided-forum-told-publicly-funded-system-would-im> [13] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/11/09/no-longer-talking-babysitting-michael-says> [14] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/11/09/newfoundland-election-promises-include-moose-safety-early-education> [15] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/11/09/save-children-no-really> [16] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/11/09/ndp-raise-oil-taxes-boost-social-spending> [17] <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/p-e-i-votes-2011-online-debates-1.1073813> [18] <http://change.ontariopc.com/get-changebook/?gclid=CPqAz5vYrqsCFE4AQodS1tLGg> [19] http://www.ontariopc.com/pdf/Changebook_en.pdf [20] <https://ontarioliberal.ca/OurPlan/Platform.aspx> [21] https://ontarioliberal.ca/OurPlan/pdf/platform_english.pdf [22] <http://ontariondp.ca/en/policy> [23] <http://ontariondp.ca/en/new-democrats-would-freeze-child-care-fees-keep-spaces-open> [24] <http://itstimeforgreen.ca/> [25] <http://www.ontariopc.ca/a-people%E2%80%99s-agenda-for-ontario> [26] <https://cfsontario.ca/en/section/179> [27] http://campaign2000.ca/election2011/CalltoActionOnPovertyInOntario_Final.pdf [28] <https://campaign2000.ca/> [29] http://www.ivotechchildcare.ca/uploads/IVCC_report_card.pdf [30] <http://www.refusetovoteagainstkids.ca/stand/> [31] <http://www.refusetovoteagainstkids.ca/platform/> [32] <https://www.childcareontario.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Party-platform-report-card.pdf> [33] <http://ivotechchildcare.ca/Welcome.html> [34] <http://www.4outof5.ca/> [35] <https://www.childcareontario.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Provincial-election-2011-fact-sheet.pdf> [36] 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