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NDP platform release a breakthrough, puts child care back on the national agenda

The NDP's child care platform proposes the kind of national strategy that Canadian families have long been waiting for. "We believe that this plan would significantly impact Canadian parents' ability to access and afford the child care programs that they so desperately need" said CCAAC Board member Dominique Arbez.

As Canada's national child care advocacy organization we are pleased to see that the Official Opposition is committed to taking national leadership and working in collaboration with provinces/territories to address the child care crisis.

"The NDP platform includes important elements for building a national child care system to benefit all Canadian children and families" said Arbez. "We believe it is a breakthrough for children, women and families across Canada".

Currently, there are full- or part-time centre-based child care spaces for only 22.5% of Canadian children 0-5 years, fees can reach almost \$2000 a month and Canada's public spending on child care continues to be very low compared to international benchmarks.

"We look forward to a full discussion about early childhood education and child care in the upcoming federal election and hope that the release of this platform will ignite a vibrant conversation about the importance of a national child care program - one that is long overdue" said Arbez. "A national child care program in Canada is not only absolutely necessary but inevitable."

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