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What Voters Need to Know About Child Care!

Today we released a Report Card on each major party's 2017 election platform to determine how they align with the \$10aDay Plan. We're looking for concrete, costed and accountable action in 3 areas – parent fees, licensed spaces, caregiver wages and education. With 10 year federal funding now confirmed, we're also looking for a vision and long-term strategy for achieving high quality, affordable child care for all who need and want it. There are stark differences in how families will benefit:



The BC NDP are committed to bring in the \$10aDay Child Care Plan. Their platform includes sufficient funds over the next 3 years to achieve the Plan's proposed implementation schedule for lowering parent fees, creating more licensed spaces and raising caregiver wages and education. Reducing fees to \$10aDay for all licensed infant/toddler spaces (with no fees for families earning less than \$40,000 annually), would make child care immediately affordable for 15,000 families. By 2020, the Plan would add 22,500 new spaces, serving 30,000 more children. In total, 45,000 families would have affordable child care within three years.



The BC Green Party incorporates elements of the Plan. Their platform provides free part-day child care (preschool) for 3- and 4-year olds and free daycare for children up to age 3 with working parents. This will be treated as a taxable benefit for those with incomes over \$80,000. Their platform does not address the full-working day child care needs of families with 3 and 4 year olds, nor does it address the education and wages of caregivers.



The BC Liberal Party Platform does not address today's child care crisis. There are no funds to make child care affordable for families. Their commitment of 8,700 new spaces by 2020 will not reduce wait lists, as the child population is expected to grow by 18,000. Finally, there are no funds to raise caregiver wages and education levels, both of which are required to recruit and retain enough well-qualified caregivers to maintain safe and nurturing environments for young children.

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http://www.10aday.ca/bc_election_2017_child_care_report_card