Parents Survey on Child Care

Parents’ biggest problem: Wait times

- 62% of parents reported waiting for a space.
- 51% said the worst thing about child care is the stress of wait lists.
- 14 – 15 Months Average wait time depending on the child’s age.

Wait times hinder parents’ ability to work or go to school

Turned down a job 30%

Delayed returning to work 41%

Declined an educational opportunity 24%

But once parents get child care, they love it

Parents satisfied with current child care (including 46% who are “very satisfied”)

92%

Best thing about child care?

- Quality of staff 51%
- Staff who truly care about kids 18%
- Educational programs and activities 38%
- Warm, caring staff 38%

When choosing child care, parents most value:

- Say a universal system should be a provincial priority 95%
- Say child care centres should be built as part of new housing developments 77%
- Say child care should be considered part of the education system 75%
- Would pay higher fees if it meant better-paid child care staff 45%
- Say wealthier parents should not pay more for child care 63%
- Say licensing is important to ensure quality 83%
- Would start a home-based child care business with enough incentive 18%