

ACE National Coalition of Childcare Operators
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May 21, 2025

The Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

Urgent Call for Reform: We Need a Childcare System That Works for Families, Educators, and Providers

We, the undersigned, are writing to you as concerned Canadians — parents, educators, and childcare operators — who care deeply about the future of childcare in our country. While the vision of \$10-a-day childcare is a step forward, its implementation has revealed serious challenges that cannot be ignored.

Waitlists continue to grow. Centres are closing their doors or pausing expansion. Educators are exhausted and leaving the field. Families are struggling to find the care they were promised.

We all want a childcare system that is affordable. But it also must be sustainable for providers, accessible to every family, and respectful of the professionals who deliver care every day.

We are united in calling for action on three urgent priorities:

1. Fair, Predictable Funding That Supports Quality Care

- Funding that reflects the real cost of delivering quality care, or a means-tested model that prioritizes families most in need.
- Reduce red tape and support growth instead of stalling it.
- A regulatory approach that sets realistic, sustainable fee limits and maintains licensing standards — while stepping back from unnecessary micromanagement.

2. Support for Educators. Respect for Operators

- Interprovincial certification to improve educator mobility and remove unnecessary barriers.
- Create practical recruitment and retention strategies across all licensed childcare models.
- Collaborate with operators to ensure workforce policies are effective realistic.

3. Equal Access for All Licensed Operators to Expand & Protect Parent Choice

- Provide \$10-a-day funding for all licensed providers — so no family is limited by the type of care they choose.
- A funding framework based on quality and compliance, not ownership structure
- Formal recognition that a diverse mix of care options is essential to solving the childcare crisis.

We are all working toward the same goal: a childcare system that is strong, stable, and equitable. But we can't get there unless the people running programs, working with children, and raising families are included in the conversation.

We urge your government to collaborate directly with those who are living this reality every day. Together, we can create a childcare system that works — not just in theory, but in practice.

Sincerely,

Krystal Churcher
Chair, ACE National Coalition of Childcare Operators
www.acenational.ca

On behalf of the undersigned supporters attached.