

1020 Sugar Mountain Way
Anmore, BC
September 7, 2010

Reference: Concerns about the lack of need for a Child Care Centre in Anmore and the requirement for Council due diligence in determining whether or not to proceed with building a Child Care Centre in Anmore

Dear Mayor and Anmore Village Councilors:

An April 22, 2010 letter from Ms. Nancy Davies, Program Coordinator, Capital Funding Program, gave Anmore Council ninety days to inform the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) if it "wishes to move forward or whether the project (Major Capital Funding for the Creation of New Child Care Spaces Agreement No. CO781001) will be cancelled and all funding (\$499,500) returned." The letter also asked for "a revised project budget, construction schedule, and new plans and specifications" and specifically mentioned "the newly formed Working group currently completing a needs assessment". Karen-Ann Cobb, Anmore Manager of Corporate Services, recently informed the Working Group that the Ministry has allowed a deadline extension until September 30th to help you fulfill your fiduciary obligation to act in the best interest of the Village of Anmore and all of its citizens.

The Anmore Daycare Working Group, of which I am a member, is diligently working to try and provide you with the best and fullest information to make this determination by the September 14th meeting of Anmore Council. At our meeting on August 23rd, the Working Group discussed the results of a three member Sub-Committee Needs Assessment. This survey had a very small return rate considering that all adults in Anmore received a maildrop, the parents of all of the Anmore and Belcarra children in Anmore Elementary were contacted, and the Anmore, Anmore Times, and Anmore Alternative websites had it posted for one month. With lower than a ten percent response rate, it is more of an informal sounding than a survey.

This informal sounding found that while there appears to be a need for before and after school programs, the need for other types of childcare is not shown. The Daycare Working Group Needs Assessment Sub-Committee survey of Anmore residents and parents of children in Anmore Elementary shows: 1) unpaid family and 2) paid nanny as the top two current types of child care or the child care needed. Much below these in the 4th spot is the need for a Child Care Centre. The ranking of the 23 comments from the 85 on-line respondents in the Child Care Working Group survey were: 1) Stay at Home Mom – Don't need a Day Care (9 responses), 2) Don't want money spent on a Day Care Centre (5 responses), 3) Need a Day Care Centre (4 responses), 4) Need before and after school program (3 responses), 5) Other (2 responses).

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Village of Anmore

Since the results of the Needs Assessment survey which the Child Care Working Group received by e-mail on Friday August 20th were at best inconclusive, I spent all day Monday August 23rd, before the Working Group meeting, talking with key Child Care people in the Tri-city area: 1) Diane Lee, Acting Director, YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral, 2) Kelly Chong, Simon Fraser Health Unit Child Care Licensing, 3) Jeanette Henderson, Co-owner, Green Apple Daycare, and 4) Sharon Thompson, Facilities Management, School District 43, to try and get a better fix on the needs for a Child Care Centre in Anmore.

At the August 23rd meeting, I presented my findings and supporting documents to the Anmore Child Care Working Group. The Chair disallowed the following findings and the information I presented at great length was not subsequently included in the Minutes of the Child Care Working Group.

Ms. Lee, Acting Director, YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral sent me a letter detailing the results of the YMCA CCRR Child Care Program Evaluation survey conducted in September 2009 showing:

- My enrolment increased over the past year **NO 53.4%**
- I am considering expanding my child care facility **NO 64.9%**
- Currently I have vacancies in my childcare **YES 64.9%**
- My enrolment has decreased this year **YES 42.7%**

Ms Lee also indicated that as a planning guideline, employee salaries generally take 80% of the Child Care Centre operating budget.

Ms. Jeanette Henderson, Co-owner of the Green Apple Daycare on Anmore's Sunnyside border, indicated that her facility currently has a **50% vacancy rate**. Consistent with the Sub-Committee survey findings in question 5 where stay-at-home parents and nannies far outnumbered other sources of childcare used or needed, Ms. Henderson indicated that the children from Anmore usually only attend 1 or 2 days a week for socializing. She also said that the Councils of both Anmore and Belcarra had given their support and \$1,000 each to help her to set up the Green Apple Daycare in the heritage IOCO Church and that a new Child Care Centre in Anmore would likely put the Green Apple Daycare out of business on the IOCO site.

The Green Apple Daycare Centre is not unique. The MCFD website shows that of the 70 group and family Child Care Centres within a 5 km radius of Anmore Village Hall, 68 have space available.

Ms. Kelly Chong, Licensing, Simon Fraser Health Authority, Newport Village, indicated that there currently is a great deal of uncertainty about the impact of full-day 5 year-old kindergarten on the need for child care spaces. She also indicated that Child Care facilities with Infant Programs as proposed by Anmore need robust programs for children from 30 months to 5 years to cover the much higher costs for baby care.

In June 2010, as part of the move to full-day kindergarten by 2011 for all five-year-old children, the BC Minister of Children and Family Development, Mary Polak, announced increased funding for Before and After School Programs in schools. Ms Sharon Thompson, Facilities Management, indicated that SD-43 currently has a moratorium on 'Before and After School Programs' until they see the impact of full-day 5 year-old kindergarten on available space. The cost of renting space in the school is \$11.23 an hour. The moratorium may not apply here since Anmore is the only municipality in SD-43 that oversees and schedules the use of space in the school.

In summary, the Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre document, "How to Start a Childcare Facility in BC" identifies a Community Needs Assessment as essential for three clear reasons:

1. To check for existing child care facilities already operating within the community in order not to duplicate a service already provided.
2. To assess the amount and type of child care needed
3. To be sustainable.

The above information indicates a large percentage of child care centres in the Tri-City area have declining enrolments and vacancies. The Green Apple Day Care Centre on the Anmore border is operating at 50% capacity and will likely go out of business if the Anmore Child Care Centre is built. As well, while there appears to be a need for 'Before and After School Care', the need for Child Care for younger children outside of the home is not at all clear. The full impact on the need for Child Care spaces of both full-day kindergarten programs for 5 year-olds and the Ministry Children and Family Development commitments to increased funding for 'Before and After school programs is uncertain. And finally, the potential enrolment numbers in the Anmore Day Care Working Group Subcommittee survey and data sources do not make the financial case for sustainability.

The Chair of the Working Group has indicated that the Needs Assessment will not be sent to the Ministry since Ms Davies, Coordinator, Capital Funding Program, MCFD did not directly ask for it in her letter of April 22, 2010. In this same letter, Ms Davies indicated that "If the child care facility ceases to be operational before meeting the 10 year operating commitment the Village of Anmore would be obligated to pay back the pro-rated amount calculated on the number of months remaining in the ten year commitment." As well, I would remind Council that Mayor Anderson, a member of the Childcare Working Group and a strong advocate for building the Anmore Day Care Facility, is a Director of the Anmore Youth and Community Services Non-Profit Society that the 2007 Business Plan submitted to MCFD shows will run the Centre.

It is very clear to me that the data simply do not support pursuing this project at this time and the financial risk to the Village of Anmore could be substantial. I am hoping this information will be useful in informing your decisions relative to the

requirements for the \$499,500 grant outlined in the April 22, 2010 letter from the Ministry of Children and Family Development. From my perspective, due diligence is especially important given the 2 to 1 rejection by Anmore voters of the request to authorize the financing of the community centre/daycare in the 2008 referendum.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Lynn Elen Burton,
Member of Anmore Daycare Working Group

Retired Simon Fraser University
Assoc. Professor, Chair of the Humanities Department, former Dean at SFU and CSULA
Doctorate Columbia University
MSc Johns Hopkins University
MA Columbia University

NOTE: Dr. Burton spent a first career in Public Policy Analysis and Development in the Federal Government. She has headed a number of National Task Forces, including: the Task Force on Incomes and Adjustment in the Atlantic Fishery, the Learning a Living in Canada – Skill Development Task Force, and four years as Senior Advisor to the National Advisory Board on Science and Technology chaired by the Prime Minister of Canada.

Attach.

- 1) Letter from Diane Lee, Acting Director, YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral Centre
- 2) Press Release from MCFD announcing increased spending for Before and After School Programs
- 3) Copy of MCFD website report on the 68 out of 70 Group and Family Child Care Centres within a 5 km radius of the Anmore with spaces available
- 4) Anmore Child Care Working Group Sub-Committee Survey

ATTACHMENT A
YMCA Child Care Resource & Referral letter

Lynn Burton

Date sent: Mon, 23 Aug 2010 19:18:13 -0400
From: Diane Lee <Diane.Lee@vanymca.org>
Subject: child care information
To: "leburton@shaw.ca" <leburton@shaw.ca>

Hello Lynn,

It was very nice to talk to you today. We've had a look at our data base and have found the following:

- One licensed facility in Anmore (a preschool) and no licensed facilities in Belcarra.
- According to the information provided to us by child care providers, one licensed child care program located outside of Anmore currently serves *Anmore Elementary School*.
- Since 2007 only 3 families identifying themselves as Anmore residents have contacted our program. However, it is worth noting that parents are not required to give us their address when accessing our services.

Note: our data base was updated against the licensing list from Fraser Health as of July 2010.

I've also included the information we discussed regarding the child care survey we distributed last September to child care providers. As mentioned, I would caution against using this information to generalize as it represents a 'snap shot' in time of the 20% of child care providers that responded to the survey.

**YMCA CCRR Child Care Provider
Program Evaluation — September 2009**

Surveys distributed: 495
Surveys returned: 100
Percent completed: 20%

Respondent's location

Anmore: 0%
Belcarra 0%
Burnaby: 33.7%

Coquitlam: 31.6%
 New Westminster: 7.4%
 Port Coquitlam: 22.1%
 Port Moody: 5.3%

Type of facility

Registered Licence Not Required	7.3%
Licensed Family Child Care	49.0%
In-Home Multi-Age	10.4%
Infant Toddler Group	7.3%
Group Child Care	17.7%
School Age	10.4%
Preschool	13.5%
Not providing care	1%

General information	Yes	No	Not sure
My enrollment has increased over the past year	39.7%	53.4%	6.8%
I am considering expanding my child care facility	27.0%	64.9%	8.1%
Currently I have vacancies in my child care	64.9%	32.5%	2.6%
Currently I have families on a waitlist	51.3%	46.1%	2.6%
My enrollment has decreased this year	42.7%	50.7%	6.7%
I am considering closing my child care facility	4.1%	91.9%	4.1%
I am worried about losing the space my facility occupies	20.0%	74.7%	5.3%
I have increased my fees this year	32.5%	67.5%	0.0%
In order to meet client needs I have increased my hours of operation	20.5%	75.6%	3.8%
I have difficulty finding qualified substitutes/staff	65.3%	26.7%	8.0%

Please let us know if there is any other information we can provide. I was not sure if you wanted to know number of licensed spaces in areas beyond Anmore and Belcarra.

Regards,

Diane Lee

Acting Program Director

YMCA Child Care Resource & Referral

Email: diane.lee@vanymca.org

Web: www.vanymca.org or www.childcarechoices.ca

YMCA Tri-Cities CCRR

1130 C Austin Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3K 3P5

Direct: 604-937-1232 Main: 604-931-3400 Fax: 604-931-3440

Burnaby/New Westminster CCRR

Burlington Square, 161 5172 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC V5H 2E8

Direct: 604-294-1109, extension 224 Fax: 604-294-6278

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ATTACHMENT B
Press Release from the Minister of Children & Family
Development



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2010CFD0015-000748
June 22, 2010

Ministry of Children and Family Development
Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

B.C. BOOSTS BEFORE- AND AFTER-SCHOOL CARE PROGRAMS

VICTORIA – B.C. is making it possible to expand before- and after-school child-care programs for all school-age children and also help families get ready for full-day kindergarten this September, announced Mary Polak, Minister of Children and Family Development.

“While a full school day will eliminate or reduce child-care needs for some families, others who plan to return to work may need child care for the first time,” said Polak. “We are boosting capacity for these families, in particular.”

The new space limits for group facilities that care for school-age children are as follows:

- Facilities with kindergarten and Grade 1 students present can take in four additional children, to a new maximum of 24.
- Facilities with no kindergarten and Grade 1 students present (Grade 2 and up) can increase by five spaces, to a maximum of 30 children.

With approximately 1,100 group school-age facilities licensed across the province – nearly half of them on school grounds – the increase has the potential to create hundreds of new before- and after-school spaces. Each centre that expands is eligible for increased operating funding from the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

“This is about increasing the availability of school-age child care, but it’s also about creating healthy options,” said Ida Chong, Minister of Healthy Living and Sport. “Children in before- and after-school care are more likely to have positive recreational outlets and develop healthy habits for life.”

“As a council, we’ve advocated for consistency between child-care licensing and early years initiatives,” said Jack Keough, Provincial Child Care Council member. “This is a consistent approach from government that gives child-care providers and parents greater flexibility with before- and after-school care programs.”

The Province will invest more than \$300 million in child-care support programs this year and \$144.5 million in capital funding to provide classroom space that will help accommodate full-day kindergarten. This is in addition to B.C.’s three-year, \$280 million commitment to implement full-day kindergarten, which will be available for up to 50 per cent of kindergarten students in September 2010 and for every five-year-old starting school in 2011.

-more-

“We know that when many of our youngest learners enter school, they are not quite ready to reach their full potential. Offering full-day kindergarten will provide educators with more time to help their students become better prepared for the rest of their schooling,” said Education Minister Margaret MacDiarmid.

Child-care operators can visit www.hls.gov.bc.ca/ccf/child_care.html to view the revised child-care licensing regulation.

Parents can find information about before- and after-school care at www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/cc_resource.htm.

For information on full-day kindergarten, visit http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning/fdk/.

Media Contact: Kelly Gleeson
Ministry of Children and Family Development
2500 356-2007

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province’s news feeds using RSS, visit the Province’s website at www.gov.bc.ca.

ATTACHMENT C
Survey by Needs Assessment Sub-Committee of the Daycare
Working Group

tion August 2010

YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral

The information provided below is from the YMCA Tri-Cities Child Care Resource and Referral Agency (CCRR). This information was reviewed by the Anmore Daycare Working Group in March, 2010.

Child Care Facilities & Capacities 2010

	Port Moody		Coquitlam		Port Coquitlam		Anmore & Belcarra	
	Facilities	Capacity	Facilities	Capacity	Facilities	Capacity	Facilities	Capacity
Family Child Care	12	84	72	502	47	326	1	7
School Age	10	289	37	1070	23	588	0	0
Infant Toddler	2	44	15	219	6	83	0	0
Group 30 months-5 years	7	170	36	939	20	411	0	0
In Home Multi Age	1	8	10	80	8	63	0	0
preschool	5	99	35	792	16	318	1	20
Multiage	3	24	10	80	6	64	0	0
Emergency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Needs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child Minding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RLNR	0	0	12	24	6	12	0	0
Total	40	718	227	3706	132	1865	2	27

Total Tri Cities Facilities (all types of care): 401
 Total Tri Cities Capacity (all types of care): 6316

Child Population, Tri-Cities
Stats Canada, 2006 Census

	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years
Anmore	135	145	175
Belcarra	35	35	25
Coquitlam	5,625	6,325	7,975
Port Coquitlam	2,850	3,400	4,075
Port Moody	1,670	1,830	2,005
Total	10,315	11,735	14,255

School District 43

The chart below was provided by SD43 on March 9, 2010 and reviewed by the Anmore Daycare Working Group in March, 2010. The chart is an estimate of the number of children that would be attending public school in the following SD43 elementary school catchment areas:

Data Requested for Anmore Daycare
Elementary Catchment Area

Ages	Anmore	Aspenwood	Heritage Mountain	Total
1	17	92	41	150
2	19	94	34	147
3	25	97	48	170
4	29	84	41	154
5	32	78	36	146
6	20	82	50	152
7	34	86	55	175
8	29	79	58	166
9	30	85	65	180
10	38	62	55	155
Total	273	839	483	1595

NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Information was collected via a questionnaire that was sent out to Anmore residents between June 1st, 2010 and July 2nd, 2010.

Online Survey: a link to the online survey was emailed to Anmore Elementary School parents and Friendly Forest Preschool parents. Links to the online survey were also posted on 2 local community sites and the Village of Anmore web site. The Anmore Times also listed the link in the June print version of the newsletter.

85 online surveys were submitted. Only one online survey could be completed per IP address and participants were asked to provide their postal codes. 84 participants were from the V3H area. Only one participant was from the V3E area (Coquitlam) with 2 children attending Anmore Elementary School.

Print Survey: a print version of the survey was sent out via a mail drop to all Anmore residents.

The Anmore Daycare Working Group received 10 print surveys.

SURVEY RESULTS

A summary of the survey results follow:

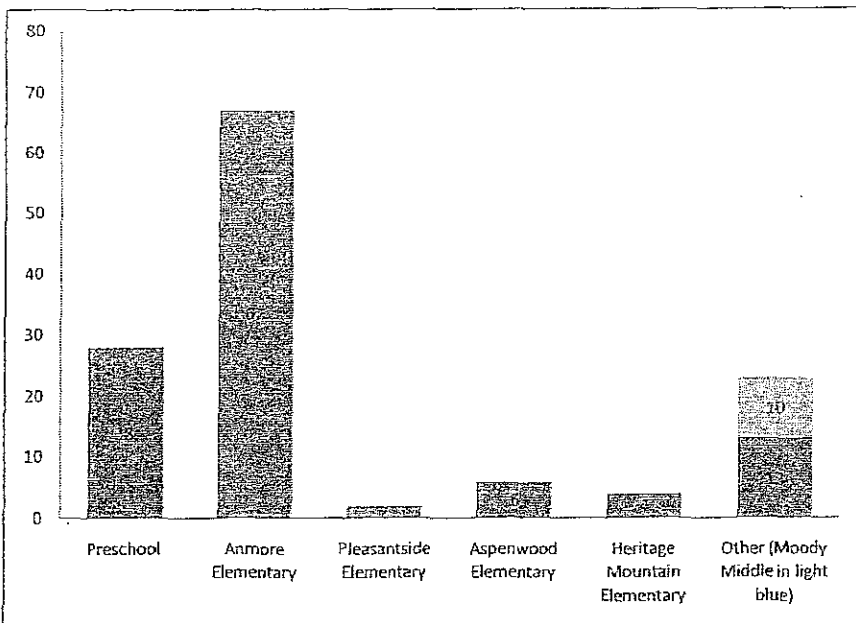
QUESTION 1: Do you currently have or will have parenting responsibilities for children under the age of 12?

Answer Options	Percent	Response Count
Yes	92.6%	88
No	7.4%	7
		<i>answered question</i> 95

Question 2: What is your postal code? All but one was from the V3H postal area.

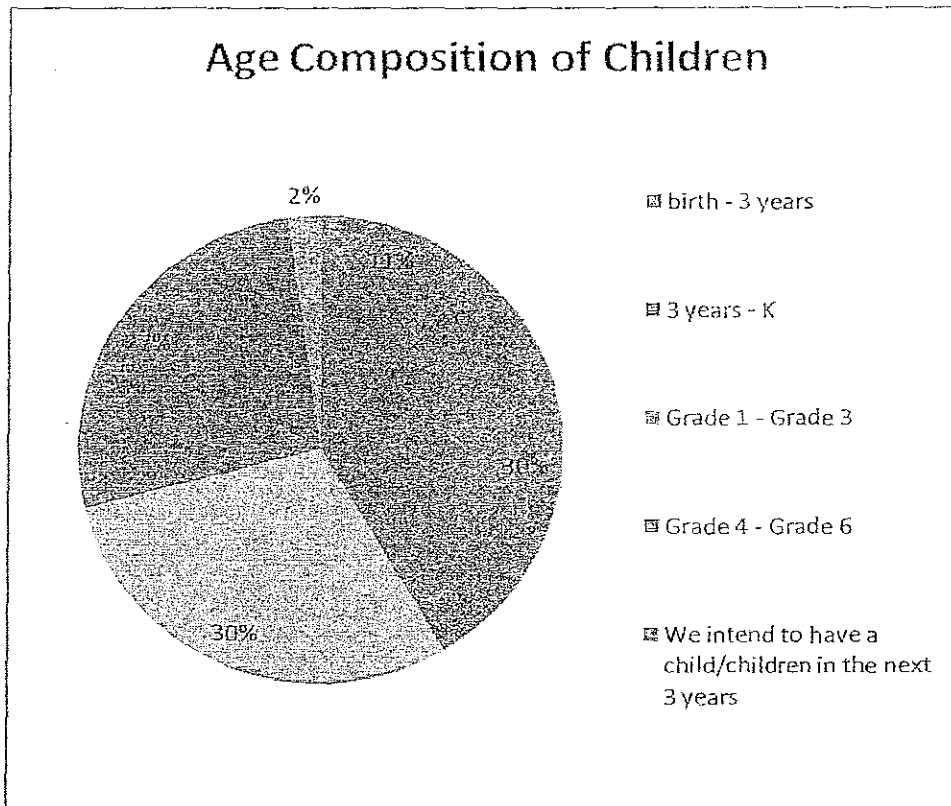
Question 3: At which school do your children attend or will attend in the future?

Answer Options	Response Count
Preschool	28
Anmore Elementary	67
Pleasantide Elementary	2
Aspenwood Elementary	6
Heritage Mountain Elementary	4
Other (please specify)	23
<i>answered question</i> 90	
<i>skipped question</i> 5	



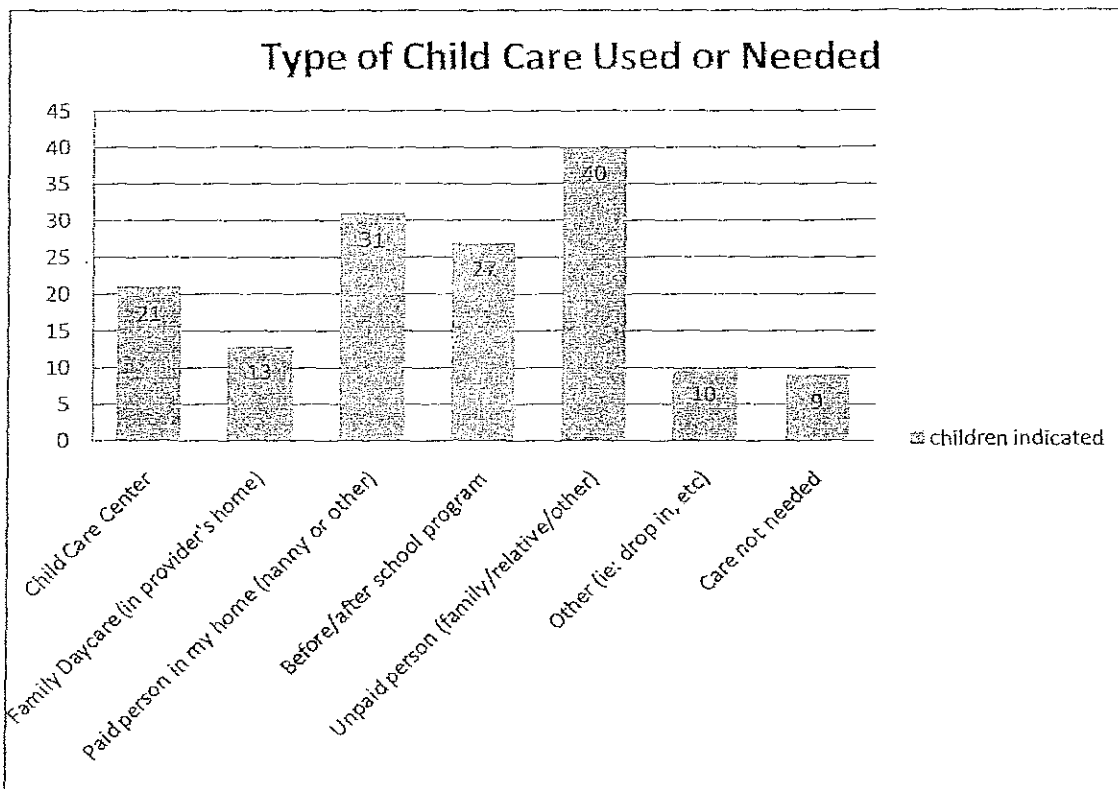
Question 4: Please provide the ages of the children living in your household. (Write in the number of children in each age category.)

Answer Options	Number of Children 12 & under	Response Count	PERCENTAGE PER AGE CATEGORY
birth - 18 months	11	13	6.1%
18 months - 3 years	9	12	5.0%
3 years - K	54	47	30.2%
Grade 1 - Grade 3	53	46	29.6%
Grade 4 - Grade 6	48	40	26.8%
We intend to have a child/children in the next 3 years	4	13	2.2%
	<i>answered question</i>	90	100.00%
	<i>skipped question</i>	5	



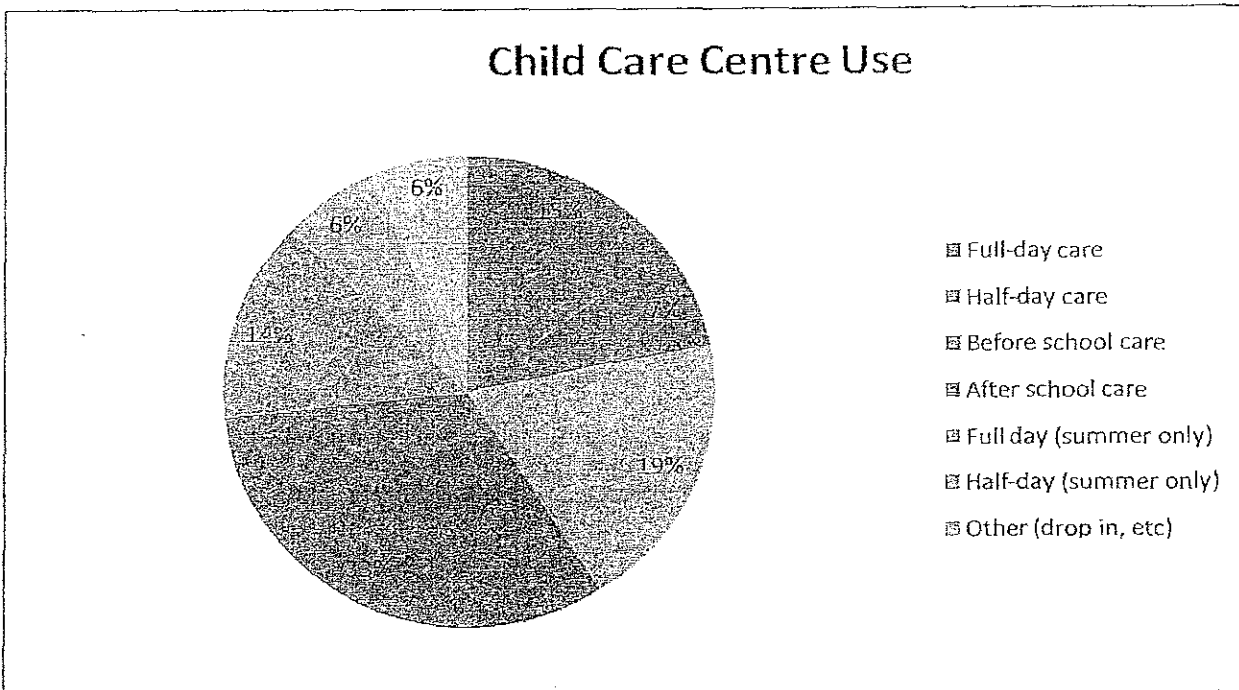
Question 5: If you are currently using or need child care, please indicate the type or types of care needed (if you have more than four children please provide information for your youngest four).

Answer Options	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4	Response Count	# of Children indicated
Child Care Center	11	8	2	0	14	21
Family home care provider (i.e. Paid person in provider's home)	6	5	1	1	6	13
Paid person in my home (nanny or other)	13	10	7	1	13	31
Before/after school program	12	11	4	0	18	27
Unpaid person (family/relative/other)	21	14	4	1	22	40
Other (ie: drop in, or specify below)	7	3	0	0	8	10
If you chose other above, please specify what type of child care is used or needed: (9 of 19 indicated "care not needed")					19	
					<i>answered question</i>	59
					<i>skipped question</i>	36



Question 6: If you are currently using or need child care, please indicate the times when child care is needed. needed (If you have more than four children please provide information for your youngest four)

Answer Options	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4	Response Count	# of Children indicated
Full-day care	12	9	3	1	15	25
Half-day care	6	4	2	0	10	12
Before school care	15	13	4	0	21	32
After school care	26	24	5	0	34	55
Full day (summer only)	10	8	3	2	11	23
Half-day (summer only)	6	4	1	0	6	11
Other (please specify below)	6	5	0	0	7	11
If you chose other above, please specify what times are used or needed:					14	
					<i>answered question</i>	55
					<i>skipped question</i>	40



Question 7: Please indicate the importance of each of the following features of child care which might influence your decision to enrol your child/children in a childcare setting (please mark only one column for each category):

Answer Options	Essential	Important	Makes No Difference	Response Count	Rank for Essential
Cost/Affordability	31	29	5	65	#6
Age Appropriate Groupings	29	33	2	65	#7
Location in Community	34	24	7	65	#5
Quality of Curriculum & Activities	42	21	1	64	#3
Quality of Environment (indoor & outdoor)	46	17	2	64	#2
Parental Involvement	4	28	30	62	#9
Location near Workplace	1	12	48	61	#10
Staff Experience & Credentials	50	13	2	64	#1
Special Needs Accommodation	5	15	40	60	#8
Hours of Operation	37	22	5	64	#4
Other (specify in comments)	4	1	0	5	
Please provide any additional comments:				13	
			<i>answered question</i>		67
			<i>skipped question</i>		28

The survey results indicated that the most essential concerns of parents when choosing a Child Care Centre are:
 #1 - Staff experience and credentials
 #2 - Quality of environment (indoor and outdoor)
 #3 - Quality of curriculum & activities
 #4 - Hours of Operation
 #5 - Location in community

The least important was "location near workplace" followed by "parental involvement".

Question 8: How much time in minutes (one way) would you be willing to transport your child/children to childcare?
 Time ranged from as little as possible to 30+ minutes with the average time being 10 minutes.

Question 9: If circumstances & quality were suitable, would you consider moving your child to a new provider?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	86.0%	55
No	14.0%	10
	<i>answered question</i>	65
	<i>skipped question</i>	30

Question 10: Comments

Comments collected included:

Concerns that daycare needs in the community be addressed particularly for older children;

That Anmore children be cared for close to home;

That tax money is not spent on community daycare or daycare is not needed in Anmore;

And that new families to the community have daycare needs met, including transportation issues.

Child Care Spaces within 5 km of the Village Hall (02-09-2010)

Note: Green Apple Child Care in IOGO church on Anmore border has a 50% vacancy rate



- BC Home
- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Child Care Search

Printer Version

Place Providers on a Map

Back to Main Search

Note that licensed providers (family and group) displayed on this site are funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development and agree to participate on this site

Search Criteria:

Postal Code: Within 5 Km of postal code V3H 4Y7

Child Care Search Results

Licensed providers can be family (care is in a home) or group (care is in home or centre)

Name	Type	Maximum Space	Hours	Map
ADVENTURE LAND DAYCARE (604) 944-8559	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
B.S.D. MONTESSORI LEARNING ACADEMY LTD. (604) 464-6447 1167 EAGLERIDGE DR (604) 464-6447	Group	70	Weekdays	Available
BRAMBLEWOOD MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL AND DAY CENTRE (604) 942-8480 1201 BRAMBLE LANE	Group	122	Weekdays	Available
BRAMBLEWOOD OUT OF SCHOOL CARE (604) 942-8430 2875 PANORAMA DRIVE	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
CONSTELLATION MONTESSORI DAYCARE (604) 461-3172 122 MOODY ST	Group	10	Weekdays	Available
CORONA TEON KIDS CARE (604) 461-8854 999 HODONS CREEK	Group	65	Weekdays	Available
DAISY CHAIN MONTESSORI FAMILY CHILD CARE (778) 836-8791 7 GREENLEAF DR	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
DAISY CHAIN MONTESSORI FAMILY CHILD CARE (778) 836-8791 7 GREENLEAF DR	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
DENNA DAYCARE (604) 949-1419 1248 LASALLE PL.	Group	8	Weekdays	Available
DORA FAMILY DAYCARE (604) 461-8221 138 ASPENWOOD DR	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
DOUGLAS COLLEGE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER (COQUITLAM) 1220 FINETREE WAY	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
FERRA'S LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE (778) 843-7492 2909 VALLEYVIEW DR	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
FRIENDLY FOREST PRESCHOOL (604) 469-1975 2805 SUNNYSIDE ROAD	Group	20	Weekdays	Available
FUNSHINE DAYCARE CENTER				

2864 MCCOOMB DRIVE (604) 464-6442	Group	70	Weekdays	Available
FUTURE STARS DAYCARE 1264 LASALLE PL (604) 552-1119	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
GLENAYRE MONTESSORI DAYCARE 495 GLENCOE ST (604) 937-0084	Group	40	Weekdays	Available
GREEN APPLE DAYCARE #2 1790 IOCO ROAD (604) 218-3417	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
GREEN GABLES DAYCARE (604) 464-1193	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
GRIFFIN'S GATEWAY (604) 813-5792	Group	50	Weekdays	Not Available
HAMI'S PLAYHOUSE 1158 HANSARD CRES (604) 944-9869	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
HAMPTON PARK BILINGUAL MONTESSORI ACADEMY 1760 PADDOCK DRIVE (604) 468-9934	Group	60	Weekdays	Available
HOMERA DAYCARE CENTER 1252 HUDSON ST (604) 945-5263	Group	8	Weekdays	Available
JANE'S HAPPY FAMILY DAYCARE 1 2865 GLEN DR (604) 307-9219	Family	7	Weekdays, Weekends	Available
JUNIOR CITIZENS CARE CENTER - INFANT/TODDLER 1516 GREENSTONE COURT (604) 779-5437	Group	10	Weekdays	Available
JUNIOR CITIZENS CARE CENTRE (LIC#1081848) 999 NOONS CREEK DRIVE (604) 779-5437	Group	85	Weekdays	Available
KINDER KAMPUS - HERITAGE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY CENTRE 200 PANORAMA PL LOWER FLR (604) 461-1202	Group	58	Weekdays	Available
KINDER KAMPUS - OLD ORCHARD HALL 646 BENTLEY RD OLD ORCHARD HALL - LOWER FLR (604) 461-1202	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
KINDER KAMPUS - PLEASANTSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 195 BARBER STREET (604) 461-1202	Group	65	Weekdays	Available
LITTLE HOUSE FAMILY DAYCARE 2905 WALTON AVE (604) 552-9771	Family	7	Weekdays, Weekdays Extended Hrs, Weekends, Overnight, Statutory Holidays	Available
LITTLE PUMPKINS FAMILY DAYCARE (604) 469-5919	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
LITTLE PURPLE CASTLE (604) 945-9785	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
LITTLE RAINBOW FAMILY DAYCARE 1150 VICTORY DR (604) 936-7641	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
LITTLE STAR FAMILY DAY CARE 409 IOCO RD (604) 469-3657	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
			Weekdays, Weekdays	

1293 JOHNSON CRT			Statutory Holidays	
LOVELY DAYCARE 1476 UNION ST (604) 937-5557	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
LUCKY DUCKY FAMILY DAYCARE 3269 PORTVIEW PL (604) 469-2296	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
MAGIC STAR DAYCARE 1328 CIMARRON DR (604) 942-4943	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
MONKEY'S PLAYHOUSE EARLY LEARNING CHILDCARE CENTRE 2717 ST. JOHNS STREET (604) 218-8814	Group	114	Weekdays	Available
MONKEY'S PLAYHOUSE EARLY LEARNING CHILDCARE CENTRE 2813 GLEN DRIVE (250) 469-0662	Group	62	Weekdays	Available
NEW HORIZON MONTESSORI SCHOOL 1415 NOONS CREEK DR (604) 552-7542	Group	100	Weekdays	Available
PANDA BEAR CHILDREN'S PLACE LTD "PANDA KIDS" 1215 FALCON DRIVE (604) 939-1302	Group	19	Weekdays	Available
PANDA BEAR CHILDREN'S PLACE ON FALCON 1198 FALCON DRIVE (604) 939-1302	Group	65	Weekdays	Available
PANORAMA GROUP DAYCARE 2625 PANORAMA DR (604) 468-4030	Group	10	Weekdays	Available
PARKSIDE CHILDCARE CENTRE 210 PARKSIDE DR (604) 936-9197	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
PEEK A BOO FAMILY DAYCARE 2888 WALTON AVE (778) 227-5747	Family	7	Weekdays, Weekdays Extended Hrs, Weekends, Statutory Holidays	Available
PLAY BOX DAYCARE (604) 723-1436	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
PLEASANTSIDE FAMILY DAY CARE (604) 469-9816	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
PUMPKIN PATCH DAYCARE (604) 931-3901	Family	8	Weekdays	Available
ROSE'S FAMILY CHILD CARE 113 BUCKINGHAM DR (604) 461-1240	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
SEAVIEW MONTESSORI 1215 CECILE DR (604) 765-4022	Group	35	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILCARE SOCIETY (NANITSH CENTRE) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (778) 782-3226	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILD CARE SOCIETY (KINDERGARTEN KIDS) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILDCARE SOCIETY (BRIGHT CLOUDS) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (778) 782-3226	Group	12	Weekdays	Available

SFU CHILDCARE SOCIETY (ESPULETA) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (778) 782-3223	Group	12	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILDCARE SOCIETY (LES PETITS ROOM) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (778) 782-3226	Group	12	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILDCARE SOCIETY (LOS NINOS ROOM) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (778) 782-3226	Group	12	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILDCARE SOCIETY (MALAIKA TODDLER CENTRE) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (778) 782-4757	Group	12	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILDCARE SOCIETY (MORNINGSIDE CENTRE) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILDCARE SOCIETY (SKYFIRE) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
SFU CHILDCARE SOCIETY (VOYAGEURS ROOM) 8888 UNIVERSITY DR SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (778) 782-3226	Group	25	Weekdays	Available
SHINING STAR DAYCARE 2665 RUNNEL DR (604) 944-0420	Group	121	Weekdays	Available
SMILES ALL DAY CARE 482 GLENCOE DR (604) 937-7762	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
STARS FAMILY CHILD CARE 1713 SUGARPINE CRT (604) 945-9416	Family	7	Weekdays, Weekdays Extended Hrs	Available
SUNRISE FAMILY DAY CARE 1159 FALCON DR (604) 468-2021	Family	7	Weekdays, Weekdays Extended Hrs, Weekends, Overnight, Statutory Holidays	Available
TERRIFIC KIDS DAYCARE 1301 DURANT DR (604) 464-5196	Family	7	Weekdays	Available
THE "REC" ROOM KID'S CLUB CHILD CARE LEARNING CENTRE LTD. 270 3020 LINCOLN AVE (604) 942-2243	Group	117	Weekdays	Available
THE GOOD SHEPHERD DAYCARE 1320 JOHNSON ST (604) 537-8100	Group	25	Weekdays	Not Available
TREES DAYCARE (604) 629-8944	Family	7	Weekdays	Not Available
VERDANT EARLY LEARNING CENTRE 9191 UNIVERSITY CRES (778) 782-3226	Group	12	Weekdays	Available
WIND & TIDE PRESCHOOL - EAGLE RIDGE) 1160 LANSDOWNE DRIVE (604) 833-2814	Group	20	Weekdays	Available

Registered providers are those who are registered with a Child Care Resource and Referral Program (CCRR) and not required to hold a license. A Registered provider may care for a maximum of two children that are not part of the provider's family. To locate the CCRR Program nearest to you, please visit: www.ccrp.bc.ca

Name	Type	Maximum Space	Hours	Map
KELLI STOBIE 3093 MULBERRY PL (604) 944-9807	Registered	2	Weekdays	Available
MAHA MAKIA	Registered	2	Weekdays	Not Available

Full-day K: Are we ready?

New kindergarten programs lauded, but childcare providers wonder what's on the horizon

BY JENNIFER MCFEE, COQUITLAM NOW SEPTEMBER 8, 2010



Connor, 5, has some first-day anxiety at Walton Tuesday, as his mom, Debbie Brown, coaxes him on.

Photograph by: Paul vanPeenen, Coquitlam NOW

Full-day kindergarten: take one.

This week marks a pivotal moment for both parents and the provincial government, as the first batch of full-day kindergarten students started school.

Groups of five-year-olds parted from their parents Tuesday morning to join the inaugural full-day program, which is fully funded by the Ministry of Education as part of a new province-wide initiative.

The full-day trend is proving popular with many working families, but it's not all fun and games for everyone involved. As young students fill seats in local classrooms, other spots are left vacant at daycares and childcare centres. Struggling to cope with the change, some childcare providers warn that vital before- and after-school programs could be at risk.

While full-day kindergarten is new to most B.C. families, the concept is a back-to-school routine for Nermin Elmezkawi, whose oldest daughter started full-day education when she was four years old at a

private school in Egypt. Now a Tri-Cities resident, Elmestkawi accompanied her younger daughter, Nada, to her first day of full-day kindergarten at Walton Elementary School on Tuesday.

"I think it's a wonderful program," she said as Nada examined shells and pinecones through a magnifying glass.

Other parents agreed, including Glenda Gimenez, whose son Joshua also started full-day kindergarten at Walton Elementary.

"I think it's great. They can get more experience. I have a daughter going into Grade 1 today too. She did the regular half-day kindergarten last year, but two hours a day wasn't enough," Gimenez said.

"I'm going back to school at Douglas College, so that gives me more time for it. I'm excited."

Half of all kindergarten students across B.C. will study in full-day classes this year, with the other half starting next September. Throughout the province, about 20,000 kindergartners will take part in the initial full-day program in 2010-2011. This total includes 887 five-year-olds in School District 43, who will learn in 60 classrooms at 23 schools.

The provincial government is investing \$280 million over the next three years to fund the program's operating expenses, plus another \$144 million for capital costs.

Education Minister Margaret MacDiarmid lauded the benefits of full-day kindergarten as she officially launched the initiative Tuesday morning at Walton Elementary.

"These are programs that will allow our children to really thrive and succeed in school – higher graduation rates, smoother transition to Grade 1, more likely to attend and complete post-secondary school. So it's a great investment, and you can see from this classroom, non-stop fun," MacDiarmid said.

"Other jurisdictions are quite far ahead of us, including some of the other provinces like Ontario and, to some extent, Alberta. This is an investment that will pay off enormously – monetarily, economically, but also just for the quality of life for these students."

District 43 assistant superintendent Maureen Dockendorf said the response to full-day kindergarten has been overwhelmingly positive so far, although some parents are concerned that the six-hour day might be too long for their child.

To accommodate these concerns, Dockendorf said parents are welcome to speak with teachers and principals to arrange alternatives. They can request that their child begin with half-day classes and then gradually move into a full-day format.

"There's huge flexibilities, and parents will make those decisions," Dockendorf said. "They know their

children the best."

Families can also opt to skip out on kindergarten entirely, since kids aren't mandated to be in school until Grade 1, she added.

This week, kindergarten teachers will meet with each family individually to determine the best way to support children in a full-day setting.

"We have to pay attention to the needs of the child," said Dockendorf, who worked as a kindergarten teacher for eight years.

"If that child needs longer before they spend the full day at school, it is our responsibility to tailor the program, to personalize the learning of every child. That's our goal."

The kindergarten curriculum will continue to focus on literacy and numeracy through play-based activities. In addition, Dockendorf said students will learn "21st century skills" like creativity, curiosity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication through technology.

"I actually believe that this is a wonderful opportunity to extend and deepen their learning," Dockendorf said.

Not everyone, however, is enthusiastic about the onset of full-day kindergarten.

For many childcare providers, the switch to longer school hours creates concerns about staff retention, revenue loss and program structure.

Lynne Murray, owner of Panda Bear Children's Place, said she feels fortunate that the schools near her two Coquitlam locations are still offering half-day kindergarten. She's already worried about how she'll recruit staff next year when most shifts will be split between before- and after-school care. If she can't keep her staff, she'll need to reduce the number of childcare spaces available.

"We're losing government support at the level of kindergarten because they do support childcare programs that are licensed and meet the requirements," Murray said.

"We're also losing parent fees. And we're going to have to be paying our staff more to entice them into working split shifts."

The end result could mean less childcare availability overall, she said.

"We are working very hard to survive and to work in partnership," she said. "We've been in this long enough and we do understand that the point is to make this work for families and to make things better for children."

MacDiarmid, however, noted that provincial investment may expand to include younger children in the future. "We know students who do better in school are much more likely to thrive in the adult world. They're much more likely to be employed. They'll have a better quality of life. They're less likely to require health services. So there's a myriad of reasons to invest here."

But for Barb Badiani, administrator of Bramblewood Montessori Preschool and Daycare, communication has been lacking.

"We're really impacted by this. We've not even been approached or asked to see what roles do we play," Badiani said.

"Right now, we're trying to figure out how we're going to maintain our centre next year. If we're to maintain it, we definitely have to change our programs because we won't be able to sustain enrolment."

When full-day kindergarten starts at the nearby school next year, Badiani expects to see enrolment plummet.

"We have capacity of 80 students. Out of that, we're probably going to lose a good two-thirds. ... It's free across the street at the elementary school, so we're going to lose a large portion of our kids," she said.

"We're looking at options of introducing other programs, maybe doing infant and toddler care, but that's something that we don't want to do. We want to really foster this Montessori program that we're offering that's been so successful in the last 15 years that we've been here. So we're forced to change something that we've really worked hard to establish."

Like Badiani, childcare provider Wendy Cooper is trying to find ways to adapt.

"Operators can't afford to keep paying their overhead, which doesn't change. Just because you're losing a whole program of kids doesn't mean your overhead changes," said Cooper, owner and operator of West Wood Players and James Park Child Care.

"We've adjusted our fees for every family and lowered our capacity for school-aged care. So we have less spaces for the before- and after-school, and it's a higher cost for everybody."

Cooper has already noticed a registration decline for five-year-olds, although she said fluctuations can sometimes be cyclical. "We had 25 kindergartners midday this past year. Next year we have six," she said, adding more consideration needs to be given to the system that existed before full-day kindergarten.

"The childcare system in this province has been historically quite fragile, and this just further exacerbates the fragility of the childcare system," she said. "If they're going to continue to march down the road ... [to] the education system taking on four- and three-year-olds, I think we need to take a

hard look at what is going to happen to our childcare system. I think it will be just eroded, and there may not be any childcare system left to take up the slack for before- and after-school care."

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Connor, 5, has some first-day anxiety at Walton Tuesday, as his mom, Debbie Brown, coaxes him on.
Photograph by: Paul vanPeenen, Coquitlam NOW

