

Making Strides

Vancouver's Childcare Strategy



REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

WHAT IS MAKING STRIDES?

Making Strides is a new Childcare Strategy for the City of Vancouver.

THIS PLATFORM WILL

- Establish clear City directions, roles and responsibilities
- Build equity into the City's approach
- Address gaps in licensed childcare supply
- Help prepare Vancouver for the future of childcare

Why is this work needed and how will it affect families that need childcare now?

Less than half of families seeking licensed childcare in Vancouver today can find a full time space.

With provincial and federal governments now committing to a universal system of childcare and early learning, now is the time for the City to align and set strategic policy directions, goals and action planning for the next decade. This work will guide the City to support senior governments to deliver a universal childcare system that meets the needs of families in the City.

In the short term, the City's early actions will maximize space creation opportunities, provide targeted supports for non-profit and Indigenous-led operators, and build partnerships across organizations. While truly universal access will take years to achieve, City efforts will continue to increase families' access to inclusive, culturally safe, quality childcare in their neighbourhoods.



WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT

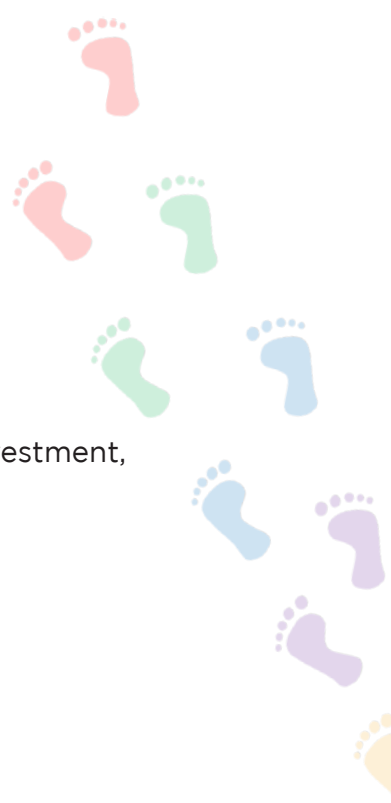
- The City will work towards a 4 year action plan to be considered by City Council in 2023.
- Early actions will begin the City's efforts to implement directions set in Making Strides.

Making Strides Policy Framework Overview

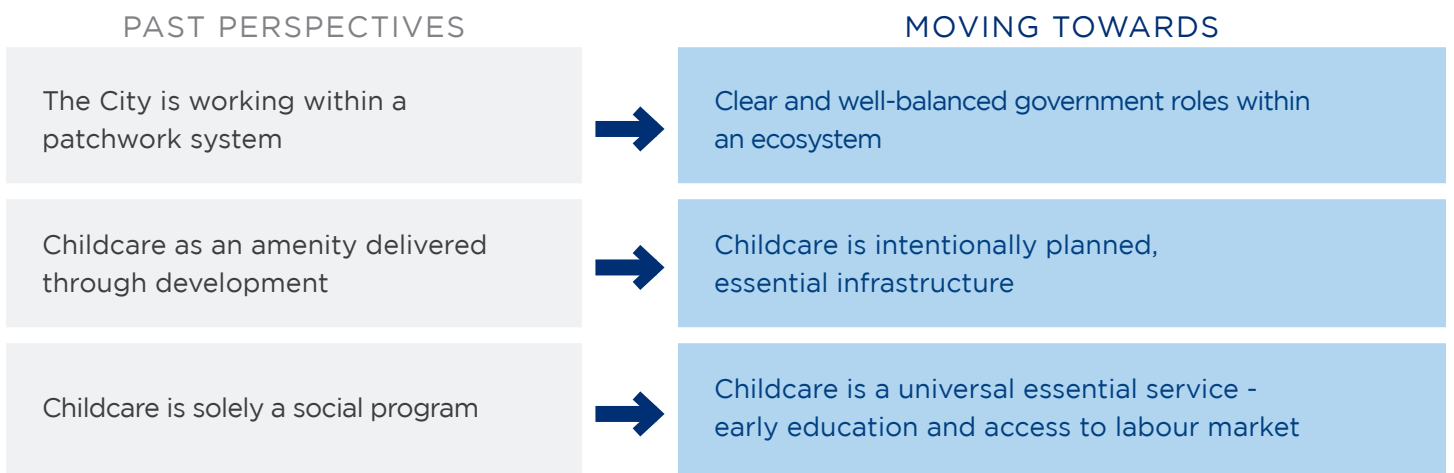
Long Term Vision:

All Vancouver families can access affordable, quality and inclusive childcare to work, learn, or meet other daily needs as part of a universal, public system.

Guiding Principles



Childcare is Changing



SETTING PRIORITIES FOR CHILDCARE IN VANCOUVER:

POLICY DIRECTIONS		EARLY ACTIONS	
1	Plan for Expanded Childcare as Part of Complete Neighbourhoods	➤➤➤	Expand secured childcare infrastructure through integrated planning
2	Support Indigenous Children and Families	➤➤➤	Plan together with Local First Nations and urban Indigenous partners
3	Expand Equity and Accessibility of Quality Childcare	➤➤➤	Optimize City efforts and resources to support equity and accessibility
4	Build Partnerships Towards a Universal System	➤➤➤	Convene partners to advocate and plan for a universal system
5	Support Renewal and Resilience of Essential Childcare Infrastructure	➤➤➤	Explore options to support retention and replacement and expansion of existing childcare

MOVING TOWARDS THE FUTURE OF CHILDCARE

With new provincial and federal commitments to delivering universal childcare, the City will continue to partner with and advocate to senior governments to address local childcare needs. The City will engage in land use planning and work with local partners to identify sites and opportunities to accelerate space creation and to coordinate policy. The City will also focus on ways to streamline planning and development to enable childcare to be delivered quickly. Additionally the City will continue to focus on community engagement, and building capacity of non-profit and Indigenous-led operators to ensure that childcare programs are inclusive and meet the diverse needs of children and families.

