

MLA NEWSLETTER SEPT. 27, 2022

I've been hearing from parents, community groups, business owners, and constituents, that childcare is one of the biggest bills many families with kids face each month. We know that with global inflation driving up the cost of living, things are especially tough for families who are trying to afford childcare right now. Affordable childcare is a key priority for our government because we know that when childcare is accessible, our children get the best early start they deserve and parents can succeed. It takes deliberate actions and dedication to fix the state of childcare the current government inherited 5 years ago. That's why, with the support of the federal government and as part of our government's historic childcare commitment, we're making childcare more affordable by giving money directly to service providers and saving families up to \$550 more per child a month.

New savings on child care



These are additional savings, on top of the up to \$350 families have saved monthly since 2018. Savings start December 1, 2022 and are calculated per month and per child.



Starting in December, more funding will go directly to participating licensed childcare centres to give parents and guardians of children who are kindergarten age or younger a break by putting money back in their pockets through reduced fees. Since the money is going directly to service providers, families will not need to apply for these savings. This announcement is building on further reduced fees as a part of the province's \$2.7-billion investment in ChildCareBC since 2018, and is being funded through the five-year, \$3.2-billion Canada-British Columbia Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement. When combined with past reductions at participating centres, that means that families could save up to \$10,800 per year for each child.

To learn more, visit: https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2022ECC0076-001408

Funding like this allows more parents to pursue work, school, or passions outside of caregiving and to contribute to British Columbia's economy. It allows for more inclusion of kids' primary caregivers in the labour force and keep our economy strong.

CONGRTULATORY MESSAGES

Is someone in your life, your workplace, or church celebrating a Milestone birthday or anniversary? Make sure to put in a request for a letter from your MLA. <u>Requests are made online</u> <u>here.</u>

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Would you like to lend your voice on important topics in BC? There are many topics on which the government of BC would like hear from you.

Take some time to lend your voice: Click here

GET IN TOUCH

AS ALWAYS, IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT ANY PROVINCIAL ISSUE, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT. WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU. MY OFFICE CAN BE REACHED AT 250.703.2410 OR RONNA-RAE.LEONARD.MLA@LEG.BC.CA OUR OFFICE HOURS ARE MONDAY TO THURSDAY 10AM-4PM. IF THE DOOR IS LOCKED, SIMPLY KNOCK OR CALL 250.703.2410 TO GET OUR ATTENTION. FRIDAYS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE THESE UPDATES PLEASE REPLY TO THIS EMAIL WITH: UNSUBSCRIBE