



S.A.C.D.A.
School Age Care Directors Association of Alberta

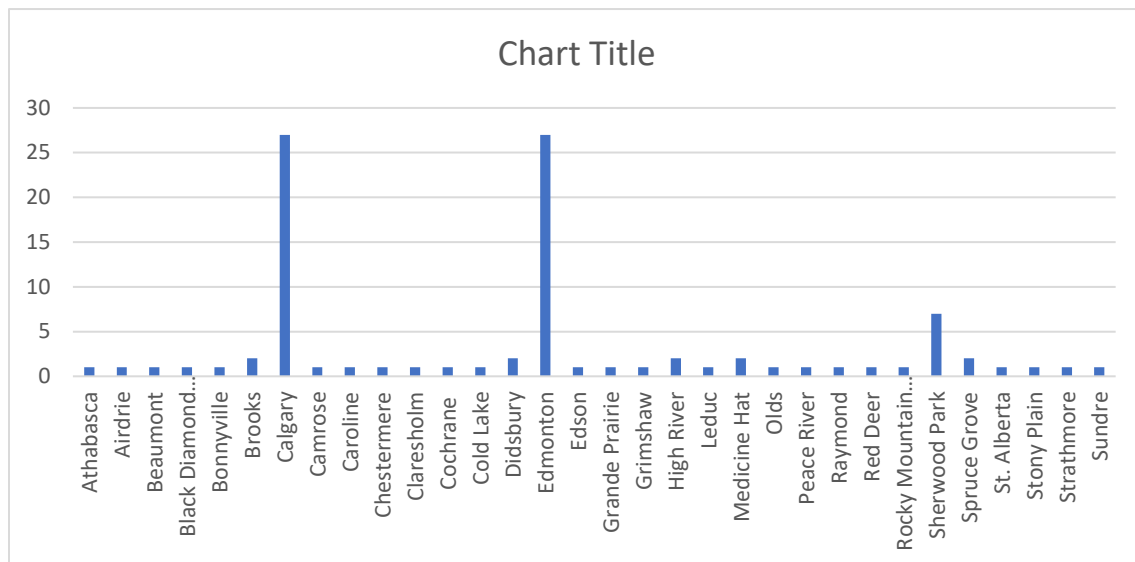
The School Age Care Directors Association of Alberta Program Survey Results 2021

The School Age Care Directors Association of Alberta (SACDA) asked Out of School Care Programs across Alberta to complete a program survey. The purpose was to gather more specific data on the school age care sector, as well as to hear their thoughts on the announcement of the Universal Child Care Plan.

Below are the results of our survey

1) Question: What city or town is/are your program(s) located?

A total of 95 organizations responded to our survey



2) Question: How many OOSC programs/sites does your organization operate?

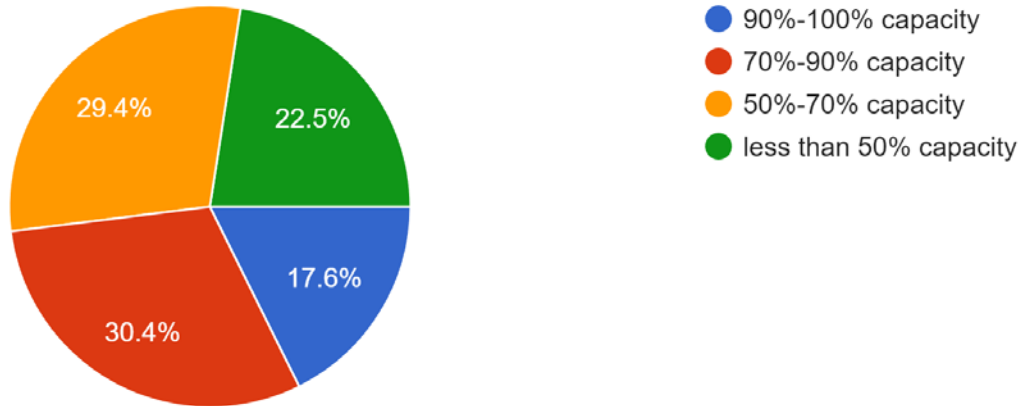
Between the 95 organizations that responded, they operate and represent 226 licensed OOSC programs.

3) Question: In total, how many OOSC educators do you currently employ in all of your programs combined?

Between the 95 organizations that responded, they employ a total of 1,051 OOSC educators.



- 4) What is the capacity your program is currently operating at? (Capacity meaning registered children attending your program)



- 5) In total, how many OOSC children (grade 1-6) are currently registered in all of your programs combined?

Between the 95 organizations that responded, they currently care for 6,927 children in grades 1-6.

- 6) Does your program run a kinder program? If yes, how many kindergarten children are currently registered in all of your programs combined?

Between the 94 organizations that responded, 80 operate a kinder program. Between the 80 programs, they care for 1,793 kindergarten children.

- 7) Between all of your OOSC programs/sites combined, approximately what percentage of your families are currently receiving subsidy?

Between the 95 organizations that responded, there is an average of 32% of families that are currently on subsidy.

Do you have any questions or concerns regarding the recent announcement of the Universal Child Care plan? If yes, what are they?

Why are these children and families excluded from this plan? The ELCC field covers children 12m-12 years, each child and each family must be included in this plan to truly make a difference in the lives of children and families.



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What was the rationale behind excluding school aged care programs and families from extended subsidies and differentiating ECEs in school aged settings vs ELCC settings? How will they differentiate between children in family day homes who may be school aged and joining their sibling in the program before/after school and during school breaks? Do they realize families will be paying more for children to attend a program for 4 hours per day than those attending up to 10 hours per day, by more than double in 2026? A significant concern is how to staff an OOSC program when you also operated ELCC programs and those educators will not have equal access to supports as their ELCC ECE counterparts.

I have concern about how it will impact the OOSC sector in a financial way. I am also, very concerned that the ministry of education has started allowing daycares to accept out of school care children and even have mixed age groups, despite the research. I feel that this is a move that affects the OOSC sector of the industry and that they did not consult us before doing it. Even more so, I feel that this recent announcement, along with the disregard shown via the Universal Child Care Plan, is an indicator that OOSC is going to be phased out. It seems this way, as the steps taken in recent months are actually crippling to the OOSC sector.

There is no provision for lowering the cost of OOSC programs throughout the province. This leaves many families still struggling with the cost of child care for children 5 to 12 years. OOSC program staff do not seem to be included to the increase in funding to improve their education and level. Programs that operate an all encompassing license (daycare, and OOSC) may choose to convert OOSC spaces into Daycare spaces because it is more likely to have higher enrollment number therefore further reducing the spaces available to OOSC. Parents of OOSC children as also not going to be able to participate in the new expanded (to \$180K) subsidy program so there are now going to be 2 tiers of financial care support. Although this announcement will support people with young children to go back into the work force, it is not equitable and therefore when a child enters an OOSC program the parent may not be able to continue employment.

Loosing kindergarten children. Loosing staff. not enough incentives for families or educators in SAC

in terms of subsidy how would it be calculated for families that have children in both daycare and after school programs? Will there be a maximum on the fees that programs can charge? Can Kindergarten children go back under a daycare program? Staff wage top up need to be increased.



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Yes, does it mean that there are going to be more regulations, is there going to no competition with prices among the different daycares, day homes, and before and after care what happens to the top up free that we get now does that go away.

That they are completely excluding the out of school sector. Parents should be able to receive subsidy the same as parents for childcare. It will be hard for parents to go from paying less for childcare then to paying full amounts for school care. Also, they should be increasing the wage top up for educators. The cost of living keeps going up but our wages do not.

Yes many! We have new programs opening will they be grandfathered? Why are the not for profits getting funding before everyone else? Why isn't OSC included. It makes no sense that children getting two hours of care a day will pay more then full daycare. This program is missing a lot and we are very frustrated.

Had an expectation that it would apply to school children as they continue in care up to 12yrs of age.

I feel the implementation of this agreement puts OOSC sector in real jeopardy, setting us back 10 years or more

I feel that the funding should include Before and Afterschool care these parents will be paying more for care and children doing less hours, and come summer time it is really hard on the parents and enrollment drops considerably.

We are interested in learning about how - if at all - the Universal Child Care Plan may affect Kindergarten OOSC programs and if there are any plans to roll this into the B&A program.

I am disappointed that BAS program was not considered in the bilateral agreement.

Extremely disappointed that the OOSC families will not get the benefits of the new affordability funding. These families have paid a high childcare fee from infancy of their children and are still left out of the fee subsidy that was announced recently. Also concerned about the ability to retain OOSC staff as there are less perks for them compared to DC staff



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OOSC NOT BEING PART OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT! Educators not being treated fairly and families not able to access the same supports.

it does not include OSC, or the children we have in kindergarten, unless families apply for subsidy with a household income under \$90,000.
it would have been nice to have a wage top up increase however, programs can pay their staff a better wage and increase program fees. Maybe this way the government will take notice. This is an OK start to making a national program

Why has OSC been excluded from the Federal/Provincial Universal Child Care Plan? When will School Age children receive the same consideration for child care? Many of our families have children in both the 0-6 and 6-12 year old age groups. The majority of our families start with us when their children are Infant/Toddlers 12-18mo and continue to attend once they enter school.

Yes, I believe they need to re-evaluate what programs are entitled to funding. School age children still need child care, parents still require subsidy and those parents should receive equal subsidy funding. OSC staff should be included/recognized for their hard work.

Yes, I am curious why OSC Early Childhood Educators would not be Included in accessing wage top up for planning, cleaning, non cc hours. Our educators work to document, plan, complete training all focused on our children and ensuring we maintain best practices in the field. Educators will be more inclined to work in licensed settings with children under K if they receive top up for those hours in those settings. Presently we are seeing children leave OSC as early as age 9/10 to go home alone after school instead of coming to care often in order to save costs. We know that in many cases the parents would Rather their children come to program and it's disappointing to know these choices are made due to financial constraints. Many of our families have extra fees over xmas breaks, PD days for full day care, increased costs in summer and not seeing any of this funding being directed to Out of School Care creates an unbalance in this sector.

This plan will possibly affect us in a few ways. I am unsure if we would be able to maintain the families we have, if there is no option for the higher subsidy threshold, as there will be for daycares. Our program is lucky to have the majority of our staff as highly educated Early Childhood Educators. I know that if there is not money for the wage top up as there is proposed for daycares, we may lose them also.

Yes - concerned that nothing was announced to help out OOSC - concerns about staff wages and top up wages.



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OSC does not qualify at all which is very disappointing. Do Kinder program operating in OSC qualify for operating grants and new subsidy limits. Does the possible Level 4 child care certification qualify for higher wage top up then the \$6.62?

our osc enrolment drop alone during covid has been devastating to our program. I fear with this announcement of universal care from 0-kindergarten will only push more families out of OSC programs sooner because of affordability. It will be hard to justify to parents that children who are spending 5-9hrs a day in care are paying less than OSC children who spend on average 1-3 hrs a day in OSC. Universal childcare is not universal if it does not include supports for families in OSC.

I think it's not fair that they haven't include OSC program in \$10/day program. As it is OSC, already struggling in getting qualified Educators due to less hours and split shift issue and with this it will be harder. Worried that might Kindergarten enrollment will go more down.
Don't know how to survive??

How will this support out of School Care? Could this plan kill off stand alone out of school cares? (because it will be easier for daycares to charge less for school age)

Why the universal child care plan doesn't include all children 0 to 12 and the staff from after school care? The parents are working and they need the After School Care Programs for children's safety and well-being. At this vulnerable age if children are unsupervised they can get involved in risky activities as drugs, alcohol, sex. Let's avoid that and create a safety environment for all children!

Why wasn't OOSC included, now they will be paying more than daycare kids.

Minister Schultz has automatically put OSC programs in the "have-not" category by not providing financial support specifically for us. If OSC programs are left behind, it will cripple our sector and many programs will close.

I think it is important that ALL Early Learning Childcare Centers be involved in all Government Funding. I also believe that ELCC's should come under the Government umbrella as an essential service. We are already mandated to be licensed and under Government guidelines... putting us under that umbrella will afford us the ability to bring in on-call substitute staffing (much like teachers). Currently, centers mad-scramble to find suitable employees when an employed staff member calls in sick - keeping safe ratios in the children's best interest. is paramount.



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Trying to understand how the government sees it justifiable not to support school age children who require care

It concerns me that families with children in school age programs are not going to receive additional supports from the government. My families were very hopeful when they first heard of this program, and to discover that they will not receive needed additional supports was heart breaking.

I'm just hoping that Federal will also see that school-aged children also do need a help. A single parent with 2 school-aged children attending OSC still pays, roughly \$500 to \$800 including the full subsidy. That's tough for a parent. While others get it for almost free childcare. I mean, Federal should justify it.

Why are we now making Out of School care more expensive than day care for families that don't qualify for full subsidy?

How are we going to charge less fees and attract more staff when we can't get qualified staff now?

Why is OSC not included? The parents of a toddler in care 10 hours a day will soon be paying less than parents of a 10 year old in care 2 hours a day, makes no sense.

They should include School Age in the agreement in order to make it more affordable for them. They are also a part of the economy. Additionally, educators working outside of the ratio will not be eligible to receive the additional top-up funds. In this case, I would prefer to work in the early years rather than in the school age.

yes, being left out. 1 of my programs has not been able to open during Covid as Our public school board won't allow any third parties inside the school at this time. And we are in rural town and parents have either been working from home or one parent is out of work period. The 20 children out of 65 licensed we have are majority part time just after school or PD days. Our payroll is killing us due to covid cleaning and the 2nd person after 7 children rule and many educators do not want split shifts. Not sure how long we can hang on. Those Educators who are there are level 3 and long term staff but have not been able to increase wages for 2 years.

Since this will not help OOSC fees, are you going to be looking to push for a universal subsidy program for the parents in these programs?



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Concern - If the subsidy threshold to \$190,000 is only changing for children under the age of 6 then families of children in OSC will be paying more money for a few hours of care than families who are using 8-10 hours in daycare.

I foresee OSC programs shutting down, particularly ones that are associated with daycares and will use those spaces for higher funded spaces. I think it will be challenging for all OSC programs and I foresee spaces minimizing without the support.

1. With creating all these new spaces, where does the honorable minister plan on finding all the new staff considering we already have a huge shortage of qualified educators in the province.
2. How does this new Child Care Plan justify to parents of school age children that soon they will be paying significantly more for 2 - 3 hours of after school care than parents of children ages 0 - 6 years will pay for 8 - 10 hours?
3. Specifically, how is the grid that was mentioned going to work? Will it also apply to staff working in OSC programs? If not, then how will we find staff willing to work OSC when they will potentially make a lot more in day care etc.

Will there be an incentive for KG parents to not move their children to a daycare that is in the program, as OSC is not included

That a childcare worker in the OSC program needs to be a level 2 or higher. It is impossible to find staff who will work 7-9 and 3-6. It is unreasonable for the school aged children.

There is anxiety among licensed daycare organizations that government is taking over daycare business by creating child care spaces, operated by the government. Which means the government is in the competition with the existing daycare organizations operated by small organization. This will bankrupt the existing daycare organizations.

The destruction of OSC centres like mine as large centres can use their \$4B subsidy \$ to offset costs to their OSC programs. Also, OSC programs face staffing issues. Ages 0-5 will strip bare the staff of OSC centres not filling up with kids who cost their parents 1/3 to stay in full time care compared to unsubsidized part time osc care.



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We also have a Daycare Program so not providing the same opportunity for Kinders is not good. We predominantly offer School-Age care so It will be weird to have those families paying more than the Daycare families.

NO access for OSC families, when Kinder was certainly originally promised is beyond disappointing