

Canada Wide Early Learning Child Care Engagement Table (ELCCET)

Meeting 1: June 11, 2022 (9:30 am - 4:00 pm)

The first meeting of the Minister's Early Learning and Child Care Engagement Table was held on June 11, 2022, in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

The session focused on relationship building, establishing role clarity, identifying priorities and providing input to the Department about ECE compensation and implementation of the anticipated ECE compensation framework.

Agenda:

- Introductions & welcome from Minister Druhan
- Getting to know each other
- Canada Wide Agreement Overview & Group Priorities
- Lunch Break
- ECE Compensation Framework
- Wrap up

The Engagement Table's Priorities

Priorities were determined by Engagement Table members and will form the basis of ongoing discussions between the Table and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

- **ECE/sector compensation and working conditions** (including compensation for non-ECE staff)
 - Implement as soon as possible
- **Inclusion Supports**
 - Safe spaces. Cultural awareness/competence
 - Help for ECEs working with diverse needs
 - Policy for children with higher needs
- **Staffing**
 - Attraction and retention (improve public opinion of professionalism)
 - Recognize that child care centres have other staff besides ECE's who work collaboratively to create quality programs
 - Supplemental issues (i.e. housing, transportation particularly for those who immigrate here and those in rural communities)

- **Family Home Child Care Providers**
 - As transformation progresses in all areas (quality of care, staffing, compensation, communications, etc.), ensure that the needs of Family Home Child Care providers are considered and addressed

- **Professional development/ training/ coaching**
 - Quality training and education for ECE's and care providers
 - Training / development available regionally
 - Deliver training at times that align with other professions, not just on evenings and weekends

- **Communicating with the sector**
 - Ensure sector is aware first, and given time to react
 - Look at other ways to communicate, beyond memos
 - Be as transparent as possible
 - Use the expertise of the Engagement Table to test ideas, and cascade information to the sector via their networks and organizations

- **Better data collection and streamlined processes**
 - Clarify objectives of the Canada Wide Agreement around what to measure, and how best to measure
 - Determine appropriate workforce measures
 - Determine how the data will be collected, then streamline paperwork and processes to reduce the burden on the sector

- **Management of the Canada Wide implementation. Determine the role of a central organization(s)/centralized support.**
 - Ensure fiscal responsibility, accountability, transparency
 - Central Organization(s)/support must reduce operational burden on the sector

- **Cost of care funding model**

- **Parent fees/inflationary pressures**

ECE Compensation

Table members discussed the implementation of a comprehensive wage and benefits framework for ECEs. They provided input and recommendations to the Minister related to implementation.