



# **BUILD SEAMLESS CHILD CARE**

IT'S TIME TO CREATE AFFORDABLE FULL-DAY EARLY LEARNING AND CARE  
IN B.C.'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Too many families lack child care services where and when they need it

- Market-based child care system does not work - inadequate supply of spaces and unfair distribution of services.
- Even with recent investments, B.C. has only enough space for 20 per cent of children.
- Quality child care remains out of reach for many families due to high fees and long waitlists.

# Integration into the school system is a better model for kids and families

- The seamless day model integrates early learning and child care with the school day
- Thousands of potential cost-effective spaces for before- and after-school care exist in every region of B.C.
- This would increase available child care, while delivering a very high quality, value-added system of early childhood education.
- Recent changes to the School Act meant that school districts can begin implementing this model

# Benefits of the Seamless Day

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- Improved accessibility and fewer transitions for kids
  - Enhanced and informed care that is education-focused
  - Coordination of care and learning between before- and after-school and school day programming
  - More secure and reliable child care options in every community;
  - New opportunities to recruit and retain high-quality education assistant and early childhood educators
  - More effective delivery of cost-effective, high-quality child care spaces
  - Increased investment in the public school system

# Structure of the Seamless Day

- Children arrive at their local public school for before-school care
- The classroom teacher joins the ECE and students for the school day
- The ECE remains in the classroom, providing care and educational leadership in partnership with the teacher
- A second ECE joins the class just before lunch, allowing for overlap and preparation time
- The morning ECE concludes their day during the lunch break.
- The second ECE stays with the students and delivers the after-school care program

# Examples of the Seamless Day

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- Norway is a world leader in early learning and care, and they use the seamless day model
  - The use of the model is increasing in Canada, and a great example is the widespread use of the seamless day in Waterloo (Ontario) school system
  - Pilot project began in School District 53 in 2019, and early results show it surpasses expectations
  - Other districts moving towards this model, most recent example is SD60
  - The research and global examples are very positive and the argument for this model is incredibly strong

# QUESTIONS?