



Response to Phase 2 Regulatory Proposals Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014



Presentation to the Early Learning Division
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Atkinson Centre for Society and Child Development

Every opportunity for every child from the start



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Important changes

- Increasing density of trained staff in licensed centres
- ECE qualifications for home visitors
- More appropriate qualifications for older school age
- Preference for licensed child care



To reconsider: Proposed infant & toddler ratio changes

Impact on accessibility

- Disincentive to maintain programs for infants – 0-12 months
- Limits access to the most vulnerable families
- Compounds problems with bottlenecks as children age up



Impact on quality

- Increased transitions limits the ability to develop relationships with both parents and children

Impact on affordability

- Cost to operators and parents increase



Impact proposed regulatory changes

Typical centre:

Current capacity 65: 10 infants, 15 toddlers, 40 preschoolers

New capacity 61: 9 infants, 12 toddlers, 40 preschoolers

Net loss \$22,760 with current per diems, grants and shared sleep room

If space retrofitted for new sleep room: Enrolment, 9 infants, 8 toddlers, 40 preschoolers

Net loss \$61,017 with current per diems and grants



Atkinson proposal

Child Age	Staff: child ratio	Max group size
0-24 months	1:4 - increased staff for every 3 children < 12 months	12
2 – 4 years	1:8 - increased staff for every 4 children < 2.5 years	24



Impact Atkinson proposal

Typical centre

Current capacity 65: 10 infants, 15 toddlers, 40 preschoolers

New capacity 64: including 24 infant/toddlers (0-24 months), 40 preschoolers

\$57,776 surplus with current per diems and grants and shared sleep room

Staffing at new qualifications with 1 additional educator to maintain ratios



Impact on parent fees

	Infant rate	Toddler rate	Preschoolers
Current	\$103.21	\$91.21	\$69.40
New reg proposal	\$103.21	\$91.21	\$69.40
Atkinson proposal		\$91.21	\$69.40



Comparative ratio/group sizes (Canada)

	Age of child	Staff:child ratio	Group size
NL	0-24 months	1:3	6
	25-36 mos	1:5	10
PE	0-24 months	1:3	6
	2-3 years	1:5	Not specified
NS	0-24 months	1:4	10
	2- 4 years	1:6	18
NB	0-24 months	1:3	9
	2-3 years	1:5	10
BC	0-3 years	1:4	12
	> 30 months	1:8	25



Next steps

- Pause – to allow for new models to be tested and evaluated
- Enlists colleges and municipal programs as change leaders
- Enlist support of change management teams to support transition



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