

A photograph of a modern, natural-themed playground. Two young boys are riding red tricycles on a paved path. The playground features wooden posts, benches, and a structure with circular cutouts. There are large logs on the ground and tall grasses. In the background, there are trees and a building. A blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the top half of the image, containing white text. A purple sun icon is on the right side of the banner, and a green smiley face icon is in the top right corner.

- City Support for Childcare in Vancouver:
 - Creating Affordable, Quality, and Accessible Spaces

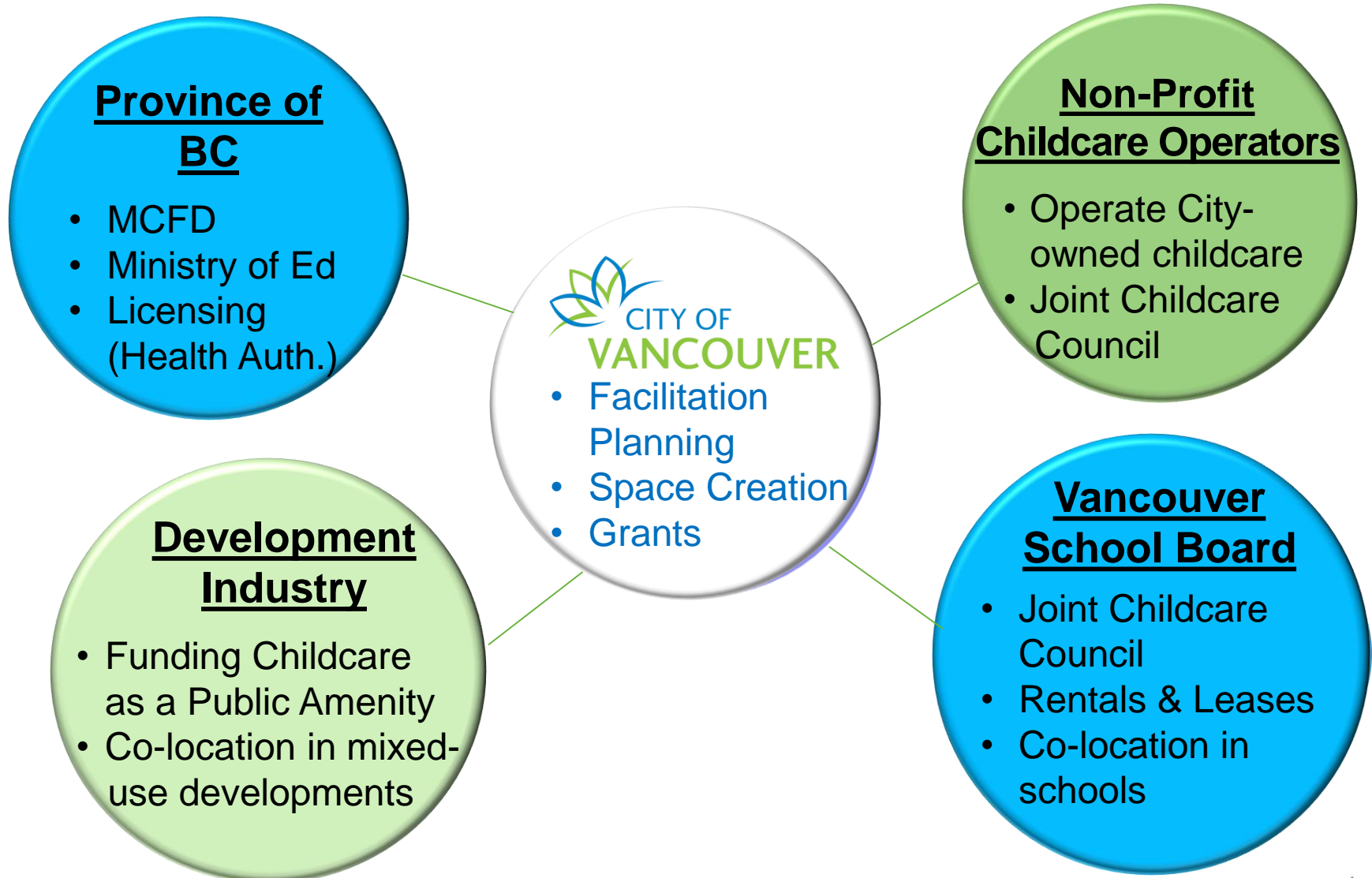
Summer Institute Conference
June 1, 2018

Ada Chan Russell and Vanessa Kay
Social Planners, City of Vancouver



- 1. Background: Roles, Contexts and Targets**
- 2. Assessing Needs & Access**
- 3. Quality of Facilities**
- 4. Quality of Programming**
- 5. Next Steps**

Background: City Roles, Contexts and Targets



School Readiness

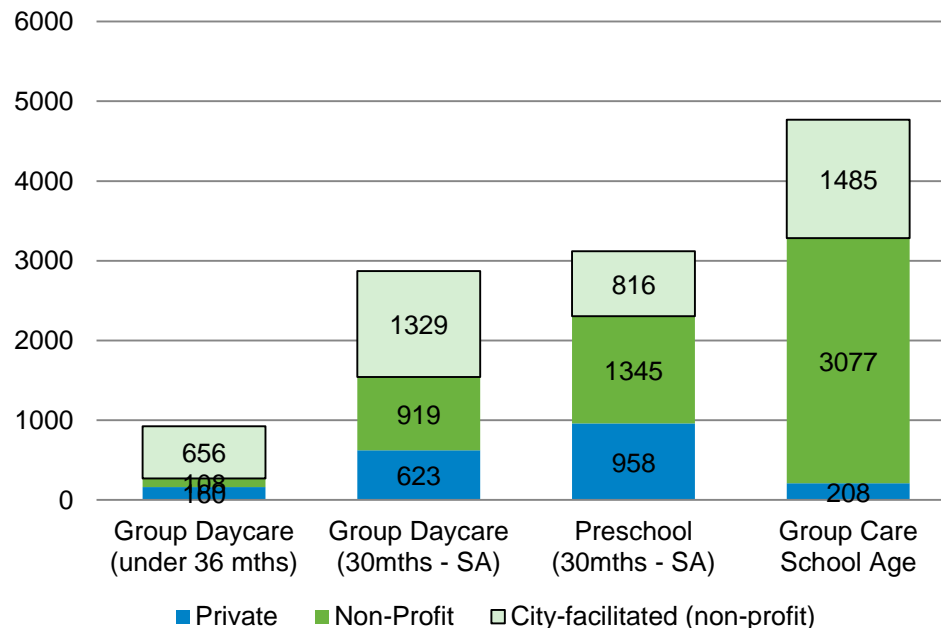


New Childcare Facilities

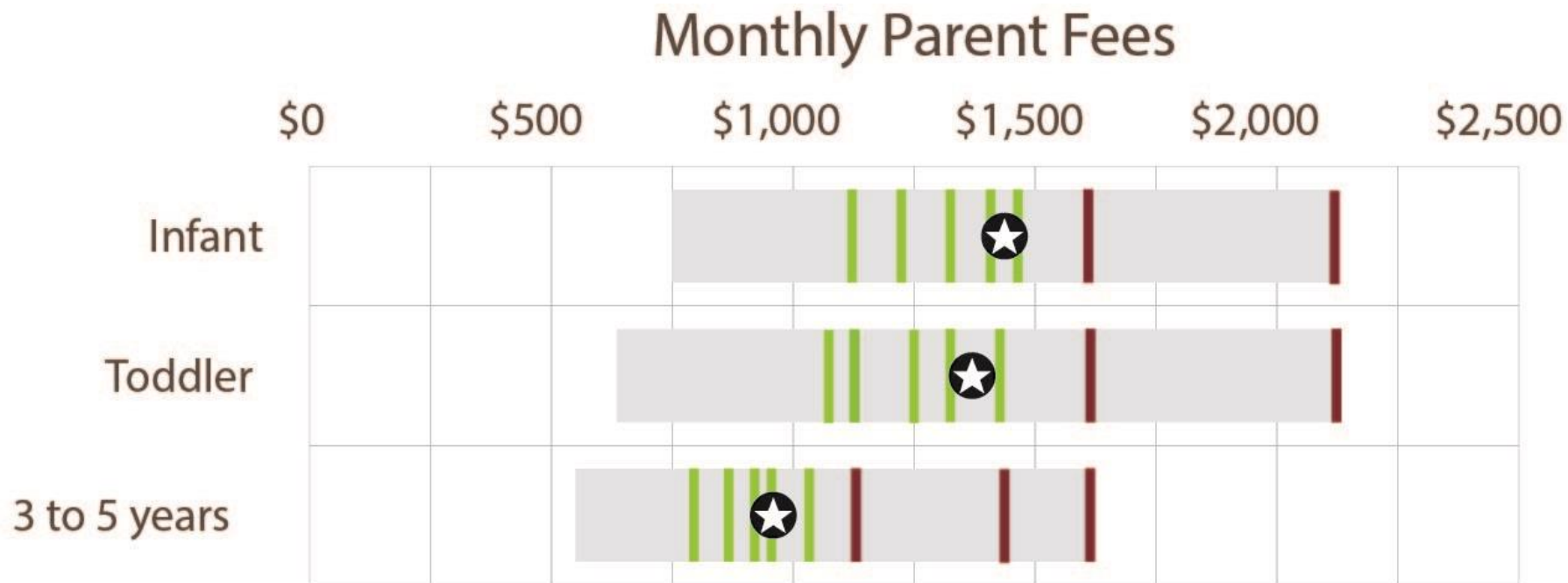


- ~90% childcare spaces provided by non-profit operators
- City-facilitated centres (NPO) make up 35% of total childcare spaces

Childcare Spaces by Providers



Comparison of Parent childcare fees 2016 and impact of City-supported childcare



Legend:

- City average
- City-facilitated - sample fees
- City range
- For-profit centres - sample fees

Assessing Needs and Access

- **Tools for Childcare Planning:**
 - Estimating need
 - Setting priorities and integrating with other plans
 - Zoning
- **Tools for Financing Childcare**
 - Tax Base
 - Developer Contributions
- **Joint Planning**
 - Public Lands: CoV/Parks/VSB Steering Committee
 - Joint Childcare Council
 - Early Years tables (Public partners and Providers)
 - Planning around neighbourhood service networks



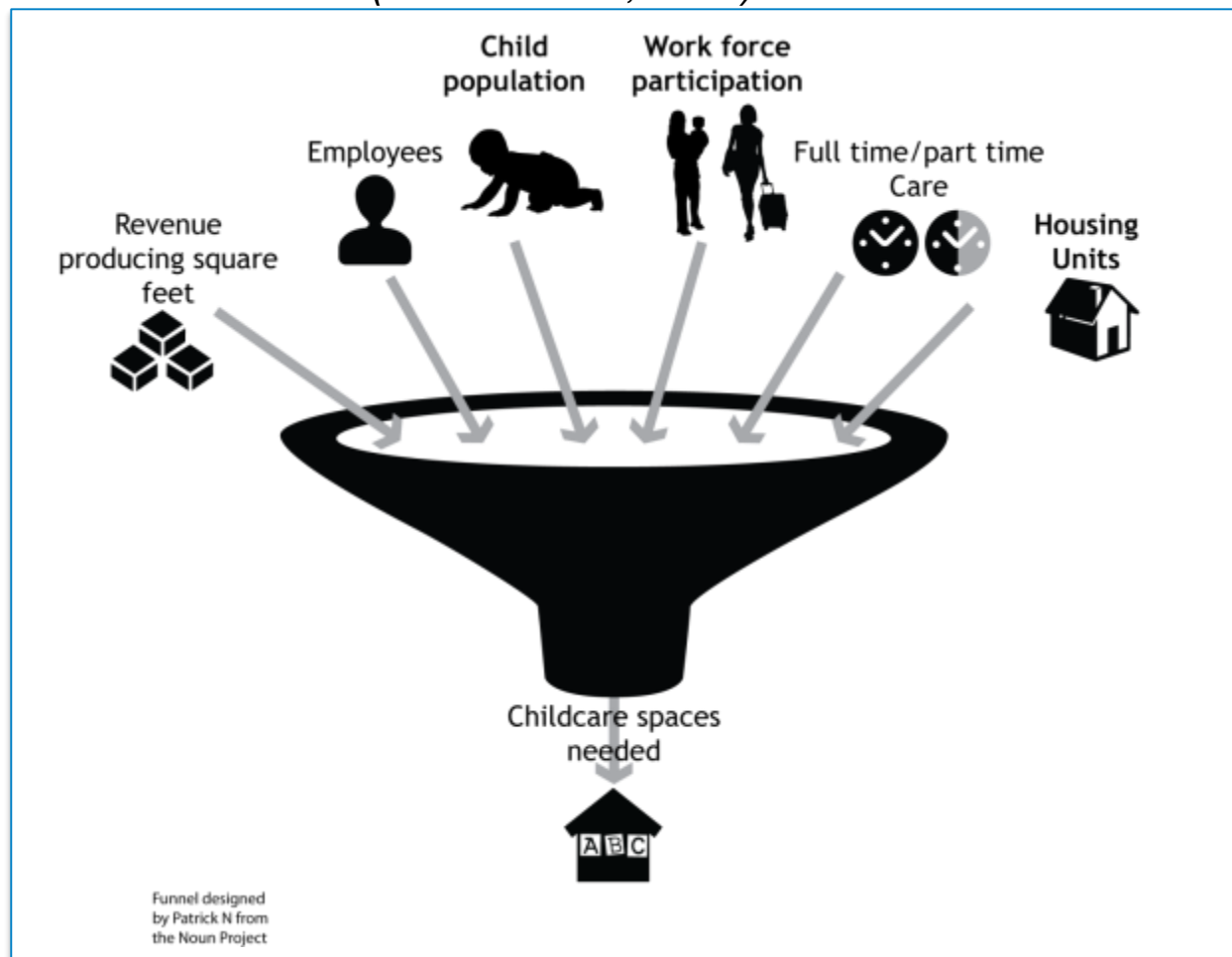
Estimating current & future childcare need

- For major projects, neighbourhoods, and city-wide
- By age group
- Compare with current supply to identify gaps

Setting Priorities and Local Area Targets

- Est. unmet need
- Child vulnerability
- Development and co-location opportunities.

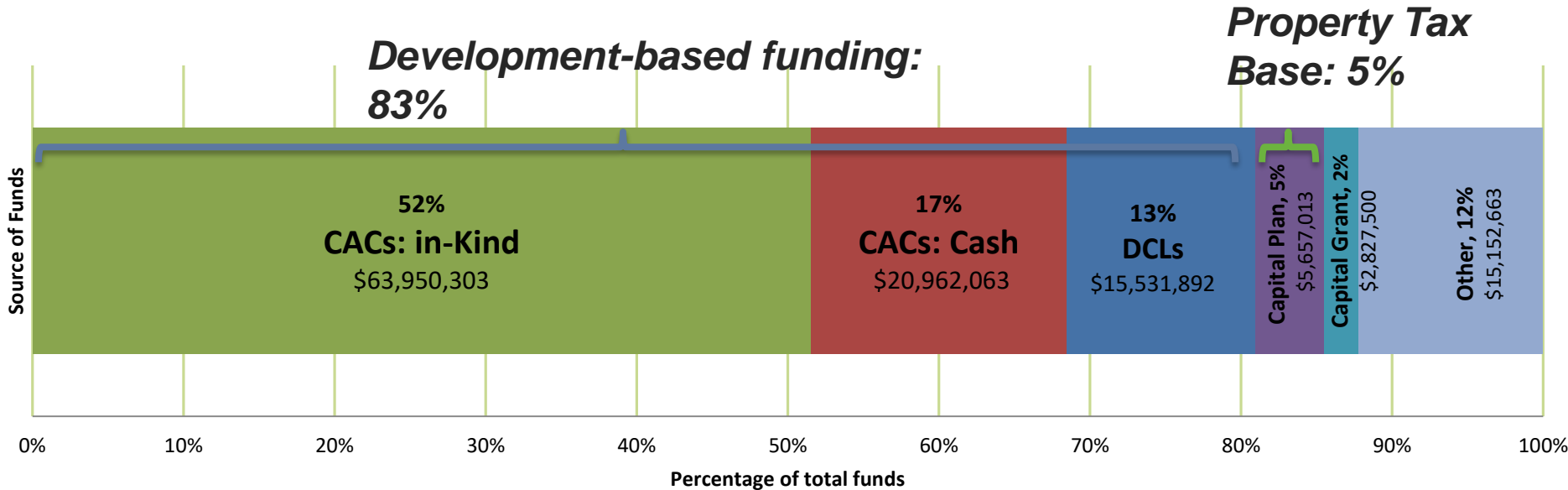
Model for Estimating Childcare Need (Mab Oloman, 2011)



Financing Growth Tools - Key Opportunity and Limitation to Targeting Needs Geographically



Source of Childcare Construction Funds, 2006-2016

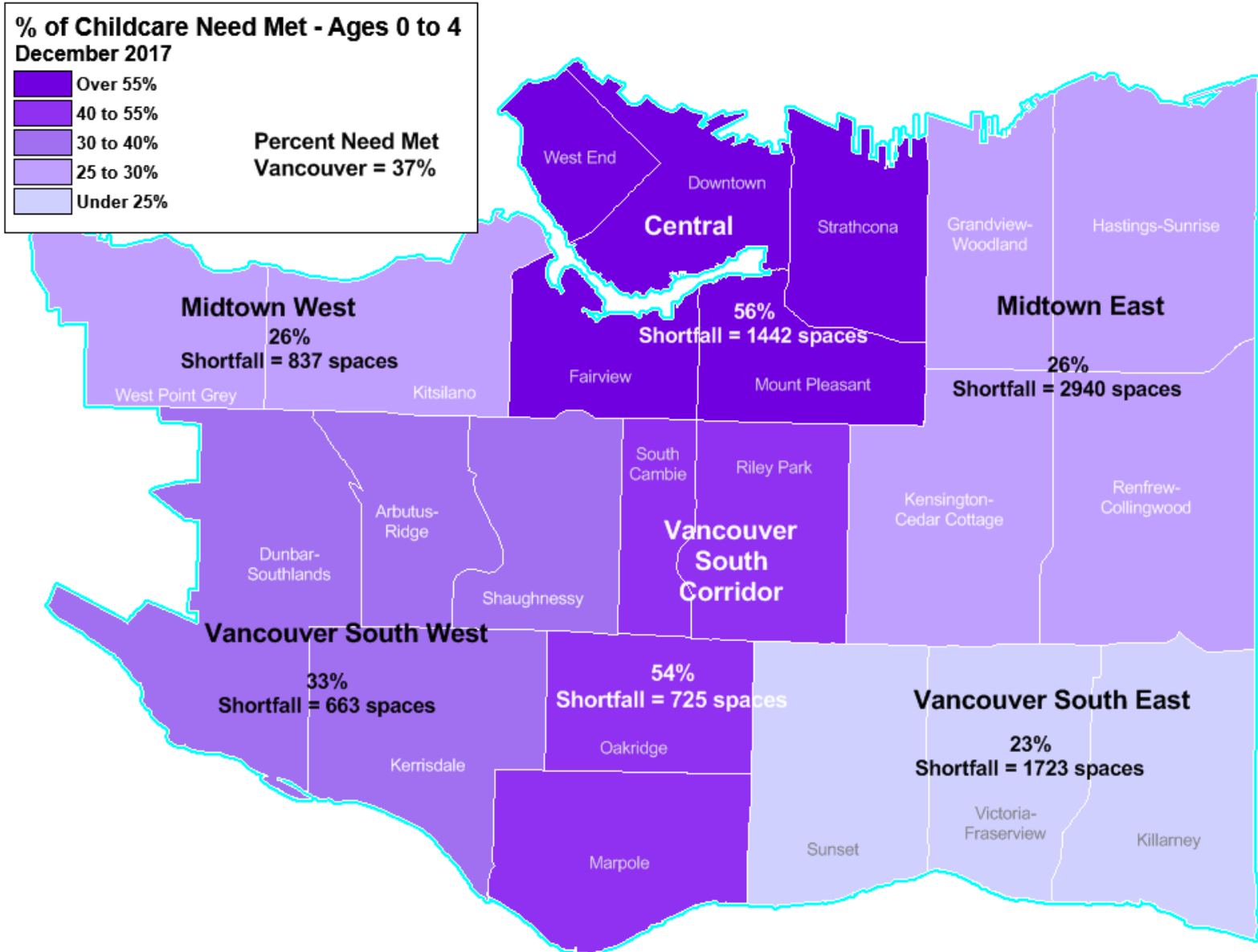


City Supports for Operating, Facility Replacement:

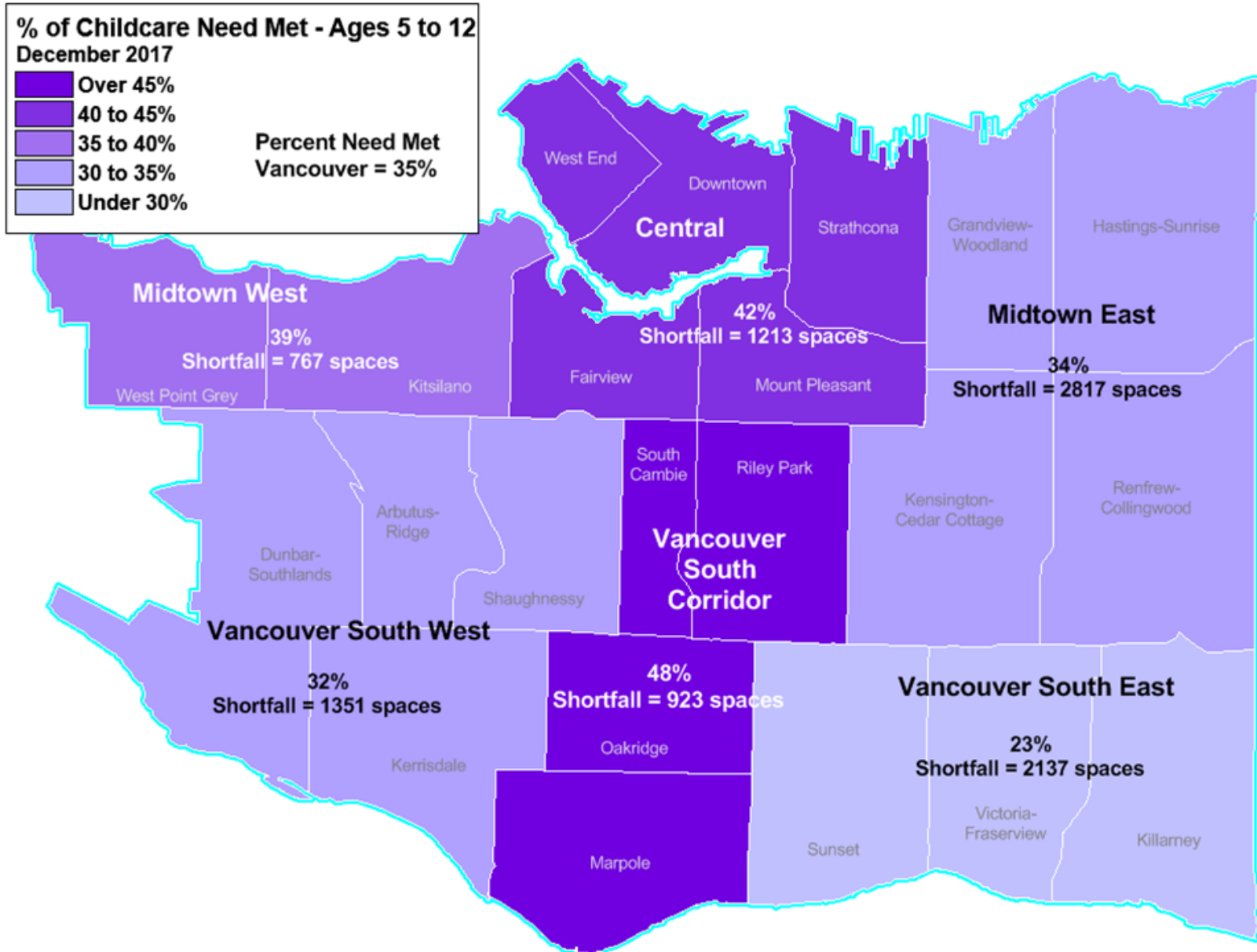
Until 2015: Mix of CAC contributions/ Property Tax base

Now: 100% from Property Tax base

Childcare Need by Neighbourhood Networks (Ages 0-4)



Childcare Need by Neighbourhood Networks (Ages 5-12)

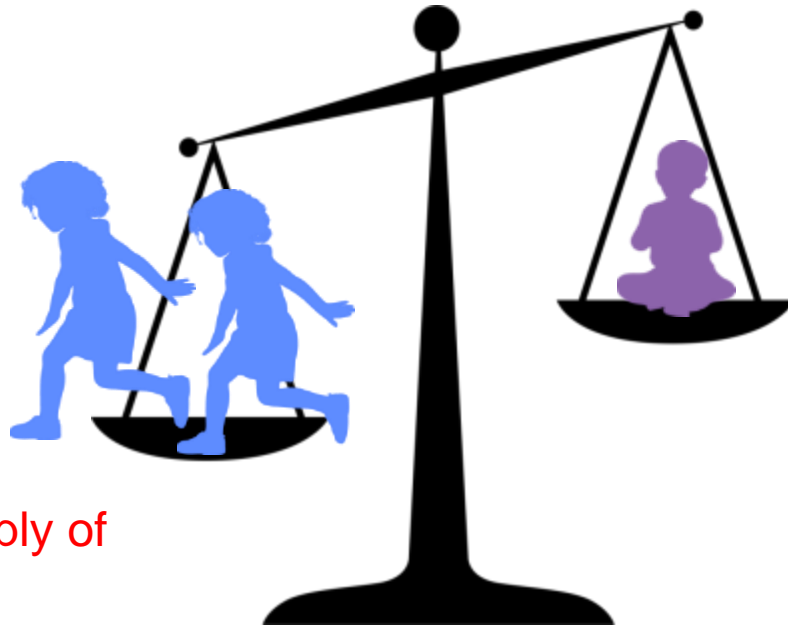


Financial viability requires a 2:1 ratio of Ages 3-4 : Ages 0-2

- Programs for 3-4 year olds help cross-subsidize higher-cost, more labour-intensive infant and toddler programs.
- If need were met for ages 3-4, significant unmet need would remain for ages 0-2.

Children ages 3-4:

- 59% of need met for full day care

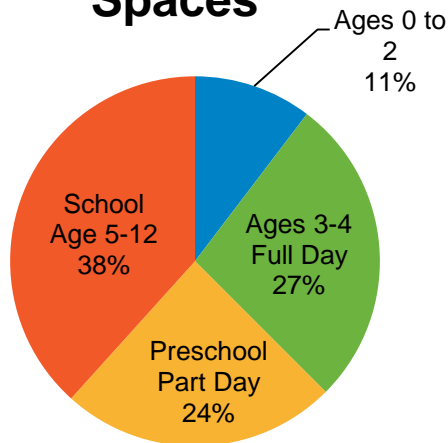


Children Under 3:

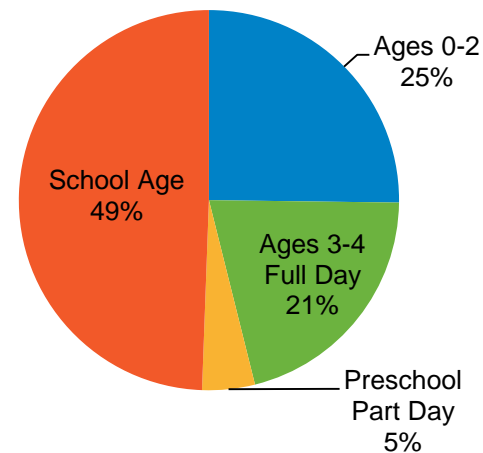
19% of need met

- Est. +244% oversupply of part-day preschool

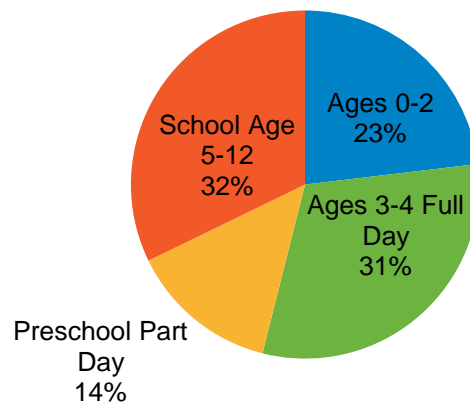
Available Childcare Spaces



Childcare Needs



City-Facilitated Childcare Spaces (built /committed new spaces) 2015-2018



Supporting Quality of Childcare Facilities

Impacting All New Group Childcare (Ages 0-4)

Childcare Design Guidelines

- Apply to all newly built group childcare (ages 0-4)
- Address physical design and siting of the childcare

Impacting City-Owned Childcare (Ages 0-4)

Childcare Technical Guidelines

- Requirements for materials, finishes, hardware etc.

Selection of Appropriate Sites and Co-location

- Prioritizing partnerships and co-location supports efficient delivery of integrated services in complete communities

Example: Outdoor Play Space Requirements



Provincial Regulations / Child

- 6 m² (outdoors)
- 3.7m² (indoors - for all programs/ages)
- Minimums



City Guidelines / Child

- 14 m² (outdoors)
- 3.9m² -7m² (indoors – depending on program type/age groups)

Vancouver Childcare Design Guidelines

Example: Layout-Staffing Requirements



City Guidelines

“Include a mixture of open spaces and smaller alcoves...and be designed to accommodate a variety of activity settings.”



City Guidelines

“Outdoor space should be at the same level as the indoor space and contiguous with it. The two areas should be planned together.”

Siting Considerations for City-Owned Childcare

Co-location:

- Childcare as part of civic buildings, **schools**, mixed-use towers

Location:

- Close to home, work or school (age-dependent)
- Easily accessible by road/ped/bike/transit
- **Ground floor**, podium, rooftop

Orientation:

- Single floor
- South/west facing, for max sunlight
- Outdoor spaces are sheltered from traffic impacts (noise, air quality)

Configuration:

- **69 spaces where possible**, for high impact on infant/toddler needs; **37** where space is limited



Concrete integrated at grade



Concrete integrated on roof

**Steering Committee to optimize use of public space
– COV, VSB, Libraries**

**Capital Grant Program -
Renovation of Shared
Multipurpose Rooms in
Schools (5-12)**

**0-4 Childcare in Elementary
Schools**

**Community/School Age Care
Multipurpose Room (5-12)**



New Sir Sandford Fleming Elementary

Siting Innovation: Repurposing city spaces

Making better use of underused spaces

The Gastown Parkades Childcare Centre :

- 74 new spaces in two purpose-built childcare centres for children 0-4 years
- 6th floor roof level of adjoining underused City-owned parkades
- Passive House design principles.



Supporting Quality of Childcare Programming

Impacting Non-Profit Childcare

Childcare and Small Capital Grants

- Non-profits are eligible to apply for funding

Impacting City-Owned Childcare (Ages 0-4)

Operator Selection

- RFEOI process open to non-profit operators

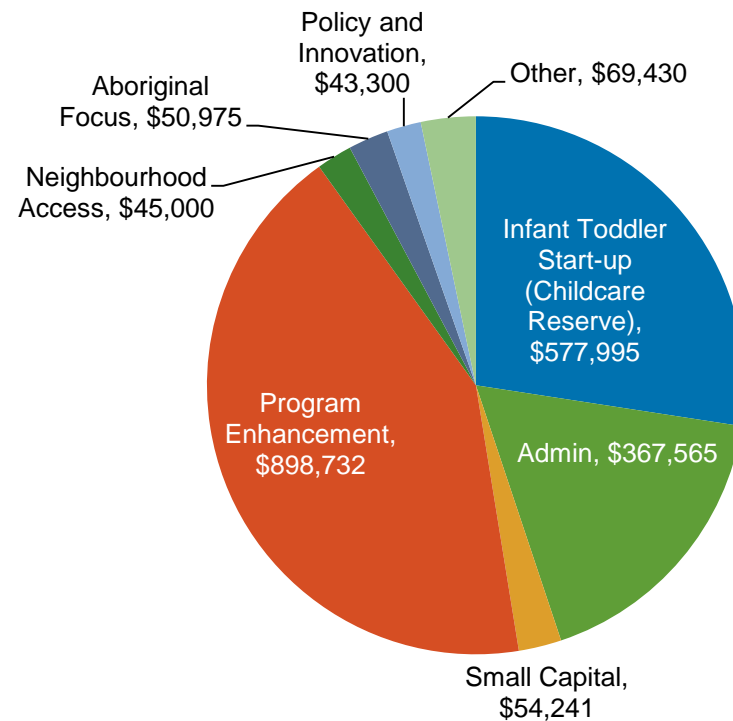
Nominal Leases and Public Service Requirements

- Nominal rent and ongoing reporting requirements



Grants for operating supports, sectoral development & coordination

Social Policy Childcare Grants 2016



Total 2016 Social Policy Grants to Childcare: \$2,107,238

Enables high needs families in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside to access quality child care at the YMCA Woodward's Centre

- \$45,000 annual City grant provides **no-cost childcare to 19 children** (half of centre's spaces) whose families qualify for full BC childcare subsidy
- Enhanced teacher ratios for extra support needs
- Hot lunch program



Impacting Quality Programming in City-Owned Childcare Centres

Operator Selection Processes

- Non-profits eligible to submit Expressions of Interest
- Assessment criteria:
 - Financial & Administrative Capacity
 - Current Programming
 - Proposed Future Programming
- Selected organization appointed by City Council
- Lease renewable to 15 years.



Nominal Lease

- Supports more affordable quality programming

Public Service Requirements

- Ongoing reporting demonstrates sound management, public service, and basic quality criteria.



Moving Forward

Building on Partnership with Province of BC

Creating Quality Facilities

- Celebrate meeting 1000-space target (2015-2018) in June 2018
- Increasing co-location of childcare in civic buildings:
 - Schools, Civic facilities, and Social Housing
- Secure long-term tenure for family childcare operators through **purpose-built family childcare units**
- Design of different **childcare models** – consultation with operators
- **Post-occupancy assessment** of childcare facilities

Supporting Quality Programming

- Capacity-building and joint planning
 - Partnership with neighbourhood houses, schools, community centres
 - “Place-based” operator capacity - strengthening neighbourhoods/networks

Thank You!

