

FOR RELEASE  
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## **Governments share long-term vision for early learning and child care**

Canada's federal, provincial and territorial ministers responsible for early learning and child care reached a historic agreement today that articulates their shared vision for improving the lives of Canadian children and their families.

Minister of Health and Social Services Pauline Frost represented Yukon at the ministers' meeting today in Ottawa. Following a morning of productive discussions about key issues, the ministers signed the Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework.

The framework will be supported by Government of Canada investments totalling \$7.5 billion over 11 years to support and create more high-quality, affordable child care across the country.

### **Quotes**

"I'm very proud to have represented Yukon at today's meeting, which has led to a ground-breaking agreement that will help us maximize benefits for children. I am particularly pleased that the federal government has allocated funding for Indigenous early learning and child care. At the meeting this morning I also highlighted our government's desire to provide quality, affordable child care in Yukon communities."

*–Minister of Health and Social Services Pauline Frost*

"We are very happy that the federal government is making early learning and child care a priority, and look forward to working in collaboration with all of our partners to support early learners in Yukon. Early childhood education plays a major role in the emotional, social and physical development of young children, and ultimately is the best foundation for a lifetime of learning."

*–Minister of Education Tracy-Anne McPhee*

### **Quick facts**

- There are approximately 60 licensed child care programs in Yukon.
- There are approximately 1500 child care spaces available. Of these, about 77 per cent are currently filled, leaving 345 spaces available.
- In recent years, the child care space vacancy rate has varied from 14 per cent to 24 per cent.
- In Yukon, early learning and child care is the shared responsibility and a partnership between the Government of Yukon's Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Education.

**Learn more:** Historic agreement between federal, provincial and territorial governments on a multilateral early learning and child care framework

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