

# LONDON FOR ALL

## A ROADMAP TO END POVERTY

## Early Learning & Education

### 6.7 Advocate for increases to childcare fee subsidy for low income families

The Ministry of Education identified 7 key initiatives in the Renewed Early Years and Child Care Framework (2017). One of the key initiatives is “ensuring a more affordable early years and child care system”. Through consultation with the community and system of child care providers, Children’s Services has continued to actively implement the key initiatives of the Renewed framework, with a focus on the issue of affordability.

The attached document covers the provincial and federal commitment to early years and child care up to 2019.

The following are highlights specifically regarding affordability and fee subsidies:

- Page 4 speaks to the investment of the provincial government to affordability
  - Tax credit
  - Providing fee subsidies to municipalities
  - Creating more affordable spaces- this area speaks to the changes in ratio for home-based child care and the expansion of recreational programs to include younger children- this was a strategy of the current provincial government to increase access and affordability of care for families- this direction has not had full support from the Early Years and Child Care community as it meant larger ratios and potentially less qualified child care providers. Through LCCN, feedback was provided to the province through their consultation process.
- Page 23- Part 3- speaks to the Canada-Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Strategy. Funding under this strategy provided full and partial fee subsidies - page 29-30 gives some great data including the percentage of children receiving fee subsidies.
- Appendix - page 37-39 - provides a summary of the investment in all the Indicators, including Affordability, under the Agreement.