

**CIRCULAR**

**Date:** November 2, 2020

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**To:** All licensed child care providers

**Subject:** Child Care Legislation – The Early Learning and Child Care Act

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**Type:**  Policy  For Internal Reference Only  
 Procedure  
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Today the Minister of Families moved a procedural motion for first reading of Bill 47, The Early Learning and Child Care Act / Loi sur l'apprentissage et la garde des jeunes enfants, in the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba. This motion signals that the Minister will publicly release legislation to improve Manitoba's child care system in spring 2021.

As stated in the province's recent Speech from the Throne, Manitoba is committed to creating a "modern child care system and funding model that will enable and support the child care sector to grow in line with demand from Manitoba families." We are also committed to "provide greater equity in the type of support given to families, and offer choices and flexibility that reflects the needs and challenges today's parents face."

We know that COVID-19 has shown the need for greater support and improvements to Manitoba's child care sector, particularly to benefit frontline workers and parents working non-standard hours.

Over the coming months, we will be consulting with parents and early childhood educators across the province about how we can create a modern child care system that is responsive to the ever-changing needs of our workforce.

On behalf of the Minister and the entire Government of Manitoba, we want to thank you for everything you continue to do to support parents and children throughout this global public health emergency. The province will continue to work with you as you provide needed care to Manitoba's children.

Kathryn Gerrard  
Deputy Minister of Families

c. Michelle Stephen-Wiens, A/Director, Early Learning and Child Care program