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**MINISTER  
OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING**

Room 168  
Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8  
CANADA

March 6, 2023

To: Centre Director, Board Chair or Home-based Provider:

The Manitoba government recognizes that a trained and well-supported early learning and child care (ELCC) workforce is essential to provide high-quality services and programs for children and families. I am pleased to share that starting this year, we are introducing a professional development day to support the ongoing learning of Early Childhood Educators, Child Care Assistants and home-based providers.

Facilities may elect to close for an ELCC Professional Development Day on a day of their choosing, without loss of parent fee revenue, including subsidy payments. Facilities will not be required to open on another day that they would normally be closed (e.g. Easter Monday). As centres and home providers have done in previous years, you may choose to close on May 25 or 26, 2023, to attend the Manitoba Child Care Association 45th annual conference *Creating Connections, Building Bridges*. Alternatively, you may choose to close on another day for your staff to attend a conference or to host in-house training and development.

The department will be following up with further details on how to report the Professional Development Day to ensure subsidy payments are issued. As well, this communication will include the full schedule of holidays for the 2023 year.

Thank you for your continued commitment and dedication to children and families in Manitoba.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Wayne Ewasko

- c. Dana Rudy, Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning  
Sarah Whiteford, Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Learning and Child Care