

# First Nations Early Learning and Child Care

## Grant opportunity

March 2023

A one-time First Nations Early Learning and Child Care Grant, offered by the Ministry of Education and Child Care, is now available to all First Nations in B.C. that wish to participate. Funding provided through this grant is available under the [Canada-B.C. Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement](#), and the B.C. Provincial Budget 2022.

On February 27, 2023, an invitation letter was sent to each First Nation in B.C.

### About the Grant:

This grant is intended to support First Nations early learning and child care priorities. Each First Nation in B.C. is eligible to receive a minimum grant of \$73,500 with additional funding for Nations with a population of 363 people and above. The ministry has worked with the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society to develop an approach to distribute this funding to First Nations, in alignment with direction and recommendations from First Nations Leadership Council.

No application or proposal is required to receive this funding. However, the funding must be accepted via email from each First Nation by March 22, 2023, and spent by March 31, 2025.

### How the Grant can be used:

Nations can use this funding to support their unique early learning and child care priorities. Eligible areas for investment include supporting families of children under six years to access regulated\* child care, with a priority on non-profit or publicly delivered programs. Examples include:

- Engagement, consultation, planning and capacity building to support the creation of new child care programs
- Repair, renovations, and expansion of existing early learning and child care facilities, playgrounds, etc.
- Professional development and training for early learning and child care staff (for example, training to support children with support needs)
- Resources and curricula content development for early learning and child care programs that convey the cultures, languages and developmental needs of children and families
- Supporting cultural components of existing early learning and child care (e.g., land-based programming, Elder involvement, etc.)

If you have questions regarding potential uses of this grant, please contact the ministry and we are happy to discuss eligible areas for investment with you.

\* "Regulated" refers to child care spaces that are licensed by a local health authority or established and/or monitored by First Nations governments and authorities

---

### For more information about the grant:

### Contact the Ministry of Education and Child Care

Phone: [236-478-0804](tel:236-478-0804)

Email: [ECC.OTOGGrantAdministration@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ECC.OTOGGrantAdministration@gov.bc.ca)



ChildCareBC