



Social Policy and Projects, ACCS

Making Strides Childcare Strategy Implementation Update

Presentation to City Council – Feb 5th, 2024



1. Vancouver's Childcare Strategy Updates

- Implementation of Making Strides: Vancouver's Childcare Strategy (2022)

2. Design Guidelines Recommendation

- Endorse the Province's new Design Guidelines for Child Care Facilities (2024)
- In-Stream Applications

3. Ongoing Work

Senior governments' commitment to building a universal childcare system is a historic opportunity to improve access and address inequities.

Federal Government

- 2018: **\$7.5B** → 2021: **\$27.2B**
- **\$9.2B** committed annually as of 2026

Province of British Columbia

- Has access to \$3.4B in Federal funding over the next 3 years
- Is investing an additional \$2.6B in childcare from 2024-26



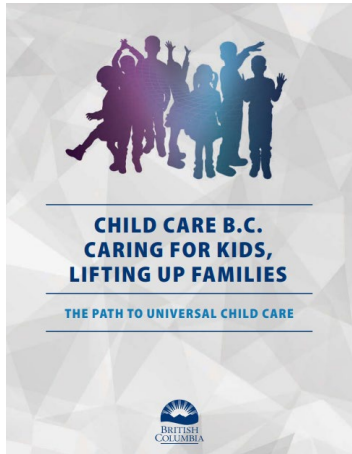
2018



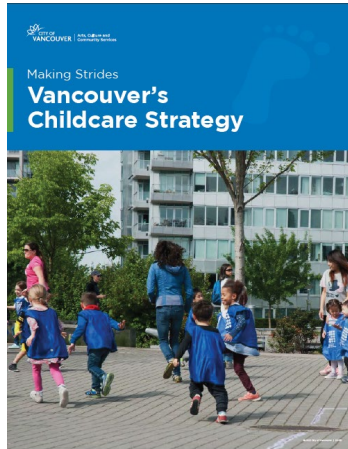
2022



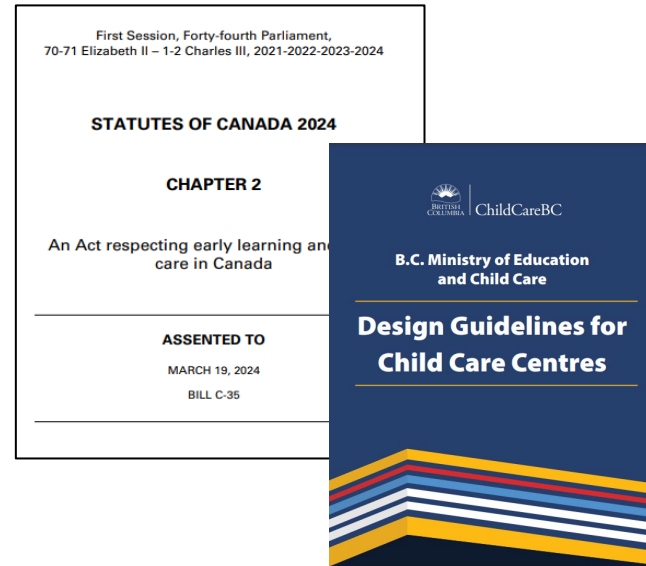
2024



- Province launched Child Care B.C. Plan for universal childcare



- City adopted Making Strides: Vancouver's Childcare Strategy



- Bill C-35 established long-term senior gov't funding commitments to building a public system
- Province of BC adopted new design guidelines for childcare

Clarified roles for CoV in childcare

- Integrate childcare into planning initiatives.
- Secure land and opportunity for childcare creation.
- Leverage senior government funding.
- Streamline regulations.
- Focus on 0-5 full-day childcare.

December 2022

- Passed Motion entitled “Harmonizing City of Vancouver and Provincial Childcare Policies and Licensing Requirements”

October 2023

- Passed Motion entitled “Enabling the Rapid Deployment of Additional Childcare Spaces Combined with Essential Worker Housing in the City of Vancouver”

November 2023

- Received report entitled “Childcare Strategy Implementation Phase 1 Update and Next Steps”
- Passed Resolutions to support the delivery of more childcare, including direction to explore options for greater flexibility in residential zones.



Vancouver's Childcare Strategy Updates

- 5 Policy Broad Directions
- 15 Key Policy Goals
- 5 Early Actions
 - 21 early action components

➔ Policy Directions



Progress Update

Over one third (35%) of all the Strategy's actions and components are **completed**.

The remainder are **in progress** (60%) or requiring additional follow up (5%)

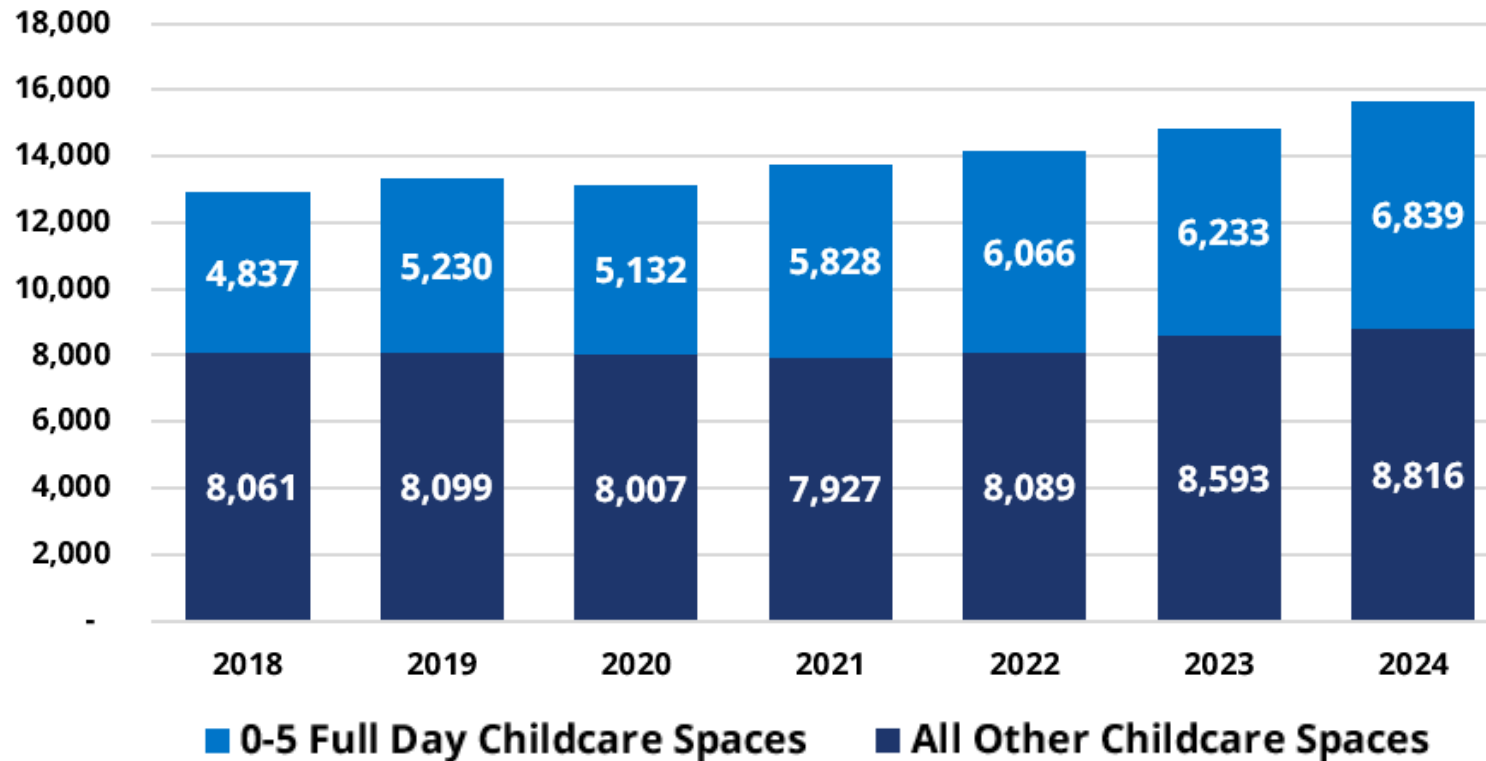
- Approximately 1/3 of all childcare spaces in Vancouver are City-facilitated*
- 3,000 new childcare spaces are currently in the development pipeline.
 - ~ 70% of these spaces are City-facilitated.
 - Anticipated that a majority will be operational within the next 3-4 years.
 - 800 spaces were partially funded by the Provincial MOU signed in 2019.

* City-facilitated refers to any childcare that the City: has an ownership stake in; has a requirement as a condition of development; or has contributed capital funds towards.



Expansion of childcare spaces since 2018 towards a universal system

All Childcare Spaces & 0-5 Full Day (FD) Spaces - Vancouver - 2018 - 2024



Total Estimated City Facilitated spaces to Open in the Next 4 Years = 988

Data Source: City of Vancouver. "ACCS-SPP- Childcare Needs Tables." Q3 - 2018-2024. Internal Documents

*This chart excludes the license types of Occasional Care and Registered License-Not-Required.

- **Target: 59%** of children have access to full-time childcare (in alignment with current senior government target rate)
 - Equates to **~14,000 full-day 0-5 spaces** available in Vancouver

Current Supply	# of spaces in the development pipeline	Estimated # of spaces needed to meet childcare target	TOTAL
6,839	3,000 Over 70% are public or non-profit	~4,100 All types of childcare will play a role in meeting demand	~14,000

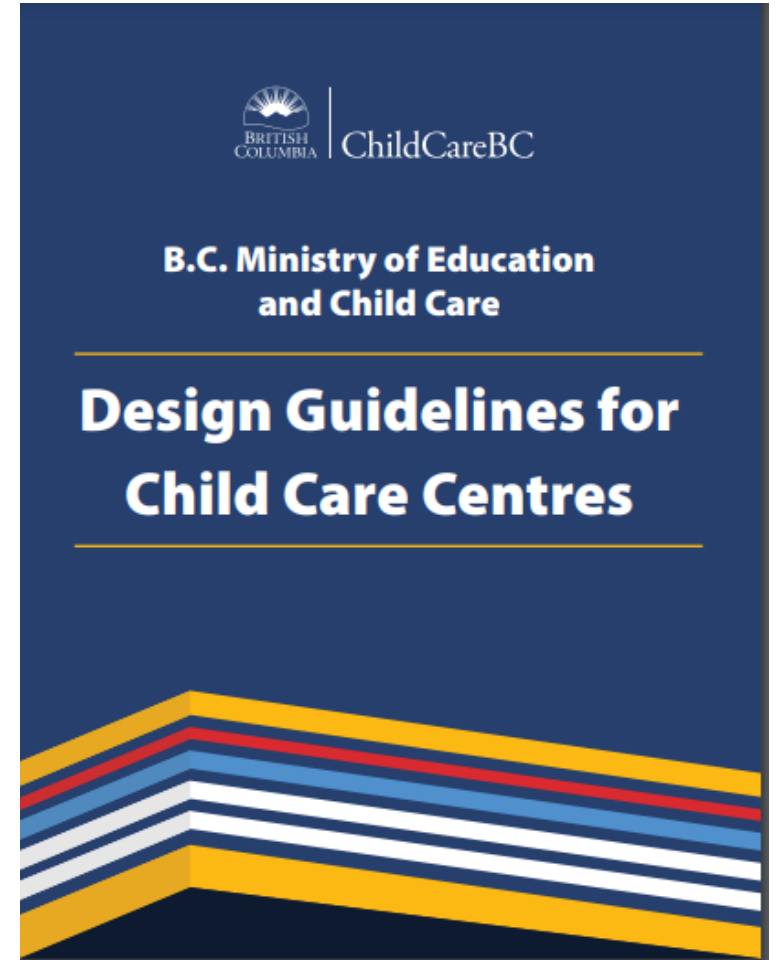
Key Take-Away: The City is on pace to close a significant portion of the gap for 0-5 spaces over the next few years, however, more opportunities must be sought to ensure momentum.



Childcare Design Guidelines



- Released August 2024.
- A tool to help municipalities, organizations, and First Nations with planning childcare facilities and improve overall quality of all childcare facilities.
- *Currently* not tied to capital funding eligibility.
- Ministry to provide additional guidance in the future.



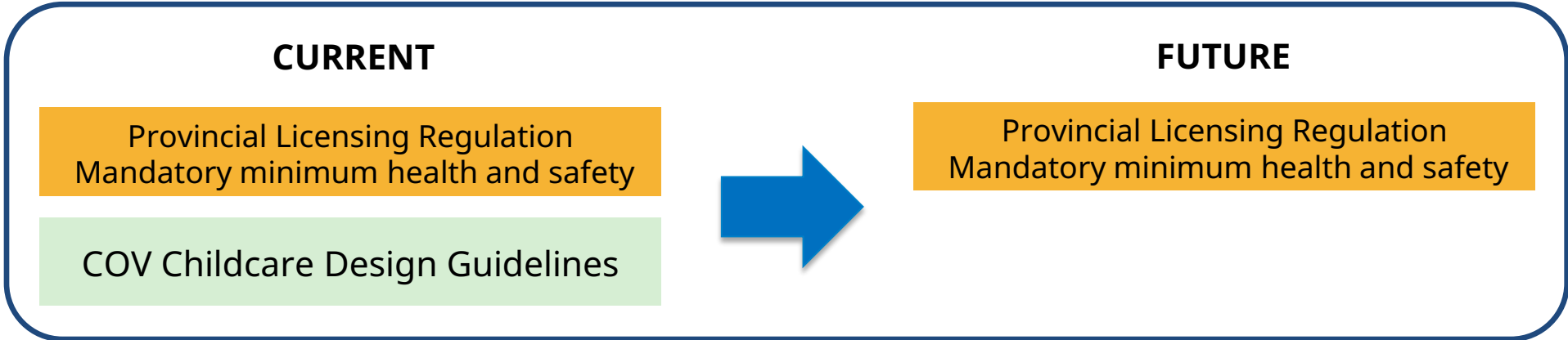
- Endorse the Province’s new Design Guidelines for Child Care Facilities (2024)
 - For new *City-owned* childcares, the new Provincial Child Care Design Guidelines will replace the CoV Childcare Design Guidelines.*
 - For new *private* childcares, the new Provincial Child Care Design Guidelines will not apply.
 - ALL childcare applications must continue to meet mandatory Provincial childcare licensing requirements.

* “in-stream” applications will be subject to CoV Childcare Design Guidelines

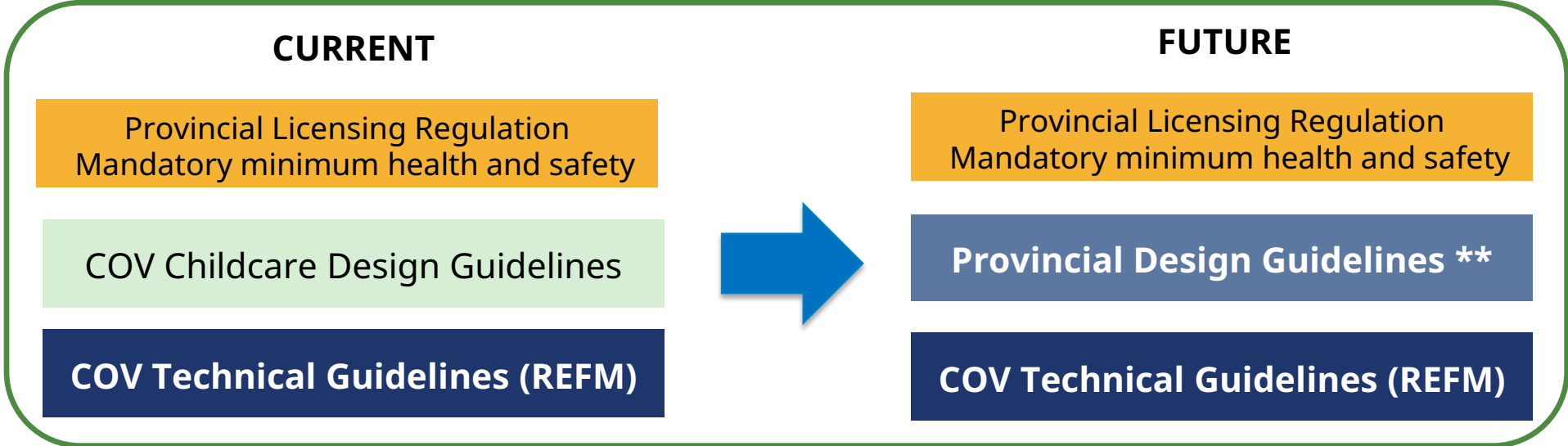


Applicable Regulations and Guidelines

Private Childcares



**City-owned /
Public Childcares**



** Application of the Province’s Guidelines may lead to reduction in overall area, and yield cost savings for construction in City projects. 14

- Overall minor differences between the Vancouver and the Provincial Child Care Design Guidelines
- Administrative simplicity
- Staff will work with applicants to ensure fairness and consistency

Area Guidelines/Requirements for Space Per Child (sqm)			
Space Type	Program Type	Provincial Design Guidelines	COV Design Guidelines
Indoor	0-3 Group Care	5.3	6.8
Indoor	3-5 Group Care	4.6	5.5
Outdoor	0-5 Group Care	14	14

Childcare in Residential Zones (responds to Council Motion)

- Analysis of options to enable more childcare in residential zones is on-going. Plan to bring recommendations to council in 2025.

Childcare City's Site Search Work (responds to Council Motion)

- On-going work to identify and secure publicly-owned sites to deliver childcare quickly using prefabricated construction
 - Aiming to address inequities (i.e. targeting historically under-served areas such as South/East Van)
 - Provincial funding application for purpose-built childcare facility in South Vancouver in process
- Currently shortlisted additional City-owned sites for further exploration.

- A. THAT Council receive the following report providing a progress update on the City’s childcare goals, including implementation of Making Strides: Vancouver’s Childcare Strategy, and on advancing Council Motions supporting childcare expansion and the harmonization of the City’s childcare policies and guidelines with those of the Province.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to apply the City’s Childcare Design Guidelines (originally approved by Council in 1993 and last amended by Council in 2021, generally as presented in Appendix A), only for any rezoning or development application received by the City prior to February 5, 2025 (the “In-Stream Applications”).

- C. THAT Council endorse application of the B.C. Ministry of Education and Child Care’s Design Guidelines for Child Care Centres (the “Provincial Child Care Design Guidelines”), dated August 2024 (generally as presented in Appendix B, and detailed in Appendix C), in replacement of the City’s Childcare Design Guidelines, to guide the design and construction of all new City-owned childcare facilities or childcare facilities otherwise preserved in the public domain by way of a condition of rezoning, development, or registered agreement (a “public childcare”);

FURTHER THAT the City, in its regulatory role, will not be requiring privately-owned, non-public childcares to follow the new Provincial Child Care Design Guidelines.



Thank you