

## Appendix: Open-ended responses by province/territory

**56** If you have any comments or additional information about the effects of COVID-19 on you or on the provision of child care generally, please include it here. The comments can be about the present or the future and about any topic – funding, staffing, and meeting the challenges of a post-COVID world.

This appendix includes all responses to question 56. All responses have been left in their original state with information that could identify respondents removed. Responses are organized by province/ territory. Note that responses in French have not been translated.

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## Newfoundland and Labrador

- 1 Concerns around safety and the availability of PPE for staff. Concern that families will avoid child care causing a financial strain on our business. We need universal child care and have been in this field for 40 +years with little changes. Time to get this right.

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- 2 Early Child Care Educators deserve the full attention of government if we want to truly see the economy begin to function again as restrictions begin to lift. Child Care Centres and Day homes cannot be asked to implement the new safety and health regulations required during the pandemic if we continue to overwork and underpay our Early Childhood Educators.

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- 3 Feel that a lot of parent will not want their child to return, but may have to therefore we will be dealing with a lot of worried frustrated parent. This may also reflect in children's and staff's behaviours, will need guidance on how to deal with some issues .

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- 4 Financially - My provincial government is funding me 70% of my income in order to provide care for essential workers so with good budgeting I won't be as financially in debt as others. As of now when allowed back to work I can operate at full capacity. If I had to operate at a lesser capacity I would be in a position where I may not be able to open up again. Professionally - I feel that this whole process of children possibly being placed with strangers was a disservice to children. Plus, not being able to actually follow my program curriculum due to health policy's in place, I just felt like an on call babysitter. I feel it could be traumatic for those sensitive children who need physical contact. However they did offer financial incentives for families to find one-on-one child care so I was impressed.

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- 5 Getting and retaining qualified staff is an issue: Staff have personal health concerns, child-care concerns affecting their ability to work. We are chronically underfunded. Assuring safety and wellbeing of children and staff is a concern. Maintaining and recruiting new clientele is a major concern.

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- 6 I am concerned about keeping staff and children safe. There are many demands on ECEs to become cleaners, public health screening (should be done by a nurse) and expectations to do the job with no PPE! It is not if COVID-19 hits a child care setting it is more about when! If children are not allowed to play outside on playground equipment at our municipal parks because it is unsafe how are groups allowed to play inside in a childcare setting. If ECEs are essential then pay them a living wage!

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- 7 I am going to be stuck when this is over trying to fill a few Spots because I have a few Kids starting school And I can not advertise.

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- 8 I am nervous about returning to normal operations and still having to "home school" my own children (who are not counted in my ratio) if school doesn't resume in Sept. I also worry about parents sending their children when they don't actually require care (i.e. for parents not working or working from home but wanting their kids at daycare anyway) and putting my family at higher risk of getting ill.

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- 9 I am very concerned about keeping children at a distance. I am one person with the children to do my daily job along with keeping things sanitized throughout the day with the children here. To be honest it is very stressful and causes anxiety. Also how do we console a child who is upset, hurt without hands on, like having the child in your arms or hugging them.....

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- 10 I cannot see how it is possible to keep my own three children safe upon reopening at this time. I am a single parent and three of my children live with me. We share the same kitchen and living space. The nap rooms are my children's bedrooms. Infants and toddlers cannot practice sneezing and coughing etiquette. Four of the six children are in diapers. It's impossible to keep a six-foot physical distance. This places myself and my own children at risk of contracting the covid virus. It's definitely not safe to reopen a family childcare setting at this time.
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- 11 I feel it will be difficult to have parents feel safe to send their children back to an environment where children play together. I think they will be very nervous. This can cause stress for me as the provider and in turn for the children as well. I want children to be happy and just play. I don't want to spend my days worrying about constantly disinfecting And sanitizing.
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- 12 I feel like family child care was forgotten about in this pandemic, we never revived information clearly and prompt, it was a very stressful 3-4 weeks wondering if the government was going to compensate us, after the fifth week I got subsidy grant which was not full pay as to what parents pay but I was greatly to receive any money. I feel family child is an important roll in society and it's a well needed device but we definitely do get recognised and out while sector was not included in talks or negotiations what so ever when covid 19 shut everything down here in Newfoundland. We could not get straight answers on anything for quit some time. And now the government is pushing for us to reopen but we cannot by no means follow guidelines and policies if we do open. Very confusing and frustrating.
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- 13 I'm mostly concerned about the health and well being of children returning in my home, I have lupus which is an auto immune disease which I'm very stressed about having infants in my home now with the threat of COVID 19, as my childcare space is in my home and not really a separate area, social distancing will be impossible. I am also concerned about even being able to have my previous children returning, I would think most parents will be now not wanting to send their children to childcare unless absolutely possible. So overall I do have great concerns about being able to open safely.
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- 14 If the government says they will pay all parent fees they need to act in a timelier manner and have all fees paid to daycare providers quickly. Also if they expect us to open they should be supplying the cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer needed. They should also understand that is very difficult to keep young children 6 feet apart. Also we as providers should be able to leave the premises to go for walks if the general population can why can't we a change of scenery is good for everyone
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- 15 In family childcare and the added policies over tacking the time of the one person working in the children's care and having the ratio space to accommodate the current children enrolled.
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- 16 My biggest challenge right now is trying g to maintain physical distancing between the children even though we have a very small amount. We now have 6 children.
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- 17 Reinforcing health policy, having to stay home when I'll (which sometimes don't happen in childcare, parents just send anyway) I feel that will cause some problems, but will need to be done for the foreseeable future. Also being able to keep up on the sanitizing being only one staff, also not being able to get hand sanitizer so the parents can use before entering your home.
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- 18 Social distancing with young children next to impossible especially in family child care. I feel government does not fully understand family child care operations and I am concerned if I will remain open in the event COVID 19 hits a second wave that could be worst than the first wave. Ultimately, family child care providers do not get to leave the workplace at closing we have to keep in mind we are inviting multiple people into our home with risks.
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- 19 Surprised with full enrolment when opening instead of a decrease of children in a family child care home.
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- 20 The current restrictions in our province with policies of operation are impossible to maintain. In order to operate, I have to follow rules that do not allow me to run my program that I have spent more then 20 years to develop. I deem these restrictions and policies damaging to the mental and emotional health of the children. I am unable to provide appropriate care to these children and maintain my personal health and that of the children in my care.
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- 21 There have been many challenges since the Covid 19 pandemic. Lack of proper info. being provided in the media. Losing clients has been a major problem. The gov. offered a program to pay only subsidy rates for all regulated spaces within the province but in order to receive such funding the provider/ licensee had to sign a contract that would in fact null and void our own pre existing contracts with our clients and put us in a position to be at increased risk of catching and spreading the virus. All the while taking a pay cut! This made parents believe they should be secured a spot without paying for it even if they hadn't been impacted negatively financially by the pandemic and those that had been impacted financially and previously needed subsidies can no longer receive subsidy as they aren't processing those applications anymore due to the fact that they included that in the agreement they sent to providers. So if you chose to not put yourself at risk and sign a contract with the gov. you were left with parents who felt they could expect you to hold a spot for their child for nothing when previously they would have NEVER expected such a thing. If you want a spot you pay for it whether it's being used or not. Government should have made it so if parents needed help with paying their child care bills THEY had to apply and receive the money and then put it towards paying to keep their spots. We as providers shouldn't have been put in the position we were put in.
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- 22 very worried about providing care in my family home to children from 6 different families- if I am even able to obtain new clients due to the virus. I am very worried that my brand new business may fail due to this.
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## Prince Edward Island

1. 1. My centre is in my home. Husband: elderly & immune compromised. I am elderly.  
2. PEI Public Health condition for re-opening during covid 19: no carpet.... Largest & main room in my centre: carpet  
3. This main room is 13 feet x 19 feet wall to wall, but only space for myself & 1 child during covid 19.  
4. Physical distancing: some preschoolers aren't toilet trained. No one to watch that children do physical distancing if I have to leave room e.g. to use washroom.  
5. Parent e.g. respiratory therapist that works at hospital could be asymptomatic or not have symptoms for 13 days.

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2. I am worried that our enrolment will be done for the coming year or maybe even years due to people being scared and I will not have a job for all my staff. Also it is hard to plan at all when no one knows how long this will last. I fear that this will affect childcare centers long term

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3. I don't think we should have to apply for the 75% wage enhancement. I think the provincial government should deal with that.

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4. My concern is about people being able to work, myself included. I have owned and operated my business for more than 30 years but I have two underlying health conditions that would put me at high risk. Should I go back to work or not? I have other team members who are the same, will they come back to work? Will parents be comfortable putting their children in group care?

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5. PEI Government has stepped up and covered parent costs, operational costs and staff wages.

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6. We are a half day junior kindergarten and Playschool centre that normally finishes for the summer mid June. We will not be reopening for this school year. We are hoping for larger numbers in September.

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7. We have been lucky in PEI our government has helped us considerably.

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8. worries for auto immune staff and children.

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## Nova Scotia

- 1 It would be very hard for my daycare children not to share toys together. Schools will reopen in September. It is unknown that how many children would be in my daycare when I reopen. Because some parents are teachers or students. They can stay home with their children.

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- 2 A lot people may have lost employment, therefore may not need childcare, which could affect daycares now and in the future, and the new strict protocols for running safe childcare could last a long time, this limiting daycares to being not abke to provide the freedom of play necessary for children to learn, and enjoy like they used to. This is concern I am receiving from my families.

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- 3 As a centre who had to relocate and was starting fresh, what happens if our business does not survive this closure? Is there going to be support for small businesses that lose their businesses due to these closures?

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- 4 Biggest thing is what restrictions will be placed on daycares. It is mission impossible to so- cial distance kid's when we are by ourselves in in-home daycares. I may have to hire some- one and that's also hard since most don't have criminal record check or child abuse check. Plus it's an extra expense to hire someone.

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- 5 Children likes hugs and kisses. I wonder if I am allowed to give them to the children. I won- der if I should wear a mask. If we do too much disinfection and sterilization, I wonder chil- dren cannot build immune system? I am asking myself and I think we need to know about this.

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- 6 Closing the daycares should have been up to the parents and care workers. A mandated closer has negatively affected the entire structure of childcare. A child's trust has been violat- ed by taking their caregivers away from them. It is going to be difficult to get that trust back.

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- 7 Concern whether lower ratios will make financial sense to reopen. The time and stress sani- tizing and keeping everyone healthy including my own family.

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- 8 Depending on the guidelines set to reopen will determine weather I open the centre or not. Social distancing is impossible at this age; it defeats all we have been taught. If masks and social distancing needs to be done I will not open.

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- 9 Depending on the health rules set out for opening I think there is going to be a lot of extra expenses along with lower enrollment numbers and perhaps less children may be allowed to attend depending on the new rules regarding ratios.

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- 10 I am definitely concerned about opening up during the COVID- 19 pandemic. The challenges with trying to make young children social distance in a home daycare setting seems very un- likely. Young children do not understand that they can not share toys with other kids or hug one another when they are upset. At my home daycare I teach them to share and be kind to one another. They will be very confused if they aren't allowed to do those things anymore. Thank you for the opportunity to fill out this survey .

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- 11 I am concerned for what the future will hold and what the new normal will look like. I certainly hope that the stakeholders (directors and ECE's) are consulted before too many things are decided or implemented.

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- 12 Depending on what regulations and safety requirements are issued to our centres from our municipality to re-open, those requirements may not be doable for most large centres i.e. (social distancing with children and lowered class ratio's). If that is the case then some staff will have to be eventually laid off (how do you choose), which we are trying to avoid. On the flip side, if we open to full capacity and regular operation in the next coming weeks, the risks would be high of the possibility of the COVID virus entering the centre and infecting children and staff resulting in a "mandatory" closure which would definitely impact operations short and long term. So we can't basically win either way! My fear is the latter - opening to soon. We also can not meet the needs of our community when only offering limited spaces for childcare, how would the decision be made as to which families to keep enrolled and which families you would have to tell they can't come back! Not Ideal! My opinion is to wait until it is safe to re-open to full regular operation, just as the schools have chosen to do.
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- 13 Finding the balance between the health and safety of the children and childcare best practice.
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- 14 Honestly I am scared to open my child care centre at this point. Would love to wait until September 2020
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- 15 I am at a loss as to how childcare can efficiently be provided under current circumstances. With young children it is almost impossible to enforce distance, keep toys and my home clean when kids are putting things in mouth, wiping noses with arms, sneezing openly... and the responsibility I have to shoulder for their health
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- 16 I am concerned about the future and having to social distance with 30 children in a room. Lower enrollment, losing staff.
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- 17 I am concerned about the number of children that I will be able to have in my class each day depending on requirements in the future. We have a large classroom, however it is not financially feasible to operate with a low number of children and be able to pay staff, rent and expenses.
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- 18 I am concerned for the well-being of the children throughout Canada in the long-run. Some have had some contact with their educators, while others absolutely no contact. There are going to be severe impacts once this is all said and done. It is our responsibility upon our return to close those gaps, but it is going to be physically and emotionally exhausting.
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- 19 I am extremely concerned about low/no attendance and that the government will not continue to help after we are allowed to reopen. Unless I can get all my children back, or fill their spaces I will likely have to close permanently without any support.
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- 20 I am extremely thankful to our government for providing funding and covering parent fees during the mandated closure. It has relieved some stress from myself and staff. I am concerned about reopening particularly if we must operate with reduced numbers and staff without the support of the funding. I am concerned about what reopening will look like, what guidance will be provided from Department of Health, how to implement changes, how the children will react, how staff will react, how to keep everyone safe.
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- 21 I am so happy Nova Scotia took the position to close centers and the government is covering our wages.
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- 22 I am very worried about what reopening will look like. The cost associated with implementing new protocols and procedures. My enrolment is already down as parents are fearful of coming back and because public schools are closed, many are opting to keep their child out until the fall. With out revenue I am not sure I can stay open. I have very real concerns about if we will survive. My preschool is 18 years old and well established in the community. Any reserve I had for an emergency has been tapped into already.
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- 23 I am worried about "styles" of caregiving with the infant / toddler and young preschool population who mostly use full day childcare now that the pre-primary program is available in most schools. I'm worried about the relationship between quality care & financial sustainability when the "normal" (pre-COVID-19) provincial grant allocations are based on minimum child: staff ratios - yet the eligibility to receive the grants include implementation of the new "Quality Matters" framework - which is based on "best practices". I am very worried about the tentative re-opening date which is fast approaching, because to date I have not received any guidelines / recommendations /restrictions/ from the Dept. to prepare myself, my staff, and our families. Personally, being over the age of 60 myself - I am somewhat anxious of catching the virus and bringing it home to my spouse who fits into the high risk category.
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- 24 I am worried daycare will open before parents jobs open and I will have no to no enrolment
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- 25 I am worried that they will open up to soon, as following distancing will be near impossible with infants/ toddlers who are used to being close and sharing with their daycare friends. I am greatly appreciative of the financial support provided for in home daycare families, and fear that if we open too soon parents will choose to not send their children, and my fear is what that will look like for my income if we are no longer being supplemented for operational costs and lost parent fees.
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- 26 I definitely do not feel that it is safe to open and put Children at risk. Little Children won't understand Social distancing.
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- 27 I do worry about the finances when re-opening, especially if we must operate at a lower capacity. This would mean less fees coming in, and still requiring the same amount of staffing to assure health regulations and standards are met. I'm curious if the government would also provide finances to make up the difference in fees lost, if we are only able to operate at lower capacity. It's also stressful having so many unknowns; for example, if we can only take a limited number of children, how do we choose who is accepted in our care? Would they still be able to come on a part time basis or would the children enrolled need to be full day/ full time care only? How many and what type of health regulations will be imposed on the centre's and will they have time to prepare all changes before resuming operations? Would operation days be reduced, to allow staff to completely disinfect and sanitize entire centre before resuming next day operations, or would staffing hours have to be extended, thus leading to more expenses?
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- 28 I don't think home care daycares or any daycare should open until there is 0 cases in the province for over a month
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- 29 I just don't know how we will be able to sustain a business without the support of the govt. and then what happens to the families who need care and we cannot accommodate? My other worry is who do we accept? Who do we put on a waiting list? We affect so many lives!!!
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- 30 I feel that re-opening at this time will put myself (I'm in the high risk health category & a single mother) and my mother (senior with health issues who also lives on the premises) at risk of exposure. If I myself were to be exposed to covid-19 and die, my child would become a ward of the state. Opening would put increased pressure on my finances if I have to close due to a case or cases of covid-19. I do not have long term insurance to support this. The cost of purchasing additional more cleaning products, after all payments are made I make less than the minimum wage and can not afford more expenses. The availability of disinfectant, the increased number of hours required to clean on a daily basis, the lack of ability to enforce social distancing measures due to the physical structure of the family day home.
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- 31 I feel very fortunate to live in Nova Scotia, where the provincial government is covering all operational costs, including my own salary as a centre director, during this crisis. I am, however, very concerned at the possibility of low future enrolment. The majority of my families have other childcare options (mostly grandparents), but choose to send their children to my Centre for socialization. I do not think that all of my children will return when my Centre reopens.
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- 32 I hope that when we reopen we will be getting the support needed. Support for extra supplies loss of revenue from lower amounts of children. Support if a child at your center become infected
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- 33 I want to put it out there that a family day home is in my house! I am not a professional centre where there is multiple staff or where I can do much aside of working with the kids. If there will be new regulations and guidelines, please keep in mind that I won't be able to change my whole home around. There is also less space than in a normal daycare centre. I will keep numbers lower for a while because I have a child on my own who has a medical condition and is high risk to catch COVID 19. Sadly, some of my parents have temporarily lost their jobs due to covid 19 so I will have to apply for the emergency response funds the end of May. I want to say thank you for all the financial help that came from the department! We were very fortunate to have such great help!
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- 34 I worry about the future of my family home "afterschool" care because I don't know how I'll enforce social distancing in a home with 8-9 school aged children. I worry about keeping them busy as we spend a lot of time on the school playground each day- worry about whether we will be allowed to use playgrounds going forward. I worry about someone getting sick and it spreading to the other children or my family. I also worry that we'll have a second wave and this will all happen again.
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- 35 I'm concerned that I will have to re-open before I feel it is safe to do so. I am also concerned that I or the children may be expected to wear a mask or maintain social distancing because that will greatly complicate things and have a negative impact on me, my family and my daycare families.
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- 36 I'm worried about re-opening and the cost related to that as well as being able to get supplies. Center's already operate on a VERY small (fixed) budget implementing smaller ratios and stricter protocols in relation to PPE will be extremely hard. Hiring an extra staff just for cleaning isn't an option for most of us small centres ... financially speaking!
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- 37 I'm very upset that the government has allowed children to drop out and cut off our payments for that child, as well as not pay us for any children that were scheduled to start during this time. for me that is a huge chunk of my income gone and I can't refill those spots while we are closed. I also think the government doesn't realize that most spaces are paid for in advance and them making us wait for payments they promised they would cover is not fair. I'm also extremely worried about bringing these children into my home. The same home where my family also lives. I'm then exposing them to it all as well. I don't have the space to keep them all apart. I also wont be able to survive on lower income by having less kids. Since I am in home care, I don't have the option of another worker to watch the kids while I do extra cleaning and sanitizing either. and there is no way children wont be sharing toys..
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- 38 I'm concerned that when we reopen the government will cut funds and my child enrolment will drop and then how do I pay staff and my bills to stay open?
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- 39 I'm nervous about taxes that are going to be attached and the lack of expenses that can be claimed while we are closed on next years return
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- 40 I'm not sure how my future of family home will play out yet
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- 41 I'm very concerned about once we are allowed to reopen. Smaller numbers and restrictions are going to affect us financially
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- 42 I've been in operation for a little under three years. I do not receive any government funding before COVID. The NS government is assisting with some operational expenses and while this is greatly appreciated it doesn't support the very little profit I need to keep my business afloat once we reopen. The lost of income could sink my business.
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- 43 Il est important de continuer de financer les Centres financièrement jusqu'à ce que la capacité soit rétablie ou du moins avoir un plan un peu plus éclairci
- 
- 44 In the case of needing PPE, funding and availability are a concern.
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- 45 Insurance will not cover covid 19 related claims. Payments covered by government are never on time to cover regular Bill's & with reimbursement to parents the original top up did nothing for us the month after when we only got the parent fees from the government. (how were we supposed to prepare? Stock buy?) How are we to socially distance children in a family home setting? With this new disease child are getting why hasn't daycare been cancelled as well till September so we can protect our children and ourselves? PPE is scarce at best; are we going to have enough? & if we are risking our lives why aren't you providing it?
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- 46 It was already challenging to stay open and have enough enrolment because of pre-primary program at the schools. With the COVID and families changed financial circumstances, not sure how many families would be able to return so it will be difficult to up and running. As I mentioned before I had 5 children attending and 2 more are registered and they were supposed to start on March 16 but that never happened because of COVID. So I lost their fee from March 16 to date. I got paid only for 5 children. I told my coordinator from [family child care agency] agency but [they are] not sure how it would work. Pls help with that matter. Thank you
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- 47 It will be more important than ever to work toward and have a Pan-Canadian early learning and child care system. So many provinces are "doing their own thing" to the detriment of continuity and consistency in this sector (which has already been piece/patchwork) with an inadequate labour force, low wages, accessibility for families, etc.
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- 48 It will certainly be a fluid situation and a new norm when it is reopening with all regulations in place. Providers therefore, must be prepared to take on the challenges for a long time to come.
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- 49 It's very difficult to view families who become like family and are essential workers have to be put out of childcare
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- 50 keeping the staff, children and families safe and healthy
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- 51 Low enrollment scares me, before covid 19 I felt secure with my enrollments now with the re opening of our province and our re opening of regulated/ licensed child care tentatively opening for June 8, over half of my parents are choosing to not return alley because of covid 19.
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- 52 mainly concerned about the safety and health of staff, children and parents when we do open up. We are currently waiting to see what the ratios of staff /children will be; what guidelines will be practised in reference to social distancing. Working with small children is will be challenging for the staff as well as confusing and stressful on the children in our care.
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- 53 Many of my families are concerned that the child care centres are opening too soon at the expense of children and ECEs
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- 54 My biggest concerns are to keep everyone safe (children and my staff), and if we are only opening up to a smaller capacity then how will funding work to keep my business open, such as a gov't top up for the children not attending, and my staffing concerns of if I don't need all my staff then do they get laid off? What about if staff refuse the work conditions or they don't have childcare for their own children who would typically be in summer camps etc., and can't have someone else looking after them. Its safety and financial support that I worry about.
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- 55 My hope is that we will be given a generous amount of time to prepare the centre for the children to return. At least a full week.
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- 56 My main concern is the health and well-being of my staff.
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- 57 My worry is gathering sufficient cleaning, sanitizing and protective equipment to ensure my Educators and staff feel safe coming to work. Cooperation from families to be honest when dropping off their children with regards to illness and not giving the child medication prior to arrival, because the "need" to go to work. Changing protocols and policies around drop off and accepting children into care, to make sure we are complying with new health regulations ( such as wash stations).
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- 58 Not sure what the future challenges and expenses will require. Still trying to catch up with decreased funds. Very appreciative of what we have received.
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- 59 Not understanding why daycares will be opening up and not schools which leaves a lot of parents without care and still unable to return to work because centres will be at less than 1/2 capacities and unable to take school age for at least 1 phase role out. We have the same types of environments and are both educators yet we will be the only ones pushed back in early. There are still more symptoms emerging in children with COVID. We are completely changing the children's environment they leave the safety and comfort of there homes and families to be thrust into a sterile none hands on affectionate environment. So why are we pushing childcare to reopen before September? Please answer this
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- 60 Our greatest concern, which results from a survey of parent needs/wants, is that most parents are unwilling to have their child(ren) return to a childcare situation. Having to maintain social distancing defeats the purpose of group childcare, i.e. socialization/interaction. Parents are stating that, if their children are not able to receive the social, intellectual and emotional curriculum that we offer, they are more comfortable placing them in a babysitting service. Previous ratios and individual space requirements do not allow for the new distancing requirements. In order to maintain safe distancing requirements, additional staff (and space) will be needed. It is not possible. It is also not possible to segregate young children. In our (family daycare), it is simply not possible to sanitize each material after every use, nor is it possible (or fair) to restrict children from playing/working together, shaking hands, hugging each other, etc. While it is understood that childcare centres are needed in order for parents to return to work, it is equally understandable that childcare centres cannot restrict freedom on movement, socialization, physical interaction, community handling of materials/toys, etc.
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- 61 Our Province is currently paying our wages so we are not to take part in any of the other programs. we also received an operation funding to help support the loss of our parent fees but it was not the full amount lost. If we didn't receive this, we would have had to look at the benefit package that helps with staff wages at 75%. Nova Scotia was one of two Provinces that paid staff who work in child care centres.
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- 62 Our provincial government has been quite supportive financially of NS child care centers. Funds are paid in arrears but better than not at all! This has been HUGE in retaining trained ECE's. Communication from EECD is extremely poor. Concerns about re-opening requirements are quite high.
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- 63 Our provincial government has shown us great respect during this
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- 64 Our staff were not laid off, and parent fees were paid. all grants also continued. Our staff are very grateful for this measure. We are worried about the future and how things will change. It is difficult to know how parents will feel when childcare reopens. I am also worried about the children and hope they are coping. Coming to childcare where staff are in masks and face shields, no hugs, no playgrounds, and social distancing doesn't sound very appealing, it sounds scary. I understand that ratios will be lower and there will be lots of extra precautions. My staff all want to get back to work, we just want it to be safe for everyone. The future is uncertain, how long we can go on will certainly be affected by our enrollment and the continued support of our provincial government.
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- 65 Please do not open our childcare until it is more than safe.
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- 66 Revise the sick plan for my day home. What will be acceptable for children attending who have cold etc.
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- 67 Safety of our children and staff. Low enrolment when we open and not able to afford to pay salaries or rent...
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- 68 Scared about what the future will look like.
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- 69 Since our province did not provide essential care some parents are stressed due to job pressures, May lose some staff, clients and unsure of costs for reopening under new unknown at this point protocols.
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- 70 Since the NS Government is covering parent fees in order to pay staff wages, I didn't think NS daycare centres would be eligible for other federal government wage funding.
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- 71 Since we were in the process of licensing and cannot open now we do not receive any funding but we have no income at all so we will go bankrupt with 6 months due by spending our loan that was supposed to cover us for the first year if we do not open soon. We are not eligible for any funding.
- 
- 72 So basically my only concern is that I will be told I am opening but my parents no longer are working because of covid. And if I am told to open and the government is no longer paying me for lost wages I will no longer be able to pay my bills. This will only happen if I am told to open too early.
- 
- 73 Some questions are hard to answer because in Nova Scotia we are receiving new grants during COVID-19. Also my child care center will be closing when we join with a new center that is opening but needs inspections before they can open and these cannot take place during daycare closures.
- 
- 74 Staff are very concerned and nervous to return to work. They feel it is impossible to social distance with young children and they are very nervous about the spread of the virus from parents and the children
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- 75 Staffing. Safety. PPE. Mental health of children and staff.
- 
- 76 The unknown right now for reopening
- 
- 77 The Provincial Government has done a wonderful job in supporting Centres through this closure. I feel the safety of my staff and families are being addressed. Communication could be a little better however I finally feel supported in my sector and able to sustain through this Pandemic.
- 
- 78 The unknown has been extremely challenging and the lack of information provided to us has been very stressful. we are finding out through news releases about closure instead of direct communication from the department. The financial support has been very much appreciated but the lack of information and the last minute has ben very tough to deal with. More detailed accurate information flowing through proper channels in a timely manner would go a long way towards alleviating stress. Currently there is so much speculation about reopening dates, new rules and what funding formulas may look like it is causes much undue stress. Direct communication from the department to the stakeholders, owners/directors is badly needed.
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- 79 There are going to be a lot Of unseen, unsourced , unknown number of challenges of a post COVID world....
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- 80 Very concerned upon scheduled opening of childcare in NS (8 June 2020) that if our space utilization is low (only 10% of parents survey would return children) that province will cease supporting staff wages and staff will need to be laid off or that (God help us) if we do have an outbreak that it will permanently taint our reputation.
- 
- 81 Very nervous on reopening. Concerned for children and educators. Our enrolment has decreased; we will have to lay educators off. What will things look like when we reopen? Where are we going to find masks, how are teachers able to do everything listed?
- 
- 82 We are concerned about how to meet our financial obligations with less children, we have not been able to secure ear thermometers for screening. We feel it would be better to prepare and serve meal and snacks on site than to have all the children bring their own. I have some staff who are fearful of returning to work. What do I do with them?
- 
- 83 We are concerned with how we might be able to make ends meet in the future if we are required to keep lower ratios. Licensed child care centres in Nova Scotia are already in a challenging position, having been required for four years now to maintain parent fee caps that are below the rate of inflation, while our costs continue to increase. We have also seen our rent increase significantly, now that the government is taxing churches that lease to child care centres, and child care centres are losing staff to Pre-Primary programs. We feel that the government is going to need to work with child care centre owners to support them through this difficult time, if we are going to be expected to re-open. Communication will be vitally important.
- 
- 84 We are very concerned about the uncertainty of what our new plan, policies and procedures will look like for children, educators, family and our community. As new developments are discovered with the virus, how fast will we be expected to adapt? Montreal's plan on your FB page today was upsetting and very concerning.
- 
- 85 we have had no contact from the NS Dept. of Education & ECD since the beginning of April about COVID-19 or the extended dates of closure
- 
- 86 We need more security in knowing once we are asked to open again that we will be supported for sometime as numbers will be greatly reduced.
- 
- 87 We were very fortunate as the government supported some of our parent fees. Our staff has continued to work throughout COVID and we had staff whose hours were not covered under the funding. We also received a grant for some of our operational costs.
- 
- 88 We will likely have to close our doors as I think our enrolments will suffer deeply.
- 
- 89 Wondering what re opening will look like, hard to keep masks on children and keep them apart at any age. Staff safety and the safety of our children in care and their families. Funding for PPE and cleaning supplies. Will government funding be reduced next year?
- 
- 90 Worried about meeting the challenges of reopening. Some staff are afraid to return to work. Caps on numbers will lead to closure. There will be no money to open, we are just barely making payroll and taxes, nothing extra for bills and debt repayment. We will need notice to prepare for reopening. Are staff that are getting paid now going to be laid off? Social distancing in space is going to be an issue. Government must tell us new methods of operations and training for anything new prior to reopening.
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## New Brunswick

- 1 1- J'espère que si nous devons ouvrir avec un petit % d'enfants que le gouvernement va nous aider pour combler le manque de salaire car nous ne pourrions pas survivre longtemps  
2- un de nos plus grands défis va être de faire respecter la distance de 2 m et le ménage étant seul dans nos maisons (garderie familiale) ça va être difficile et très prenant je demande comment je vais faire seul  
3- j'ai une très grande crainte de faire entrer le virus dans ma maison mon mari est à risque de développer une maladie dégénérative  
4- J'espère qu'ils vont nous laisser au moins 2 semaines pour pouvoir mettre en place les recommandations du gouvernement

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- 2 After essential daycares close, child to staff ratios and losing customers that are not working is our biggest concern. Trying to figure out what will happen if we lose children due to this and how we will grow our business and customer base up again.

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- 3 As an owner of a small business there wasn't anything as far as wages for us because if we had any revenue at all we couldn't qualify for wage assistance

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- 4 As primarily a preschool (only 1 paying after schooler) I will not have children until September at the earliest That is 6 months of no income even if we reopened next week as most parents had pulled their children in April.

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- 5 Biggest concern was families that lost jobs /hours but still made over 50% of income were not subsidized. Lost 1 family completely because couldn't afford to pay. Gov't paid full for spaces that lost more than 50% should have been a lower percentage. Worried about all the extra public health guidelines when they come out I'm only 1 person to do all. And how to distance children 15 months to 4 years old to keep them safe .

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- 6 Biggest concern we be keeping enough educators on to met the proper care for children while having the added stress of more cleaning requirements. We are already have a high cleaning requirement/schedule. The additional cost to for these cleaning items, and ensuring we have enough supplies.

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- 7 Bonjours, moi mon inquiétude ce situe au fait que je ne sais pas combien d'enfants je vais avoir droit si justement mon ratio d'enfants est diminué je sais pas comment je vais tenir ouvert avec la moitié moins de salaire et je n'est aucun masque ou désinfectant pour la covid et si je doit ériger des structure pour la distanciation et pour le lavage de main à l'extérieur avec qu'elle soutien financier puisque pour le moment je vie avec pas grand chose et m'assurer d'avoir la nourriture suffisante et équilibré pour les enfants donc j'ai plein d'incertitudes mais je suis prête à relever le défi si je suis bien soutenu par le gouvernement et les service de garde je veux juste être sûr que moi et ma famille soyons protégés physiquement et monetairement et que je puisse donner une sécurité aux enfants de ma garderie et à mes parents et qu'ils pourront partir travailler la tête tranquille puisque je serais bien préparé et assurerais la sécurité de toute mon monde peu être que j'oublie des choses je suis pas super pour écrire en gros c'est pour vous dire que je suis prête à ouvrir mais avec du soutien de l'aide et de bon conseil merci

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- 8 C'est certain que si nous devons réouvert nos service de garde surtout en milieu familiale, ça devrais lorsque tous sera revenu à là normal, car c'est dans notre maison! Et puis si c'est pour porter des masque se ne sera pas trop évident nous avant des bebe de un an et moins il vont avoir peur de nous avec tous ceci!

- 
- 9 Ce qui me stresse le plus est \$ que je devrais investir afin de mettre ma garderie dans les normes. Comment expliquer aux enfants de ne pas jouer trop proche. Dire à mes parents qu'ils n'ont plus le droit de rentrer.
- 
- 10 Ce virus n'aurait jamais du rentrer dans notre pays maintenant tout le monde en souffre et les petites entreprises comme la mienne risquent de s'effondrer et de continuer à payer les dettes pour des pertes qui ne sont pas de notre faute, comment vas-tu réussir à surmonter tout ça, impossible pour ma part. Tant et aussi longtemps que le vaccin ne soit pas fait on va vivre dans le stress et pour un bout et c'est pas bon d'être stressé car ça va nous rendre malade...
- 
- 11 D'un monde parfait, les clients qui n'ont pas perdu leurs emplois auraient du continuer de payer les services de garde et j'aurais plus continué de payer mes employés. Il avait des parents qui payaient et d'autres que non.
- 
- 12 Étant un service de garde dans un milieu minoritaire francophone, nous comptons plus de 300 enfants qui fréquentent notre service de garde chaque année. De plus, une liste d'attente d'environ 150 est présente. Étant en milieu minoritaire et l'une des seules garderies francophones dans la région, j'ai peur qu'en raison des mesures prises par le ministère de la Santé, ne pas être en mesure de reprendre toutes mes familles lorsque nous aurons le feu vert pour l'ouverture. Ça semble que la distanciation sociale est la clé de cette réouverture et je ne vois pas la possibilité d'accomplir cette distanciation avec autant d'enfants dans notre centre. Mais où vont aller nos francophones?
- 
- 13 Funding to replenish items for children, food, supplies, etc. would be amazing as I suffered a loss with very little income coming in.
- 
- 14 Grants -receiving what we received before. We didn't have many families on Designated funding program. If we didn't become a Essential centre we wouldn't receive as much as centres in lower income areas. Being Designated in the second tier we had to charge less to families than a centre down the road. We are a brand new centre beautiful and have to charge less. More expenses. Will be in trouble possibly depending on how all this roles out. We had applications in for grants, designed centre according to the grants and they were cut as we were completing our build and licensing... our application was accepted then being made to charge less than all centres when this centre offered everything ever taught that the Gov't wanted their centres to look like. Now not possible receiving what others do because we do not have many children on Gov't programs. Hard to take:(
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- 15 Having the staff willing to come back with the chance of still contracting the covid. Not having enough children return. The costs regarding the new protocols
- 
- 16 I am apprehensive about reopening because I believe my job is going to be much more difficult. I am the only staff member and I worry I won't be able to do my job as well because the rules for sanitizing my space will take up a lot of my time. I'm worried parents will not be understanding of new sick policies. Limited access to cleaning supplies.
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- 17 I am concerned some families will be uncomfortable with their children returning to daycare, having trouble filling spots and government funding for missing space not available because I am technically open for business.
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- 18 I am concerned that the focus of childcare will be shifted from a welcoming child centered approach to focusing more on ensuring we're doing everything possible to avoid children, families and each other from getting sick. It is my hope that educators are given the tools and resources to settle any anxiety and fear they may feel before trying to work with children so as to not impose that fear onto the children in their care. Our days should not be constantly struggling to keep children apart and going behind everyone with sanitizer- if that's the case then children should stay home until there's a vaccine, where their parents can make life feel somewhat safe and normal. They're too impressionable to understand and comply with these strict guidelines. Part of having a healthy social & emotional development is being with friends and playing- not worrying they're going to get in trouble for getting too close to someone or that they didn't wipe their nose etc. These policies would be easier complied with and understood by school aged children compared to children who are ages 1-5yrs, some children in this bracket can't even talk yet, let alone understand these guidelines. Why is it that ECE's are expected to impose these strict guidelines but teachers in the school system are not, until September? If daycares are deemed 'safe' enough to open, then school facilities should be safe as well. they even have the extra space to social distance students where as childcare centers do not. - Its hard to explain, I guess. But we shouldn't have to go to such an extreme so as to rob the innocence of children playing together in order for the economy to get back on its feet. The other concern is that Childcare is a business-and each business is unique in their budgets and expenses. some have a mortgage, while others do not, some have a lot of parent subsidized families while others do not, so if ratios are cut back to avoid large group sizes how will it be feasible (for me) to open and operate my business without generating enough revenue to do so? Childcare fees are capped with the designation process and there is no other 'way' to generate revenue to make up for lost income. its daunting and scary for such a heavy burden to be placed on an owner who's sole purpose is to keep her business afloat so her employees have a job that puts food on their tables and families have a safe place to bring their children while they go to work.
- 
- 19 I am greatly concerned for the future of my facility will my children be returning when we reopen or have they found childcare elsewhere during the shut down
- 
- 20 I am hoping there will be funding to cover the lost of income from the parents who decided to pull their children out of our daycares because of the COVID19. I am also hoping to be able to receive a grant to help pay for extra material to ensure the safety of the children and staff. ( extra cleaning products, extra material for each child to ensure social distancing, etc. )
- 
- 21 I am hoping we get funding and resources to help us open. This time, homes get as much as centers. Our children are just as important here at ELCH as the children in big centers.
- 
- 22 I am very concerned about opening I have a very small space in my home daycare and with 5 to 5 children it will be impossible to do any kind of social distancing! I think the best idea would be to cut ratio and hours we are only one person working in home daycares. Or another option would be to open up other centers just for people who need childcare and we all take shifts working in them. I am also considered for my family my son gets sick very easy and my mother has health conditions I think they are opening way to soon.
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- 23 I am very concerned with my staff not feeling comfortable working with the potential health risks. I am concerned with their being an outbreak in my centre. I am concerned because there is NO WAY we can social distance children. I am concerned with ALL the cleaning that will have to be done...I am concerned with a second wave. I am concerned if they limit group sizes because there is NO WAY I can still charge parents( and when I open I HAVE to charge all parents to make it work) and only choose a select number that can attend.
- 
- 24 I am very satisfied with our provincial government's continuing our quality improvement funding and children's fee subsidies. It is enough to keep my business above water and prepare for any added expenses that we may incur upon reopening. Thankfully New Brunswick has always made our childcare system a high priority.
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- 25 I am, personally, somewhat concerned about my own safety continuing to work in this sector (that I've committed my whole 30-year career to) as I am a kidney donor recipient and am immuno-compromised due to anti-rejection medications. That being said, I cannot imagine having any other career, nor am I ready to retire, so I suppose I'll just have to do all that I can to mitigate my risk and count on my "super hero immune system" (developed over thirty years in this sector) to do the rest :)
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- 26 I fear it will be too much on one person, social distancing, sanitizing etc. I also fear prices of things like food will go up. Being a home daycare I fear someone bringing the virus into my home!
- 
- 27 I feel that parents that do not pay their fees should be on a list so other centers will be aware of the risk. To attract and retain quality staff we need to pay the staff much more.
- 
- 28 I have clients working from home and clients were there has been loss of work. I can not charge clients for a service I am not offering. All the clients have to do is withdraw their child/ren from the program and re-register when schools open in NB. I feel the loss of my income for sure and am living very tight to make ends meet. I am definitely opening my program however am concerned the government will open all programs and my clients will not return until September 2020. I am grateful for the government paying \$2,000 per month however \$600 is taxes leaving \$1,400 per month. I have been an early childhood educator for the past 38 years and have worked extremely hard to provide highest quality of care to the families. The Covid-19 virus is stressful for everyone - especially for parents making decisions as to what to do with their children. I am a small home-based licensed program (9 children maximum) I doubt I will be able to have 9 with the social distancing rules. We are a sector that struggles to retain trained educators in larger centres. This sector is much like the special care home workers in the way we are not paid quality wages to carry out our responsibilities we have. I am grateful for the wage subsidy we receive it is not enough for the work we do everyday on the front lines. Thank you for providing this survey. With the current situation I would not be able to cover any extra cost that are related to Covid-19.
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- 29 I have many high interest loans, as I am a new business. I receive little government subsidies-certainly not enough to cover the expenses that need to be met. It is likely that my center will go bankrupt.
- 
- 30 I honestly do not like the fact we are being left in the dark about when we will be re opening and how it is going to look like and what we will have to do. It is a bit stressful and I don't like the fact I am not able to answer any of my parents when they ask we will be re opening.
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- 31 I just hope we can re-open without loss of children as we can't operate with the loss of income. Anxious to hear the protocols to follow as more cleaning means less time learning with the children which means not following the NB Curriculum Framework as part of our standards as normal and this in turn affects our license. LESS CHILDREN MEANS LESS INCOME AND BUSINESS CLOSURE!
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- 32 I operate programs within school and have not received any direction or information about their continuation within these premises. The schools would be ideal to house continuing child care as they are large physically and usually centrally located.
- 
- 33 I worry that staff ratios will be different and if that is the case, funding will be an issue. Especially considering owners do not qualify for QIFS.
- 
- 34 I would like a 2 week notice for reopening to prepare my home to ensure I'm meeting all of the proper guidelines for reopening when they come out. I have my daycare within my home space, where as some home operators have a separate space, such as the basement, in their home and are able to keep their space separate from their family dwelling. I am a little bit worried about the precautions I will have to take.
- 
- 35 I would like if there would be funding made available for each center to be able to hire an individual whose sole job would be to clean/sanitize the center. I would also appreciate if there would be an increase in who is able to get assistance, approval changes from 37,500\$ to 60,000\$ in order to assist parents in recovering financially from the crisis.
- 
- 36 I'm concerned if children and staff will have to wear masks, after much research it does not seem healthy or acceptable to wear masks. And risks more health benefits than anything. Concerned about children having children to social distance and the affects mentally that will entail on children, I feel children if we can't go back somewhat normally are going to suffer from anxiety and other issues that can easily be prevented. I'm worried about the chemicals we will be required to clean with to kill viruses and bacteria, as these cleaners also kill good bacteria. I'm worried with all the extra precautions we are seeing being taken will be harming the immune systems and eventually make us sicker with other things post covid.
- 
- 37 ici, nous trouvons déplorable le fait de recevoir les courriels d'informations pertinentes à 17h. Encore plus déplorable quand nous les recevons à 17h un vendredi soir. FRANCHEMENT!!!! Il serai de mise de les envoyé pendant la journée. Ici nous trouvons que c'est carrément un manque de loyauté envers les garderies. Sa laisse comme message que nous ne somme pas important à yeux du gouvernement donc nous sommes les derniers sur leur liste à recevoir les informations. Ensuite, ici il va nous falloir plusieurs semaines avant d'être capable de gérer chaque local, bien comprendre les règles de tout les employés et s'adapter à la situation. Le travail d'éducatrice en garderie joue en rôle clé sur le développement de l'enfant, dans cette situation il va nous falloir des années de travail acharné afin de pouvoir être en mesure de bien comblé les besoins de chaque enfants qui fréquantera nos services à la réouverture car eux en plein developpement sociaux affectif-relationnel, nous ne pourrons plus les comblés. Notre travail d'éducation bâclé à jamais nous allons devenir des gardiennes qui n'a pas le temps de se préoccuper de leur développement. TERRIBLE pour cette génération d'enfant qui s'en sortira avec des conséquences à long terme, nous en somme convaincu ici.
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- 38 If I find the health regulations to strict towards social distancing with my group I will not re-open as I find it wrong to ask children of such a young age to practice social distancing. Depending on new regulations my decision will be made. I'm very concerned about children mental health and overall social emotional development. Even if the government could help families become 1 income families so one parent could remain home with their children to maintain some level of normalcy for them.
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- 39 If we open Monday we have to open for all kids that was already coming please and thank you if you just open for certain kids we are going to close are doors
- 
- 40 I'm worried we are opening too early, I am hoping I am allowed to tell families we are only opened for parents who are working, and when they are done work to come to pick up their child. I am worried that my staff will have to wear masks and gloves which just is not going to be easy, the masks will scare our babies and toddlers. I am afraid they are going to tell me to try to keep social distancing but how do we with little children aged 1-5? I am concerned a staff or child (or myself) will catch the virus and I will be blamed due to lack of handwashing and proper cleaning (WHICH WILL NOT BE THE CASE!!) I am really scared and nervous for all of this and it is causing a lot of anxiety for me. I've already had to speak with my family doctor about my mental health.
- 
- 41 In my opinion NB face great challenge when hiring qualified staff. I feel that our work as ECE in the province is still under valued by the general public and as such the thought process remains if you are not suited for higher education then perhaps you should go into early childhood. We need to have greater standards when admitting students in child care programs and we need to do so at a higher rate by making this a more attractive profession with greater wages and training. I have seen great improvements over the last 13 years in this field and government has started to step up to the plate but I do think that NB is very far behind the rest of Canada. In regards to COVID 19 I worry about how to keep everyone safe and how to effectively run an early learning centre that provides quality care placing children as our top priority and how the new measures we will have to put into place will effect them. I also worry how if it is announce we have to operate at a reduced ratio how I will choose what families we will take into care first.
- 
- 42 It will be impossible to maintain physical distance as an in home day care provider. I am also not willing to wear a mask 24/7 that is not feasible
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- 43 J'ai peur qu'avec toutes les tâches de santé et sécurité qui nous sera imposer afin d'assurer le bien-être et la santé de tous nous devons faire des journées de 12 à 15 hrs. C'est bien désinfecter et tout nettoyer mais les garderies en milieu familiale ont déjà des journées d'environ 10 hrs par jours normalement. Et nous ne serons pas plus payer pour faire tout se nettoyage. J'espère réellement que le gouvernement va nous aider financièrement et nous donner les outils nécessaires au bon fonctionnement.
- 
- 44 Je souhaite grandement que nous serons encore eligible a l'aide pour la ménage, désinfectant puisqu'il s'agit d'une situation hors de l'ordinaire. Les tâches reliés au ménagent desinfectage sont énormes. J'espère aussi recevoir de l'aide pour la perte de revenu pour la garderie si des parents ne reviennent pas à la garderie.
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- 45 Je suis au NB et j ai bonne espoir que nous allons recommencer en septembre comme à l habitude. Présentement mes inscriptions pour septembre sont faites et mes haltes sont remplis comme à l habitude.
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- 46 La COVID-19 va beaucoup affecter notre relation avec les parents qui refusaient de payer. Des paroles très blessante ont été partagé avec nous. Les éducatrices se sentent punies d'avoir choisi une carrière qu'elle ne voudraient jamais changé. Les parents sont frustré de devoir travailler de la maison avec leurs enfants, de devoir faire l'école et être parents simultanément. Bien que ce n'est pas notre faute, ils semblent nous blâmer. Comme les parents des provinces voisines (ÎPE, NÉ) n'ont pas à défrayer d'argent pour sauver leur places, nos parents font référence à ceci et semblent vexés et ressentent beaucoup d'injustice. De plus, les garderies du NB n'ont pas tous le même pourcentage de subvention gouvernemental. Certaines garderies ont plusieurs familles qui profitent de la subvention parental qui défraie les frais de gardes et d'autre n'en n'ont presque pas. Dans notre cas, il y a seulement un enfant préscolaire sur ce programme de subvention. D'autre garderies ont beaucoup plus de subventions des fonds opérationnels car ils ont beaucoup plus d'enfants d'âge préscolaire. Dans notre situation, nous n'avons pas assez de subventions pour arriver à payer tout nos factures de ce temps de l'année. De plus, au NB, nous n'avons pas le droit de charger les parents si nous avons fait une mise à pieds. Pour cette raison, je n'avais pas le choix garder tout mon personnel et charger les parents. Ceux-ci sont furieux! Nous avons communiqué avec Revenu Canada afin de savoir si on pouvait faire une demande pour subvention salarial 75% sans répercutions si nous ajustons les prix pour bénéficier de cette subvention. Ils n'ont pu confirmer rien. Nous allons prendre une chance. Dans l'éventualité que nous n'aurions pas qualifié, la garderie fermera ses portes car nous ne pourrons jamais se rattraper car nous ne pouvons pas ajuster les frais en raison de règlements. Nous attendons avec impatience les détails à la réouverture en ce qui concerne le nombre d'enfant qui pourra fréquenter la garderie. Les parents nous ont déjà averti que nous aurions des questions à répondre si leur enfants ne serait pas choisi! Des avertissements de frustration de leur part a été fait déjà même que le tout sera hors de notre contrôle. Je suis très inquiète de ne pas avoir accès aux produits désinfectant et aux articles nécessaire à la protection de tous ainsi que les frais associés à ceux-ci qui ne sont pas dans notre budget. Dans l'éventualité d'un autre vague et d'un autre confinement, j'ai vraiment peur que nous, les garderies en générale, ne survivront pas si la province et le ministère de l'éducation ne fait un effort pour nous supporter. Que ce soit financièrement ou en ayant des politiques qui demandent aux parents de payer les frais nécessaires à notre survie....
- 
- 47 la distance social ne pourra absolument pas être respecter entres les enfants et éducatrice. Au niveaux de la désinfections dejas nous avons des travaux de surplus des taches etc. apres les fermeture en plus a devoir tout désinfecter les local jouets etc. nous allons faire des heures absurdes qui ne fera aucune sens nous avons aussi une famille après les heures de service de garde a s'occuper donc nos enfants. Plusieurs éducatrice va se fatiguer très vite coter mentalement et physique au bout de la ligne est ce sa vau la peine de continuer a ouvrir nos service de garde après la covid-19 cela est ma grande question ???
- 
- 48 La SFAQ augmentation salariale devrait être replacer pour les propriétaires en garderie...je suis une éducatrice avec mon cours en éducation à l'enfance...je travaille avec les enfants 50hrs semaines...je suis seule éducatrice à mon service de garde qui est licencié pour 15 enfants après classe...Après cette pandémie je vais me retrouvé avec beaucoup moins d'enfants je pense au alentour de 7 à 8 enfants...j'aurai besoin de cette augmentation salariale pour rester à flow et pouvoir poursuivre mes activités...même si je suis propriétaire... je suis tout de même la principale éducatrice à la garderie...je n'aurai pas de remplaçante avant un méchant bout car les éducatrices étaient déjà difficile à trouver avant cette pandémie ce sera encore pire après....le gouvernement avait besoin de nous propriétaire de garderie durant cette pandémie j'ai répondu à l'appel alors aider moi après cette pandémie
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- 49 Larger centers vs smaller Centres, urban vs rural centres .... need to be considered when Government decisions are made. Both of our centres are very rural. Big decisions /changes to fast by Provincial Government has almost wiped us out in the past. We are small but greatly dependent on by both seasonal communities and manage to stay open. Secondly, concerned financially about reopening. How much will I need to pay back? Borrow now to be in dept next 5yrs? What if I can't pay it back? Thirdly, what will reopen look like? Wearing scary masks around children? Working with them at a distance? Redirecting interactions between children? Protecting staff, so I don't get sued? Children outside most if the day? Patents not allowed in the building? Removing all cloth items? Not run at full capacity? How do I choose, who can come and who can not? I am eager to reopen but is it worth the risk, should we wait till a vaccine is found. Do we put children at risk for another potential break out ?
- 
- 50 Living in a rural area where most work here is seasonal. My center will most likely close at the end of Nov once my licence is due for renewal. How can we make seasonal daycare owners qualify for EI during winter months when there is almost no children attending?
- 
- 51 ma garderie a ouvert le 4 mai 2020 comme garderie d'urgence et pour l'instant le gouvernement du n-b repond au besoins financier de ma garderie
- 
- 52 manque d'information de la part du ministre de la petite enfance du NB on est suposer réouvrir entre le 8 et le 28 mai est le seule message reçu et on est le 7 mai et rien recu encore je suis au qc presentement et je doit retourné au nb quand il annonceront la reouvertur mais je doit faire une quarantaine et jai pas de date encore
- 
- 53 Meeting the challenges of re-opening
- 
- 54 Mesure hygiénique ainsi que la distance requis. Le plus tôt qu'on sait les nouvelles normes, mieux sera la préparation.
- 
- 55 Most educators are making more money staying at home. That's why no one wants to work. Some educators cannot work because they have health issues and or have a family at high-risk. In my opinion, it's to soon to open all daycares. Maybe asking who is willing to open, giving them the option just to see how many will. You might be surprised. Plus, it might be very costly to open all daycares and taking away those that where there and took a chance helping you from the beginning. I'm the only one working in this center, and because I own it: I cannot receive the top up that all other educators are receiving. I never did get a reason... Why can't owners get it? Daycares were told to put the daycare under there husband's names so that they can receive the top-up. That's just wrong. Just because someone abused the system at one point or another doesn't mean I did. Parents with children 5 and up are lost, not knowing whom to call anymore to help to pay daycare fees. They're getting the runaround. I tried helping them but I'm also getting the run-around. In my opinion, if they're working taking a chance on their health they should automatically get help no matter what. 1 Example: I take care of a nurse's children a 6 and 8 yr. old and she has to pay out of her pocket because she makes to much money, they said. I'm only charging her the days that they come because she cannot keep up... ETC. Thank you for the money I have already received, it's greatly appreciated, I am afraid to use it because I'm going to have so much taxes to pay at the end of 2020 that I'm afraid I will lose everything. If I do get sick with Covid-19 are you still going to help me? Thank you so much for your help [names], and all others for your hard work it's greatly appreciated.
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- 
- 56 My fear is of a second wave and ELC and ELC Homes will have to close again. If this is the case I will close my business for good.
- 
- 57 No information for centers
- 
- 58 Notre centre avais deja des difficulter financier relier au ratio enfant educateur ainsi qu'au nombreuse normes etablie par la province. Il est difficile de concevoir que sa sera mieux apres la covid-19 vue tous les changement que la province envisage de faire. Ainsi que les prets qui ont ete fait pour avoir un fond de roulement lors de notre reouverture.
- 
- 59 Nous devrions avoir droit au PCU, car le montant que nous recevons pour nos places en garderie couvrent les frais d'inactivité. Le PCU nous aiderait à faire vivre notre famille et maison privée et les frais payés de garderie nous aiderait à faire survivre notre milieu et prévoir une meilleur réouverture, au moment opportun.
- 
- 60 Nous recevons très peu d'informations et le délai entre ce qui est promis d'être fait et l'attente est très longue.
- 
- 61 Nous sommes inquiets de ne pas avpir le temps de se préparer à la réouverture ou de ne pas avoir assez d'inscription pour couvrir les salaires.
- 
- 62 On se demande si le gouvernement va nous aider a defrayer le salaire des éducateurs si on est obliger de faire la distancion social au enfant c a dire sil on ne peut pas avoir le plein ratio... Aussi est ce quil va nous aider financièrement pour le désinfection les masque ect....  
Merci
- 
- 63 Once daycares reopen, I am very concerned regarding our finances. Without our normal number of children and income, I'm concerned we will fall behind financially. I'm also concerned about how my parents will respond/ react when our daycare opens but not everyone is allowed to return at the beginning. When this all began and we were mandated to close, it was suggested by the government to continue to charge our parent's their daycare fee. This however was received poorly, to say the least. Many parents were angry with me. Some chose to take it social media, some parents sent me angry Facebook messages and I even received an upsetting phone call. As a result, I made the decision not to charge parents and not receive any income. I am very concerned about dealing with these similar behaviors when we are allowed to reopen. Feeling very stressed.
- 
- 64 One of my issues is that because school is cancelled for the remainder of this year I can't offer care to all the families involved. This is because I usually have preschoolers during the day (8:30-3) followed by after schoolers later (3 - 5PM) Because the after schoolers are now off during the day I can't have both preschoolers and after schoolers at the same time due to number restrictions. Note that on PDD/storm days during a regular school year, afterschool parents take the time off or grandparents fill in but with Covid - this is not necessarily going to be possible from now on because parents may not have any time left to take off and alternatively may not want to expose grandparents to Covid. My numbers can change so.... I will have to say no to some parents between now and June and again if we have more closures due to a rise in Covid in the future.
- 
- 65 Our center has concern around staffing and bringing staff back who have not worked during this time. Having to hire additional staff to cover due to the new Ratio requirements. We have concerns about lower registration numbers due to parent situation. and having to alter our programming due to the new distancing and regulations.
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- 66 Our concerns are mostly about reopening- financially if group sizes are to be smaller staff-ing will be too costly, we haven't received guidelines yet but our province is telling people daycares will be reopening soon- how do we social distance- our staff And children are as important as anyone else and we can't follow business guidelines - there is a lot of sneezing and bodily fluids moved around an early learning centre - parents tend to show up with sick kids and not tell anyone- how can early learning centres safely open but schools can not - if it comes to a point where we can't hug children or properly care for their emotional health we WILL NOT reopen - proper care of a child involves nurturing
- 
- 67 Parent fees should have been covered by government, or at least staff wages. Many cen-ters will not reopen, early education is still not recognized as a profession in an emergency situation.
- 
- 68 Pendant la pandémie, deux famille ont retirés leurs enfants de mon milieu familiale et tant que je ne peux pas réouvrir, il s'agit de 330\$ de moins de revenu par semaine. Ça para-ir sur un budget, ma maison doit continuer à se payer même si ma garderie ne peut pas opérer...:-(
- 
- 69 Personnelement je trouve que de réouvrir les services de garde familiale dans notre demeure est nous mettre encore plus a risque ... nous avons seulement le droit de voir une unité familiale mets nous allons réouvrir et cela dans notre maison en laissant entrer 7 a 8 famille dans notre demeure ses mettre nos enfants notre famille en danger ..nous ne somme pas équiper comme une grosse garderie centre qui eux ont plus de possibilité ,, nous familiale dans notre maison ses comme ouvrir la porte au virus en grand . je trouve sa trop taux , et faut etre réaliste la distanciation social avec des enfants en bas ses irréaliste .
- 
- 70 Présentement, étant un service essentiel, je reçois de l'aide financière du gouvernement. Sans cette aide, il me serait impossible d'opérer à si faible niveau d'inscription d'enfants et d'avoir à payer plus de personnel. Comment la situation va-t-elle évoluée ? Personne ne le sait, mais je crois très sincèrement que le gouvernement va devoir aider les services de garde, même après la ré-ouverture des garderies car financièrement, la situation était déjà précaire avant cette pandémie, alors suite à la COVID-19, rester à flot ou pire encore, se sortir la tête de l'eau va être très difficile pour les garderies. Les pertes encourues sont là aussi. Il ne nous est pas possible de rentrer de nouveaux enfants et ceux que nous avons présentement, les parents ne voudront peut-être pas les apporter tout de suite à la garderie par prévention. Cette partie me dérange car je ne trouve pas correct de devoir charger aux parents qui choisissent de garder leur enfant à la maison, mais d'un autre côté, ce montant est nécessaire à la survie de mon entreprise. L'idéal serait que le gouvernement paie les frais de garderie des enfants présents AVANT la COVID-19, ce qui permettrait aux garderies de souffler un peu ainsi que les parents qui n'auraient pas à défrayer les frais de garderie pour des services qu'ils n'utilisent pas. Eux aussi ont été affecté par la COVID-19 et il est très important de les considérer dans l'équation !
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- 71 Si tout le personnel ne revient pas ou si tous les enfants inscrits ne reviennent pas , cela sera un très grand défi de réorganiser la garderie, et sera trop difficile financièrement car la Garderie est déjà en difficulté. Un autre défi et inquiétude est que le propriétaire et la direc-trice, qui tous deux ont un poste d'éducateur et d'éducatrice, ont plus de 60 ans et ont une santé qui serait à risque avec la covid-19.
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- 72 Social distancing will be hard to achieve in a childcare setting.
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- 73 Staff refusing to come back to work the hours due to high risk, making good money at home. Not having to return INSURANCE COVERAGE NS [name] insurance company RIGID does not cover pandemic where we are in a pandemic no cases or deaths will be covered if I was sued. Low enrollment I can't cover the overhead costs with those numbers Meeting the challenges is a little difficult I think I got that.
- 
- 74 staff to child ratio if these are reduced, we may have staffing problems or we might have enough staff because of not enough children coming back, this will upset our operational costs in the after school problem and the pre-school four-year-old group. We will have less children in a group which means less money and the employee costs is still going to be the same as before. We will have to increase our fees to make up for this but are worried about losing more customers. This will be our biggest concern.
- 
- 75 Staffing- what if they do not want to come back, what if they get sick, will I be expected to pay them more to work during a pandemic, if staff/child ratio is lower how will I afford that Financial restart payroll New Health policies What will be reopening look like, scary masks in from of children, working at a distance, redirecting children apart from friends they have not seen, screening daily, what if staff contract it, can I be sued? Non entry to parents? Is it best to wait for a vaccine? Over crowing of new registrations for families whose kids are no longer at school and now need care? Or perhaps not enough enrollments, parents now working from home can save money keeping their child at home, perhaps others are too concerned about sending their child and no longer wish to send to daycare.
- 
- 76 The biggest problem for our non-profit will be the duration of the crisis. The restrictions that prevent us from returning to our normal fundraising. Also many parents have made other arrangements for childcare and do not feel comfortable having their child in daycare during the crisis so there for numbers will be low in an already bloated business.
- 
- 77 The challenges to face are finding the supplies needed to follow the new health guild lines. I can't find them now for just my family.
- 
- 78 The funding I still receive here is through the indigenous band to cover 2 of the 15 children only.
- 
- 79 The government is paying full daycare fees for those who have lost 50% of their income, however they are not looking at it in a case by case basis. Some families are better off right now collecting CERB and having their daycare fees paid, while others are still working and have a 49% income loss and don't qualify to have there childcare paid and therefore give there notice and we lose a client and payment.
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- 80 This is about all the emergency funding offered by the government - am afraid that we will have to repay all this help and that would, without a doubt, be very hard on a daycare trying very hard to stay afloat.
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- 81 Très compliqué pour le retour, pour la distanciation, le nombres d'enfants (qui choisir) comment dire aux parents que leurs enfants ne peuvent pas venir mais ils doivent payer quand même car il va falloir payer les employé(e)s. Toujours la peur de la transmission du virus etc...
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- 82 Truly we are very worried about the effects of how the cleaning and extra staffing needed for this to be accomplished and the effects on the children not being able to do certain things, the loss of children over the public's fear, also the stigma of possibly shut down over a case happening in the Center.
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- 83 Very concerned that revenue will be reduced as ratios are lowered and government funding will decrease with that as well now putting us in a financially difficult position.
- 
- 84 We are losing staff and enrollment of families.
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- 85 We are most concerned about re entry. how to balance and maintain child/staff ratio, groups, payments, etc.
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- 86 We feel the government has helped our industry greatly, and we will be very great full to receive the benefits we applied for. Our biggest concern is what new rules will be implemented to reduce our ability to stay open.
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- 87 We had to close due to Covid 19 in March. Our facility is in a church, so there fore will not have enough time left in this year to reopen. As Operator/owner I have not collected fees for the children since we left in March and presently have laid off my employee until such time we can effectively run our playschool safely with all restrictions in place to do so. Our return depends also on the opening of the Church, as they will not open their doors to us until a time when they open their doors when mandated by the govt. Our future looks bright for Sept, however by the time we prepare and get ready for the remainder of this season, we will be at our annual closing date and our contract will be ended with the facility in which we operate until Sept. when we begin a new year. There are still questions to be answered, too, like how big will be our classes or ratios be for Sept. will they
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- 88 We should be able to get tax breaks since we usually claim our home bills as part of day-care expenses and are still paying insurance fees for daycare but not using daycare.
- 
- 89 What will ratio look like? Will staff and or children have to wear a face mask? What will exclusion look like? When first opened, will it be for essential parents first only? How will I get staff to come back during this pandemic? Will there be financial aid for parents who lost their job but have to pay childcare to hold their spot?
- 
- 90 When we re-open it shouldn't be limited to certain parents, and all parents should have the right to attend, we didn't take all the options for loans because with all the repayment we wouldn't be able to put of it. We would have to close the center with all the re-payment .
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- 91 With the expectation of daycare returning soon and children home schooling I am concerned about the stress load on top of all the new regulations we will have. I certainly hope that the early childhood sector will not be responsible for this.
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## Quebec

- 1 La gestion de cette crise et des problemematiques financières que nous rencontrons semble être de l'improvisation. A 5j de la réouverture nous n'avons pas le plan de financement du ministère de la famille pour nous dédommager des places qui ne seraient pas comblées. Le fonctionnement de mon service de garde de manière sécuritaire est liée à ma possibilité de payer les salaires et mes factures. Actuellement l'équation concerne trop d'inconnues pour pouvoir délibérer.

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- 2 aide a maintenir les exigences en matière de santé public

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- 3 all child daycare centers have qualified educators. we, the private sector is forgotten. Why? i would like to have my daycare subsidized. We have great educators who love their job and go above and beyond. Please think of us. Thank you

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- 4 As a highly trained child educator, it is unthinkable to distance children from each other and for teachers to keep their distance as well! Children need closeness, each other and comfort to grow and learn. We are with these children more than their parents are with them! They will grow up even more isolated as humans than our current generation! I do not believe we should open under these circumstances.

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- 5 au niveau du financement, le Ministère de la Famille nous verse la subvention qui était prévue; nous n'avons donc pas pour l'instant, de difficulté financière.

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- 6 Au Québec une éducatrice en milieu familiale gagne 12.46\$ de l'heure pour 50 heure semaine c' est insuffisant!

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- 7 Au Québec, le Ministère de la famille a maintenue l'intégralité de nos subvention de fonctionnement. Donc aucune perte d'emploi au CPE et aucune perte de salaire. Nous avons juste un manque à gagner de la part de la contribution parentale. Le Ministère donnera 5,75\$ par jour, par place occupée (avant covid) au lieu de 8,35\$

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- 8 Aucun commentaire

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- 9 aucun recommandation

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- 10 augmentation des heures de travail pour désinfecter à la fermeture, augmentation des dépenses car augmentation du coût de l'épicerie, augmentation des frais de produits nettoyants en plus de la pénurie problème d'approvisionnement et recevoir l'équipement masque gant, lunette rien reçu et si cas déclaré dans mon service de garde fermeture pour confinement et si je l'attrape durant le confinement je ne serai pas dédommagé durant mon temps de convalescence donc perte de salaire durant plusieurs jours

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- 11 Avec 5,95\$/ enfant, je ne peux même pas payer mon loyer

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- 12 Beaucoup d'heure à faire dans un milieu familial pour un salaire peut reconnaissable. Nous sommes s'y importante pour l'avenir de ses petits amours nous devons rester positive pour leur offrir un milieu harmonieux mais avec tous cette négativité peut reconnaissable il est difficile de rester positive.

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- 13 Beaucoup de stress angoisse et pleins de questions sans réponses du ministère .... Ça entre au compte gouttes ... on nous donne une date de preparAtion à l'ouverture de 2 semaines mais 4 jours avant cette date rien est sortie au complet en réponse attendu

- 
- 14 Beaucoup plus de travail de désinfection. Moins de temps en famille causé par le surplus de travail.
- 
- 15 Bonjour j'avais juste une amie jusqu'au 11 mai a partir de là j'aurais 3 amies c'est surtout le stress et et tout les mesures qu'on a prendre ne pas oublier que nous sommes dans nos maison donc nous avons plus d'endroit où on se sent en sécurité comme les infirmières quand il reviennent chez elle elle sont en sécurité dans leur maison
- 
- 16 c est inquietant d ouvrir a cause du grand risque de contamination. meme avec toutes les précautions a prendre.
- 
- 17 C'est certain qu'on est payé au salaire minimum et que nous avons beaucoup de nouvelles tâches obligatoire.
- 
- 18 Ce que le ministère donne aux garderies privées en installation non subventionnées est ridicule et nous ne pourrons survivre dans ces conditions. De plus ceux qui ont des loyers commerciaux ont des subventions spéciales mais les autres, aucunes pour leurs prêts immobiliers
- 
- 19 Ce sont les prochains mois qui seront difficile. Nos revenus seront beaucoup plus bas pour un moment et nos depenses plus hautes. Le defi des RH sera grand , surtout pour maintenir et réembaucher le personnel
- 
- 20 comme garderie privée on a besoin beaucoup de l aide du gouvernement
- 
- 21 Comme je suis gestionnaire d'une garderie privée non subventionnée ( 100% privée ) Je suis très reconnaissant de toute l'aide du gouvernement fédéral pour les salaires , le loyer et le compte d'urgence , sans ses aides ma petite garderie n'existerait plus et 33 enfant ainsi que leurs merveilleuses éducatrices ( permis de 34 enfants ) se retrouveront du jour au lendemain sans milieu de vie pour les accueillir . Nous sommes des milieux éducatifs , compétant, les moins coûteux au gouvernement du Québec et efficaces et sommes très appréciés par nos client malheureusement nous sommes considérés comme les moutons noirs au Québec ...Hélas
- 
- 22 concerned about having staff coming back to work and not having enough work / hours to sustain everybody's needs
- 
- 23 Currently subsidies are being received. However we are penalized on subsidies for next year for cancellation of contracts this year. We will fall into a cash flow problem because hopefully covid will be behind us and we will be running at full staff but only 1/2 the subsidies. We do not have enough cash flow to keep business afloat. Subsidies have been cut every year since the last 5 years. Daycares are already having a hard time providing good service. I fear children will now be at risk because directors will have to cut. I am a director doing all jobs to step in for ABSENCES. additionally, educators are very difficult to find. most directors fear this will throw them over the top to leave the industry altogether.
- 
- 24 De ne pouvoir répondre à la demande des parents qui n'auront plus de services de garde régis ou non
- 
- 25 Défis de dotation Tout dépendant de l'évolution des cas, défis que notre équipe se sente en sécurité au travail.
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- 26 Depuis 26 ans j'opère un service de garde en milieu familiale, j'ai un horaire de 50 heures Semaine et les responsabilités ne cessent augmenter. nous sommes indispensables pour les parents et respecter. Je crois qu'il serait normal d'avoir un salaire respectable selon notre très grande. Responsabilité et notre très lourde horaire et j'en passe.
- 
- 27 depuis le 15 mars aucun cheque n'a été encaisser , notre revenu est d'une perte de 100/, nous sommes une garderie privé non subventionnes . j'ai un gros loyer a payer et beaucoup de charge en parallèle , si ca continue comme ca , c'est la faillite pour mon entreprise. cette garderie représente toute une vie pour moi , c'est le gain de pain de toute une famille . surtout que je travaille dur et j'ai un cancer et le stress n'est vraiment pas bien pour moi . je garde espoir tant qu'il Ya une lueur de lumière . combien de famille vont perdre des places ?
- 
- 28 difficile de prévoir l'avenir à court terme du centre (6 prochain mois)
- 
- 29 Difficultés prévisibles : congé de maladie de membres du personnel lié au stress. L'ajustement et la peur en lien avec la proximité a long terme avec les enfants.
- 
- 30 Distanciation sociale impossible avec les enfants, désinfection trop importante durant la journée, trop de risque de contamination pour nous les RSE et coûts élevés pour matériels de désinfection et protection.
- 
- 31 Due to some of the classroom's square footage, physical distancing will be impossible to maintain with one teacher and 8 children. there is already a lack of space given all the activities it offers. No opportunity to enlargen our space. The daycare is not a government subsidized center. We rely on operating at 90% capacity. Parents are telling me they will be working from home until this pandemic is straightened out. I don't believe the Ministry will be able to supply all the PPE we need. There is a shortage in our hospitals and seniors homes. Young children need the hugs and kisses we are used to giving. Educators won't be able to do that now. Some children need more support leaving their parent after arriving. Parents won't be able to enter the daycare and can't support their childs's emotional needs. Playground Equipment can't be used nor playdough, sand, sensory bins, etc. Why even bother reopening the daycares now. The children won't be getting the emotional, social and nurturing they were used to. They will be limited to what they will have to play with. We will be facing many challenges but I can't add to the list since we have not started back yet. Another survey should be sent once we have experienced a few weeks of working with the families. Being in this business for the past 38 years, I have experienced many challenges. This tops the list!!!
- 
- 32 En cas de réouverture forcé e la difficulté de mettre en place les mesures pouvant assurer à 100 % la santé et la sécurité des enfants des parents , du personnel éducatif ( 50% refusent de retourner ) et du gestionnaire et de leurs familles .Risque très élevé vu les conditions internes ( milieu de garde) et externes compte tenu de l'éclosion massive des cas de covid-19 dans notre arrondissements. A très haut risque .
- 
- 33 En ce moment nous avons le financement pour payer les employés. Mais quelles seront les répercussions de notre financement à plus long terme en fonction de notre taux d'occupation réelle et le pourcentage des heures travaillées par les employés. Les règles budgétaires sont à venir...
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- 34 En général les services de garde privés sont dans une situation critique durant cette pandémie. Et si on doit reprendre à travailler à 30% de notre capacité avec des mesures pour assurer la santé et la sécurité des enfants et tout le personnel ça sera une mission impossible sans l'aide de gouvernement.
- 
- 35 Étant donné que notre service de garde est privé mais subventionné, on s'est senti rassuré au niveau de tout l'aide que nous avons reçu.
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- 36 Étant une garderie privée non subventionnée notre situation n'est pas à son meilleur et malheureusement bien malgré nous. Nous nous soumettons à toutes les règles établies par le gouvernement sans toutefois recevoir les mêmes traitements que les CPE et les garderies subventionnées. Malgré le fait que nous faisons un excellent travail, que notre garderie soit complète, que les parents soient satisfaits de notre milieu.... l'écart entre les deux réalités n'est pas juste et voilà pourquoi il faut toujours travailler plus fort les garderies non subventionnées.
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- 37 finding educators to replace vulnerable employees or employees over 60
- 
- 38 Garderie Privée en installation: On doit ouvrir à 30%/50/75% puis 100% de notre capacité pourtant on doit faire travailler tout le personnel, les parents n'ont pas obligés de payer les frais de garde si'il ne se présentent pas, le propriétaire ne semble pas avoir absorber 25% et donc il veut 100%, le personnel, les éducatrices sont moins intéressées à travailler vu la PCU de 2000\$ donc il faut verser un salaire plus intéressant et enfin le provincial nous propose 5.95\$/jour/nb d'enfant qui ne couvre même pas mes frais de loyer!
- 
- 39 Garderie privée sous permis du gouvernement provincial. Pas de subvention mais gérer de la même façon que les services subventionnés. Il est impossible de survivre financièrement sans aide égale aux autres milieux. De plus, jw auis propriétaire donc l'aide au loyé n'est pas une option.
- 
- 40 Grande inquiétude sur le rapport financier 2020-2021 et les sommes qui seront récupérées et qui mettrons en péril la pérennité et les hauts standards de la qualité éducative du réseau des centres de la petite enfance.
- 
- 41 how to plan for september or how to plan based on being full capacity
- 
- 42 I am concerned about opening the daycare with a minimal number of children and not being able to make ends meet, salaries and fixed costs. I am also concerned about running a daycare with all these rules about social distancing . It is not possible to work with preschool children this way . They are young and need care, love and attention. At the same time, we have to protect ourselves and our children. There's a lot of discrepancy and the government is asking us for the impossible.
- 
- 43 I believe that all childcare centres in Quebec should be subsidized by the government because we are all tax payers (parents, teachers and business owners alike) and when situations like these arise the government closes the non subsidized centres and sends the children who frequent these centres to CPE's or subsidized daycares and the risk to everyone's health is higher. Thank you,
- 
- 44 I have called all my parents, not only are they not bringing their kids , they are also not paying to keep their spot
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- 45 I think it's insane to reopen, how do you keep babies apart , need to hold,change feed etc. That is going to be a nightmare keeping children apart. I'll be more stressed by the end of the day, and so will the children. I fear for their health and mine.
- 
- 46 Il est inévitable que nous devons assumer des coûts supplémentaires pour répondre aux exigences en matière de désinfection. Il est impossible que le personnel de garde puissent faire ces tâches pendant leurs prestations de travail. d'ailleurs dès le 11 mai nous avons fait l'embauche d'un personne supplémentaire dans chacune de nos installation. Ces personnes sont à l'accueil des enfants, font la désinfection des locaux (poignées de portes et autres aux 2-3 heures) , désinfecte les jouets à l'intérieur (3 fois par jour) et à l'extérieur(2 fois par jour).
- 
- 47 Il faudrait un financement pour engager des employés pour nous aider a respecter les nouvelles mesures de sante et sécurité au travail de la CNESST, dans le cadre de la COVID-19. Nous sommes une petite organisation, un service de garde de 29 places au permis, dans une petite communauté du Nord-du-Quebec. Nous avons déjà des difficultés financières. La COVID-19 va mettre une pression économique immense sur le CPE.
- 
- 48 Il y a encore beaucoup de zones grises concernant l'ensemble des mesures prises par le gouvernement du Québec, que ce soit d'ordre financier ou autres, car c'est du jamais vu. Tout cela crée un climat de travail difficile pour l'ensemble du personnel et beaucoup d'incertitude à tous les niveaux!! Soyons résilients!!
- 
- 49 Importance de reconnaitre le travail et l'expertise du personnel éducateur mais les mesures d'allégement des exigences va à l'encontre de la reconnaissance.
- 
- 50 Impossible de respecter la distanciation physique avec les enfants
- 
- 51 It will be hard to survive going forward not all parents will bring there children an we run our Center at full capacity in order to break even as we are In start up phase. In addition the rent program for the owners do the buildings is not helping. The owners are not willing to give up %25 rent. So this program is not making sense and putting more pressure on us already in a troubling time. If this continues and we get no support we cannot survive. We have two locations and employ over 15 people and our suppliers. Everyone will lose in this situation.
- 
- 52 it's unfair that private daycare were treated differently than CPE. The MFA use the private daycare to their advantage but do not support them
- 
- 53 J'ai eu des pertes de revenu et du stress en plus du travailles en lien a la reouverture et des frais enormes mise en place de tout cses changement
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- 54 J'ai observée depuis le début de la crise une augmentation considérable du panier d'épicerie mais encore des masques-gants-,produits désinfectant de plus, la crise m'a forcé a complètement repenser mon service afin d'offrir un service sécuritaire et sA a entraîné des coûts élevé pour l'achat de thermomètre infrarouge- de bac de rangement afin que les effets des enfants ne se touche pas d'achat de jouets leur permettant de jouer a distance des autres tout en socialisant etc...
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- 55 J'ai un enfant à la maison avec un handicap il est autant a risque que les personnes de 70 ans et plus, je peut pas réouvrir je fait quoi,plus travail plus d'argent? Le gouvernement doit faire de quoi!!
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- 56 J'aimerais devenir une installation subventionnée
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- 57 J'ai peur que que je n'aurais pas compléter mon ration de 6 enfants Après le 1 septembre 2020 et que je ne serais pas payées...Pour combler mes places
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- 58 J'ai resté ouverte pour les parents essentiels et aucunes primes pour nous?? Je fais déjà 50 h semaines, avec tout les ajouts de tâches?? Outch!! Je sais pas si je vais avoir l'énergie de continuer encore longtemps!? Je suis asthmatique donc à risque de complications et obligée de travailler!
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- 59 Je crois qu'il serait temps pour le gouvernement de financer toutes les garderies de façon égale. De reconnaître le travail de tous. D'être équitable pour le personnel et les parents utilisateurs. Droits égaux pour tous!
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- 60 Je crois que si le gouvernement subventionne toutes les garderies le réseau de l'éducation ira beaucoup mieux. Les parents auront le choix et les garderie devront ce surpasser. Ainsi les milieux de garde mal intentionné fermeront leur porte.
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- 61 Je ne sais pas si la garderie va réussir à se sortir de la.crise. nous n avons pas de subvention adéquate pour combler les désinscription à et les pertes de revenus. Et pour répondre aux critères baisses de ratio et ajout de personnels pour la desinfection
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- 62 Je regrette que le Ministère de la famille provinciale ne se préoccupe pas des garderies privées non subventionnées. Le stress lié au financement me cause des problèmes de santé. J'ai bien peur de faire faillite et je ne sais pas comment éviter ce désastre sans sévèrement m'endetter. Je crains le pire et je vis de la détresse.
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- 63 je se que le gouvernement fait de son mieux mais il faut faire plus comme convertir le réseau des garderie privées en subventionnées pour avoir une même service et pouvoir offrir a nos éducatrices des salaires respectables dans le cas de ma garderie avec 35\$par jour avec un permis de 25 enfants...avec des obligations de ratio par éducatrice et de la main d'ouvre qualifie sincèrement je n'arrive pas offrir un salaire respectueuse et moi je fais de mon mieux ...les éducatrices et parents pourrons vous dire.
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- 64 Je suis en région mon installation a réouvert lundi le 11 mai, j'ai que 8 enfants. Je suis inquiète pour la santé financière de ma garderie.
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- 65 Je suis incertaine de réouvrir mon service de garde ... Car nous ne recevons pas de compensation si nous sommes malade.... Nous ne pouvons pas faire d'inscription durant la covid donc je reste toujours a 3 enfants et mon salaire convient pas a mon roulement de vie Parce que les parents qui doivent payer préféreront retirer leur enfant de la garderie donc plus de subventions....
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- 66 Je suis très déçu car on met nos famille en danger un jour c dangereux pour notre conjoint 60ans après ça les plus on nous prend pour des yoyo En plus avec salaire de 12.42 l'heure vraiment déçu
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- 67 Je vous remercie pour les nombreuses possibilités d'aide à mon entreprise. Le seul problème, c'est que je vais devoir m'endetter pour survivre et déjà je ne fais pas beaucoup d'argent puisque je vis de ma PASSION Je me demande comment pourrais-je faire pour rembourser une fois de retour à la normal
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68	L'avenir est très incertain.
69	La hausse des ratios est beaucoup trop rapide pour moi et beaucoup de perte d'argent dû à tout ce qu'il faut acheter, pas certaine de pouvoir continuer si pas de hausse de salaire
70	La PCU (Prestation canadienne d'urgence) semble nuire au recrutement du personnel pour effectuer des remplacements ou pour combler des postes.
71	La PCU commence à nuire grandement pour la dotation
72	La PCU encourage les gens à demeurer à la maison. Nous avons un problème de main d'oeuvre.
73	La pénurie de main-d'oeuvre qualifiée était présente avant la COVID-19 et maintenant accentuée par le surplus des tâches à faire. De plus, le manque de place en CPE occasionne une liste d'attente de plus de 500 enfants, ce qui met de la pression sur les CPE qui sont en baisse de ratio actuellement et les parents qui doivent retourner au travail.
74	La peur du virus et des conséquences sur notre santé
75	la plupart des parents comptent retirer leurs enfants de la garderie jusqu'au 1er septembre ou jusqu'à ce que la situation revienne à la normale
76	La plus grande inquiétude des 35 employés: ne pas avoir de personnel de remplacement pour leurs vacances
77	La pression constante et les changements demandé sans relâches nous épuise à la longue. Les CPE ne peuvent pas tout prendre sur leur épaule, au nom de la relance économique. Je crois que les parents ont un questionnement à se faire sur le sujet. Comment se fait-il que les CPE sont leu seul recours? Mais c'est mon opinion. D'ici là nous mettons tout notre coeur dans la qualité des services que nous pourrons offrir dans le futur aux enfants. C'est pas évident tout ça.
78	La réouverture est ordonnée selon les critères de santé publique avec moins d'enfants, plus de mesures sanitaires et des ratios adultes enfants coupés de moitié, le tout avec peu d'aide gouvernementale. On arrivera bientôt à la période de prise de vacances avec double salaire à verser. On y arrivera pas côté liquidités.
79	Le materiel d urgence qui aurait du arrivé plus vite
80	Le fait de ne pas avoir l'information claire avant les points de presse, je reçois beaucoup de questionnements des parents pour savoir ce qu'il en ait.
81	Le financement promis pour la compensation de la contribution parental n'est toujours pas arrivé Le fait de devoir payer les employés leur plein salaire malgré les heures réduites a provoqué la masse salariale à la hausse La promesse de distribution de visieres oculaires, masques et autres mesures de protection.. Toujours pas de date de délivrance ni de mémo à savoir comment cela va nous êtres procuré à temps pour le 11 Mai
82	Le gouv du Québec ne pensent qu'aux finances publiques Le fédéral aurait dû s'en mêler pour protéger les enfants. Legault met leurs vies en danger

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83	Le gouvernement du Québec ne nous supporte pas beaucoup, à la miette. C'est ridicule
84	Le gouvernement du Québec ne soutient pas du tout les garderie privés, il veut nous voire disparaître
85	Le gouvernement provincial dit pu liquement qu'il nous vient en aide en payant les frais pour les parents qui n'enverrons pas leurs enfants alors que c'est totalement faux. Rien, aucune entente. Il nous offre un 5.95\$ par place aux permis qui pour moi, avec les dépenses qui reviennent à 100% est loin de la réalité
86	Le manque de places en CPE sera important vu la fermeture de nombreuses garderies en milieu familial. Nous espérons obtenir des permis pour des places supplémentaires afin de combler la grande demande. S,il manque de places en service de garde cela a un impact néfaste sur le retour au travail des parents et sur l'économie.
87	Le manque des ressources financières et les aides du gouvernement pour attirer le personnel a travailler dans les garderie en cette période ca va nous coûter une grande perte de contrôle ( financière et humaine) peut être une situation comparable au CHSLD de Québec.
88	Le néant après le 11 mai si je ne peu ouvrir mon milieu avec un conjoint de 72 ans a la maison
89	le personnel à temps partiel ne revient pas à cause de la PCU. Difficulté à recruter car le personnel a peur, pénurie de personnel.
90	Le pire sera de trouver du personnel, arc ce problème existait déjà avant la COVID-19.
91	le provincial avec promis des aides pour les garderies non subventionnées qu'il n'a pas tenu...nous attendons tjs! Enorme disparité entre cpe, garderies subventionnées ET les garderies non subventionnées (permis du ministère, travail identique avec les même regles, lois....mais égalité devant une catastrophe ou pandémie totalement absente, inexistante pour les non subventionnées.
92	le retour des garderies en milieu familiale est trop tôt
93	Le salaire des éducatrices oeuvrant dans les services de garde d'urgence n'a pas été bonifié comme celui des préposées aux bénéficiaires, des commis d'épicerie et de plusieurs autres entreprises des services d'urgence. L'organisation devra, à même ses propres réserves, allouer une bonification afin de souligner et d'encourager le courage des membres du personnel durant cette crise majeure qui les a mis en danger quotidiennement.
94	Le sondage pour les parents pour le retour a la garderie a ete envoyé a tous nos parents. Ceux qui sont en congé de maternité, chômage, qui ne doivent pas retourner a leur travail tout de suite, ou qui sont en télétravail... ne comptent pas nécessairement renvoyer leurs enfants par inquiétude a moins qu'ils soient obligés de le faire (par leur employeur, retour au travail..) ce qui met en déficit le revenu et donc l'impossibilité de payer les salaires du personnel requis.. Normalement il faut 7 enfants dans un groupe pour payer seulement le salaire de l'éducatrice ! en plus du fait que les éducatrices sont déjà réticentes a l'idée de retourner au travail avec les risques encourus actuellement ...
95	les cpe sont toujours plus avantager que les gns et le ministre nest pas dun grande aide financiere nous allons peut etre tous couler les gns

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- 96 les éducatrices en milieu familial sont une catégorie à part parce qu'elles offrent des services dans leur maison où habite leur famille aussi !! Elles sont toutes seules pour la plupart à voir à tout !! Il est impossible de faire respecter les consignes de distanciation à de jeunes enfants lors de changement de couche par exemple.. Elles ne peuvent veiller à la désinfection en présence des enfants et ça leur a toujours été interdit par mesure de sécurité. Je ne crois pas ouvrir mon service de garde pour les mêmes craintes que notre ministre, il est trop tôt !! Je devais accueillir mon petit-fils en Mai .. J'ai 5 ententes de services échues, places que je ne peux combler car je ne pourrai rencontrer les parents avant ni l'enfant . Et par mesure de sécurité pour ma famille je ne souhaite pas accueillir des enfants dont j'ignore les mesures d'hygiène de leurs parents. J'ai des enfants qui fréquentaient en Mars et pour certains, jamais je ne les aurais accueillis chez-moi . Après 23 ans de service je devrai me tourner vers l'aide sociale car je refuse d'ouvrir mon service de garde en ces temps si incertains.
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- 97 Les éducatrices ont peur de revenir travailler vu qu'il est impossible de faire la distanciation social avec les tout petit. De plus les parents ont peur d'envoyer leurs enfants en garderie. Etant donné les ratios à respecter dans les classes et le peu d'entrée d'argent qu'il y a , il sera impossible de couvrir tous nos coûts, surtout le loyer et les salaires. Nous devons embaucher tout le personnel pour respecter les ratios, mais nous n'aurons même pas 50% du revenu. En plus des frais supplémentaires qu'il faudra engager pour masque désinfectant ect. Sans parler que Montréal est une zone chaude et que le nombre de cas ne cesse d'augmenter, alors qu'on nous demande d'ouvrir et de mettre ensemble des enfants venant de différentes familles. Personne ne sait ce qui va se passer et nous avons le sentiment d'être des cobayes dans cette situation. On ne cesse de dire que le risque est faible pour les enfants, mais qu'en est-il de la nouvelle maladie qui fait hospitaliser les enfants dont on ne connaît rien du tout encore.
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- 98 Les éducatrices voient pas rentrer. Les factures arrivent chaque mois il faut les payer. La subvention du MFA à 5,95 c'est pas suffisant pour faire face à nos responsabilités financières.
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- 99 les garderies privées non-Subventionnées au Québec, n'ont pas de support, nos seuls revenus sont les parents utilisateurs, le ministre nous a fermés après, 3 semaines de services d'urgence en sauvage, sans nous donner ce qu'il nous avait promis, 24hrs de préavis... une grosse crise se prépare les garderies sont obligées de s'unir pour leur survie, pour que nos services de garde deviennent subventionnées... et que le gouvernement arrête de nous mettre à part, ils favorisent les CPE et les garderies subventionnées, les privées n'ont rien!!!! -éducatrices ont un salaire moindre car pas subventionnées, comme le reste du réseau, pas de fond de retraite pas d'assurances collectives.... payer pas le gouvernement!!! deux poids deux mesures, pour les mêmes services et les mêmes exigences du ministère de la famille!!!! 70 mille enfants n'auront plus de places lundi le 11 Mai.... nous luttons pour notre survie et ont nous propose 5\$ par enfant de compensation....mon tarif journalier est de 47\$ par enfant et nous devons ouvrir à 30% d'enfant (70% < 5\$ et 24 enfants sur 80 paieront leurs frais de 47\$.... pour 10 éducatrices temps pleins, 40 hrs payer entre 20 \$ et 26\$ de l'heure.... je suis prêt à vous montrer tout mes livres comptables de mes deux installations, une crise générale arrive !!! tous luttons pour leur survie,,,, subventionnées nos 70 mille places.... il n'y a pas d'autre solution... égalité pour tous les services de garde au Québec
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- 100 Les subventions du gouvernement québécois dépendent en grande partie du taux d'occupation alors que celui-ci sera à son plus bas. Si il n'y a pas d'ajustement nous allons peut-être faire faillite.
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- 101 Les garderies privées non subventionnées du Québec qui accueillent 70,000 enfants par jour sont laissées pour contre dans cette pandémie. Nous devons répondre à toutes les mêmes exigences et règlements du Ministère de la famille tout comme les CPE et les garderies privées subventionnées et nous recevons comme aide 5,95 par jour pour chaque place accordée au permis pour nous aider à survivre pendant la crise alors que le tarif moyen est environ de 45\$ sans marge de profit même à 45 \$.. Un non sens dans les circonstances... Le Gouvernement fédéral nous aide mais selon la durée de l'aide... nous sommes dans une incertitude quotidienne...selon la durée dans le temps de cette pandémie...
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- 102 Les garderies privées non subventionnées répondent à un besoin pour 70,000 \$ au Québec. Toutefois le Québec n'apporte pas le support nécessaire pour préserver nos services de garde... 5,95 par jour par enfant ne permet pas de payer nos frais fixes... Sans le support du Gouvernement Fédéral nous serions obligés de déclarer faillite... et fermer nos portes... Sans aide la COVID-19 emportera tous les services de garde non subventionnées du Québec
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- 103 Les garderies privées non subventionnées sont mises de côté. Les promesses dites devant les médias ne sont pas respectées. Nous n'avons personne avec qui communiquer pour avoir des réponses. Nous apprenons les directives à la dernière minute, souvent aux nouvelles.
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- 104 Les gestionnaires des CPE ont fait des semaines de 60- 70h depuis le 15 mars, sans compensation.
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- 105 Les programmes d'aide devraient être proposés aussi au garderies privées non subventionnées
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- 106 Low enrollment caused by fear to return or lack of work
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- 107 Ma grande préoccupation est liée à la dotation de mon personnel éducateur: attraction et rétention
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- 108 maladie chronique avec papier de médecin mais dois retourner au travail me mettre en danger tant donner que je suis seule soutien de famille et que les aides proposés sont insuffisantes pour ma situation. je me sens tout à fait laisser tomber tout simplement à 55 ans.
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- 109 Manque de personnel qualifié car certains membre du personnel sont déjà retirés du milieu parce que santé mentale fragile du à la COVID-19 et d'autres ont des maladies dites chroniques et on peur de revenir
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- 110 Manque possiblement du personnel a venir
- 
- 111 Merci
- 
- 112 Merci au gouvernement du Québec!
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- 113 Merci! de prendre le temps
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- 114 Mes préoccupations sont liées au fait que le personnel soit apeuré face au COVID. Ceci peut affecter les absences ou les pratiques.
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- 115 Mon conjoint est immunosupprimé suite à deux cancers traités par chimio, greffe de cellule souche, radiothérapie, curiethérapie en 2019,2020, Je trouve qu'on est oublié par le gouvernement
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- 116 Mon conjoint est mon assistant et est immunosupprimé, je devrai soit le remplacer ou diminuer mon ratio. Que dois-je faire? Mon conjoint aura-t-il droit à une compensation?
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- 117 Mon milieu de garde ne peut pas répondre au norme de distanciation social je devrai baisser mon ratio et avoir une perte de revenu je me demande si je vais rester ouverte. Ce n'est pas de ma faute mais c'est moi qui paye le prix car je dois aussi protéger ma famille. Avenir incertain
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- 118 Mon travail ne sera plus pareil. Je vais travailler avec des craintes du virus dû à ma catégorie d'âge (60 ans et plus). Impossible de travailler à 2 mètres avec des enfants. Les enfants ont besoin d'être coller rassurer et surtout sentir qu'ils sont en sécurité via leur santé. Un très gros défis face à ce virus.
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- 119 no real help for non subsidized daycares in Quebec.
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- 120 Nos préoccupations actuelles sont: 1) Que nos employées vulnérables ne pourront toucher à leurs assurances collectives, lors que nous ne serons plus un service de garde d'urgence et nous trouvons cette décision injustifiée. 2) Que les phases de retour à la normale ne soient pas modifiées, et ce, même si les services de garde d'urgence ont été prolongés. Devant ses faits, nous passerons de 30% à 100% très rapidement et ce n'est pas ce qui est souhaité!
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- 121 Notre défis sera grand... Les garderies privées non subventionnées ne sont pas les enfants chéris du Gouvernement du Québec... Elles doivent toutefois rencontrer en tous points les même exigences du Ministère de la famille au même titre que les CPE et les garderies non subventionnées... Ces deux derniers ont été grandement soutenus rapidement et directement par le Ministère de la famille contrairement au Garderies Privées non subventionnées qui ont pu se tenir en équilibre précaire grâce au support du Gouvernement du Canada. En espérant que nous pourrons rester debout... et que nous serons toujours sur le terrain dans 1 an...
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- 122 notre ministère nous offre pas assez d'aide financière tel que promis.
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- 123 Notre personnel passera le plus clair de leur temps à désinfecter, le programme éducatif devra être mis de côté, nous risquons toutes d'attraper le virus étant donné que le MFA ne nous envoie rien comme matériel de protection.
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- 124 Notre salaire est insuffisant et des tâches se rajoutent d'année en année. Je prévoyais fermer dans environ 2 ans car j'ai de plus en plus de difficultés à me sentir bien financièrement considérant le coût de la vie qui augmente et mine de rien, je deviens fatiguée. Je n'ai pas les moyens de me faire remplacer de manière suffisante à prendre soin de moi. Je crains que la réalité de la Covid-19 mette en péril notre réseau. Cela est dommage car beaucoup ont la "vocation" mais sont épuisées. De plus, cette situation risque de nous ramener des années en arrière car pour une grande partie des foyers, c'est la femme qui ne retournera pas travailler...
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- 125 Nous aurons besoin de matériels de protections afin de garantir la santé et la sécurité de notre personnel.
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- 126 Nous avons mis notre greve illimité pour etre de bonne foi, et, etre a l'avant ppur faire notre part, durant la pandemie, tous ont des primes, une augmentation de salaire, meme ceux qui sont au salaire minimu,(epicerie), et, nous sommes sous le salaire minimum, aucune prime,et, avons le tripple de responsabilités au niveau desinfection, stress, expose au virus dans nos maisons, notre famille. Je souhaite au gouvernement, que des centaines de RSE ferme leur milieu a defaut d'etre reconnu a notre juste valeur. C'est tout ce qui merite, vue que nous on merite rien.
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- 127 Nous devrions recevoir une subvention pour l'organisation du volet désinfection
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- 128 Nous n'avons toujours pas reçu les équipement de protection et nous commençons lundi.
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- 129 Nous recevons aussi les enfants de familles très vulnérable référé par le(organisation) de notre région.
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- 130 Nous RSE nous méritons une entente collective qui représente notre juste valeur ... Donc beaucoup plus que .6¢
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- 131 Nous serons probablement en manque de personnel. Nous aurons besoins de plus de subventions pour embaucher du personnel supplémentaire pour la désinfection et les remplacements des pauses du personnel.
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- 132 Nous sommes exposé première ligne Nous travaillons avec des humains si même titre que la santé
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- 133 Nous sommes tellement occupé à la mise en oeuvre de nos services que l'on manque de temps pour voir à tout ce qui est accessible du côté administratif. Bien que ce soit très important, il faut d'abord offrir des services tel que demandé. Je vais me faire aider pour voir ce que mon établissement à droit.
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- 134 Nous trouvons irréal les mesures demandées (distanciation, désinfection continuelle...) pour un service de garde qui recevra 22, 34 et 51 enfants dans les semaines qui viennent.
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- 135 On est une garderie privée non subventionne, pour que notre entreprise survive il faut absolument que le ministere nous garantisse la subvention des places non comblées
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- 136 On réouvre notre service de garde a un salaire minable et qu'on droits toute changer notre fonctionnement régulier et m'être toute en place en deux semaines. Et sans protection nesaissaire . Bravo!!
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- 137 Parents refuse and scared to bring there children to daycare till pandemic 100% is finished. We need government help to survive till 85% daycare capacity is reached .
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- 138 pas vraiment
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- 139 Pénurie d'educatrices, impossible de rouvrir à plus de 30%, personnel épuisé qui voudrait prendre des congés impossible de trouver des remplaçantes.. Très grosse charge de travail pour la directrice générale. Est-il possible de repousser à septembre le rapport financier à remettre au plus tard le 31 juillet, c'est juste l'enfer pour tout faire..
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- 140 Pour aider toutes les familles, le fédéral devrait se servir du 1250\$ offert aux étudiants et les obligé d'aller garder les enfants des travailleurs à la maison !! La plupart des sdg en milieu familial ne sont pas adaptés pour accueillir les enfants et nous mettons n'en danger la santé de notre famille . C'est un non sens c'est comme demander à un infirmier d'apporter des patients a la maison pour les soigner ..
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- 141 Pour l'ouverture du 11 mai le gouvernement devra mieux nous aider que seulement 5.95\$ par place pour le mois de mai seulement..
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- 142 Pour le moment la distanciation me semble bien impossible avec des enfant en bas age, je n'ai pas assez de place dans mes locaux. Et il est impensable de ne pas regrouper les enfant en début et a la fin de journée. les éducatrices ne peuvent travailler du l'ouverture à la fermeture. Il me manquera de personnel pour tout désinfecter.
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- 143 Pour les garderies privées non subventionnées le gouvernement nous laisse tomber et ne rempli pas le message du départ disant payer la partie des frais des parents tel que donné initialement, on a pas encore reçu le 30% manquant du mois de mars , c'est pour dire le manque de sérieux , de plus ce présent sondage veut seulement clarifier si on va fermer , pour ma part non , mais avec des dettes qu'on devra payer et qui fragilise la durée de vie à long terme , on sait pas ce qui va arriver , Le ministre Lacombe n'est pas à sa place et ne respecte et n'écoute en rien notre réalité , les CPE reçoivent 5,95 pour des place de 8,35 en plus des subventions qui continuent, belle incohérences!
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- 144 pourquoi il n'y a pas de questions en ce qui concerne l'apport du gouvernement de la Fa-  
mille
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- 145 Private daycares need to be treated the same way as a CPE
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- 146 problèmes financiers essentiellement
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- 147 Promouvoir le métier d'educatr Ici car manque de personnel
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- 148 Québec is opening too soon, worry increase in cases... not enough knowledge yet on how it effects children, related issues or complications covid could cause. Loss of staff should they get infected... already difficult to staff on a regular basis due to ratios...
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- 149 qui va payer les produits....les clients ont peur donc reste a la maison qui va payer nos pertes ...les employers ont peur ne veulent pas revenir avant fin juin ou meme septembre.... on a aucune directive sur le cas d un enfant ou employé infecter,on exclus la personne ou le groupe de celui-ci de la garderie ou on ferme ...alors qui paye pour l enfant ou meme l employé ou le cout de la fermeture de la garderie temporaire
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- 150 Stress level at max. I love what I do but I want to quit. Opening up in Quebec on May 11th, is not Day Care...it's babysitting. I'm scared for myself, my assistant, family and children coming. I can't believe that our lives how such little value to the Quebec government. It's a sickening feeling. Children this age are not able to social distance and they are carriers of viruses. We live an area where the majority of our population is elderly. God help us all.
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- 151 Stress, anxiété, heures supplémentaires, peur pour ma santé et celle de ma famille, salaire beaucoup trop bas pour tout le travaille que ça demande.
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- 152 Re-opening daycares in Montreal on May 19th is too soon! Knowing that the number of cases have not decreased and now reports of children infected by COVID have increased as well as the report of a Mascouche essential service daycare having to close because of a COVID-19 outbreak is very worrisome. Toddlers are not aware nor understand what is happening nor conscientious enough to stop themselves to get close to their friends or not put toys in their mouths. Sending them back to an unsure social setting where they are vulnerable and possibly asymptomatic is putting society at a higher risk of infections. Personally, having my step-son with Crohn's disease and worried that his 4 y.o. brother returns to daycare because I am the daycare director and have no choice but to bring him to work with me, has been a very stressful and worrisome time for our household. I understand that children need "normalcy" but to risk their health and those around them is irresponsible. Children are needing to adapt to a new normal but we as a society, need to be safe about it. Finally, the increase of stress will definitely happen for the staff having to manage a new normal and this will cause increases in anxiety and burnt outs and we will have to deal with another social problem!
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- 153 Recevoir une allocation rapide de fonds pour tous les services de garde qui doivent acheter des masques et des lunettes de protection pour les employés alors qu'il n'y en a pas car le gouvernement s'engage à nous les fournir mais rien a été reçu à ce jour.
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- 154 Si vous pouvez m'aider pour un financement hypothécaire. J'ai préparé la succession de la garderie avant le coronavirus et je suis devenue propriétaire le 1er avril et le 1er mai j'étais dans ce chaos de re-calcul des prévisions, les banques qui étaient déjà distantes me font peur pour l'avenir. J'ai un prêt de 1,6 M et je n'ai pas d'autres actifs que mon immeuble qui a cette valeur. J'ai vraiment besoin d'aide
- 
- 155 Soutenir les directrices/directeurs et propriétaires. Notre bien-être, santé mentale ou autre est important. Nous ne sommes pas sentis appréciés ou reconnus dans notre bataille. Aucune mention des fonds supplémentaires pour les employés de la garderie uniquement dans les soins de santé.
- 
- 156 subvention pour mise en place de nouvelles procédures de Santé et Sécurité et équipements protection subvention pour la baisse de revenu suivant le retour: baisse des inscriptions
- 
- 157 Subvention salariale urgence se termine le 6 juin alors que nos services ne seront qu'à 75% ou moins mais avec 100% du personnel et plus. De plus, à partir du 23 mai, les employés qui n'étaient pas sur le payroll avant le 22 mai, ne sont pas éligibles.
- 
- 158 The Government is giving loans for business we don't need loans to go into debt we need money
- 
- 159 The government should be embarrassed sending us back to work while the death rate and cases keep rising. Shame on them
- 
- 160 The problem is that the government keeps on changing their mind regarding reopening and decisions made and confusing parents and increasing work load for directors. This also creates anxiety for the staff.
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- 161 The quebec government ordered all private non subsidized daycares to close. While they have provided some financial relief it is meagre yet it is helping us to pay our minimum payments. Now they are telling us to open in May with strict Covid 19 protocols for parents working in the essential sectors. We cannot welcome back all our families yet because of the staggered opening up the work sectors. Yet, the quebec government has told parents not to pay their daycares until June 22. So from May 19 to June 22 we have operate with 20 - 50% of our normal capacity. While the subsidized network has been fully funded by the quebec government since the forced closures. So this caused an enormous undue inequity in the system for owners, employees and families. In our opinion, this is a scandal. We are in the same storm yet some if us are on ocean liners and others are in row boats with holes. We need help for the FEDS ASAP!! SOS!!
- 
- 162 There is so much yet to be learned about Covid-19. As a director, I worry about providing a healthy environment for staff and children when we are scheduled to reopen on May 19th.
- 
- 163 Tout les garderies non subventionnées en installation demandent depuis longtemps de faire partie du réseau public
- 
- 164 Uncertainty is difficult. Staff shortages exist and will continue. Wages are not interesting for educated staff to come to this field. Administrators are over worked and many are experiencing burn out, so other management positions are more attractive.
- 
- 165 We are expected to be at 100% on June 22, if all goes well. Most parents will not be returning due to loss of jobs. The rent program ends in June and so does the wage subsidy. How will be operate?
- 
- 166 We are expected to open our homes which is our safe haven to people who might not be following the precautions. It's very scary, we have not received our equipment yet. I'm going to try it and see how it goes. And if I'm not feeling happy or safe I will close my doors.
- 
- 167 We will lose clients and it will be difficult to replace them.
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## Ontario

- 1 Parents feel it's too early to return, even if emergency closure order is lifted.

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- 2 The impact on the mental wellness/well-being of children/families/staff during this time - the new "norm", what is that going to look like?

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- 3 Did not decide to close, all my parents pulled their children out of daycare due to covid-19. I have since re-opened with 1 family who's parent is an essential worker.

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- 4 "Un licensed" Home daycares are going to be effected just as much as "regulated" and should be included in this

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- 5
  1. I just don't understand why I was not able to accept payment from parents that were both working from home (but keeping their children home), even if they wanted to pay their regular fees to support the operation of my childcare home. I understand those who lost their jobs or were financially affected by Covid-19, but some families were willing to pay even though their children were not attending daycare (childcare home was still open), because they were able to. Why wasn't this an option to keep economy going, but yet putting more pressure and financial difficulties into small businesses?
  2. I think that Covid-19 in a home childcare setting is more manageable than childcare Centers because of the small ratios we have and group of families. Home childcare groups should receive some kind of financial help to keep operating during Covid-19, as this sector, as many others, have been hit really hard.

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- 6
  1. We are worried about lower attendance/fees and how much debt it will cause.
  2. Will we be able to pay back the Loan in 2 years.
  3. When can we get back to our normal attendance and making a profit.

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- 7 A general pandemic implementation plan (policies and procedures) for prior and post pandemic events would be very helpful. Although I understand this is an unprecedented time, it has been very difficult to make and plan financial decisions as funders have changed processes multiple times. Bookkeeping has been a nightmare and I am concerned about reporting procedures post pandemic closures. Bookkeeping/account fees have increased as well.

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- 8 A lot of this information is not disclosed when it is a large organization so difficult to really know what the future holds.

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- 9 A public service announcement thanking both licensed child care centre & licensed home child care agencies for their community support during Covid 19 also stressing the additional and new policies and procedures that will stay in place post Covid 19. Encouraging child care parents & possible home child care providers back into licensed care.

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- 10 Additional Information – [name of centre] is a multi-site operator with 28 child care centres serving infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers. In addition we offer school age before and after school program in 230 locations in Peel Region and the City of Toronto. [The centre operates seasonal programming] serving over 10,000 children and families.

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- 11 Additional monies to be flowed to the centres now that are currently closed. We have applied for CEBA and CEWS and have yet to get any money but our rent, utilities etc continue to need to be paid in a timely fashion to avoid any further fees.

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- 12 Adequate supply staffing for staff in 2 wk quarantine if they have covid tuple symptoms
- 
- 13 All \$ saved is now gone. How to financially function with no reserve if an emergency arose down the road. How to determine what is a "cold" or "covid19" in children?
- 
- 14 Allowing landlords to opt in so that you can receive a break on rent is in effective. No landlord will voluntarily loose 25% of their revenue when they know they can receive 100%.
- 
- 15 Although my staff have been laid off and qualify for EI, they were put on CERB. I cannot supplement their income while on this benefit but asked to do so.
- 
- 16 As a small 1/2 day nursery school, we are extremely concerned about the ability to continue to operate with small ratios and how that will impact our ability to continue to operate.
- 
- 17 As an owner and operator we live month to month financially. This pandemic has shown me how vulnerable we are. We are trying to build a reserve but we also want our staff to make good money for the very important job they do. This is a tough business.
- 
- 18 As educators we are not able to do our jobs from 6 feet away. I'm a very small centre and hiring another staff to meet ratios/guidelines is not applicable, I would have to close.
- 
- 19 As everyone is uncertain of the changes that might result from COVID-19, our biggest concern is how to prepare to meet the challenges and demand of post-COVID-19 world.
- 
- 20 As has been mentioned - ratios when we return, the added measures (financial and time consumption) of enhanced procedures when we return - the accessibility and cost of any PPE needed - the challenge of social distancing with young children - what effect will this have the children and the relationships we have formed with them - touch is an important part of our day
- 
- 21 As much as I understand (the possible) necessity for reducing licensed capacity post-COVID and the need for additional screening procedures, increased sanitizing procedures etc. However, how will we be able to operate and be a viable business? I await news and guidelines from the gov't but I fear I will not be able to re-open!
- 
- 22 As of right now things are manageable my concern is when we return and our centres have open spaces or the government changes our ratios which will create deficits. Sooner or later that will take a toll on our reserves and we will be closed. Our educators are worried about returning to work it is difficult to ease their mind when we have not received any information from the Ministry or Public Health. I find for myself all the unknowns very challenging.
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- 23 As the supervisor of our center, I have concerns of being able to provide safe and caring environment for the children staff. I know we are an essential services for a lot of our parents, and I will be looking at long, busy days when we are reopened. I also have concerns about the funding that is provided by the Ministry of Education, will it be reduced because we have been closed, staff has been being paid and has certain duties to perform, but the thought is if we lay off staff and they find other employment we will be scrambling when the doors are reopened.
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- 24 As we move forward opening child care centres we need to make sure we do not have outbreaks such as those in long term care. We have very close contact with children. I'm concerned about the mental health of staff, children and parents. I am not sure how we would be able to sustain opening with the reduction of children in a room, but it is absolutely necessary in order to keep children and staff safe. We need to do our part to stop the spread.
- 
- 25 As we plan to re-opening: when would we get direction on how many children we can have in a room and how do we decide what children we accept . Or will we be allowed to have our capacity but with strict protocols in place? It would be nice to know ahead of time so we can better prepare.
- 
- 26 at this point have no answers to how and what reopening will like ... it is the unknown that creates the anxiety
- 
- 27 Bank denying CEBA in spite of being qualified for the same thus funds not adequate for paying wages resulting in difficulties to enroll for CEWS. In spite of good initiatives by the Government implementing agencies like RBC denying legitimate programs.
- 
- 28 Because our program co-exist within the premise of the public school, I assume the program will have difficulty resuming when the school reopens if we do not have time before the school reopens in order to organize staffing that can secure guidelines that we must follow in order to keep our staff and children safe.
- 
- 29 Because we are a not-for-profit ministry of a church which has no mortgage, we are ineligible for many grants (York Region General Operating Grant) as well as the federal rent assistance program. We feel that our organization is being penalized for not having to pay rent. When paying rent, heating, hydro, sanding/snowplowing are often included in the rental fees. We have these same expenses, as well as many others (maintaining rooftop heating units, significant utility costs, monthly lawncare and snowplowing costs, but these are ineligible to be used for General Operating Grant. We are offering excellent child care at a not-for-profit centre, but barely making ends meet. There is no money to put away in a reserve fund for emergency needs.
- 
- 30 Being a small home like family oriented child care centre. I am very worried about our future. Although, we offer quality care we often do not qualify for any government funding. Very worried about the health of everyone, meeting all challenges but mainly loss of revenues. Hoping that the child care sector will be helped more. Our programs were striving before we were forced to sadly close due to COVID-19.
- 
- 31 Being able to re-open is a major concern. If we are not able to operate at capacity, we will not be able to re-open and operate without a major deficit. To be able to re-open with lower ratios and an adequate number of staff, there will need to be significant funding to make up the shortfall that we will not receive through parent fees.
- 
- 32 Being able to strategically plan with the school as a key stake holder
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- 33 Biggest concern is that the emergency centre model is not financially sustainable if the region does not fund it and when we re-open the increased staffing required for additional health and safety measures is also not sustainable if we do not receive additional funding for this
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- 34 Both Families and Providers are feeling uneasy with the contradictions in the news of the dynamics of Covid-19, how it is spread, the ability to maintain social distancing and also have lost some of the trust in the safety of their child /ren at no fault of the agency and providers, just in general with the unknown
- 
- 35 CECRA eligibility should include church as landlord.
- 
- 36 Centre is available for emergency child care but the city is moving slow setting up guidelines and regulations. There are 300 ppl on the wait list in Guelph and only 50 spaces. There has to be a way to speed up the process and use the resources available.
- 
- 37 Certains parents commence à retirer leurs enfants.
- 
- 38 challenges of reopening and dealing with staff willingness to work. Funding on partial enrollment, how to function on only partial enrollment to meet our financial needs but not being able to access CEWS when we are under the 30% loss to qualify. We are a non profit therefore all revenue is needed to maintain the services.
- 
- 39 Child Care Centers should be funded on the number of children the Center is licenced for. The ratio of children will be less and the challenges of a post-COVID world is too much.
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- 40 Child care is an essential service and has always struggled to pay staff a good and fair wage and along with all of the other costs to maintain a centre it is vital to have proper funding. This pandemic has only increased the burdens that child care centres already face. This country needs a National Child Care Policy now and it could not be more evident than at this critical time.
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- 41 Child Care Sector requires adequate start up time to ensure all safety measures are in place prior to opening. We will require clear directives to ensure each business is taking protective measures that meet legal requirements (ministry of labour, legal liability protection if covid-19 does occur in the workplace, etc.) And what if educators work at more than one child care facility?
- 
- 42 Child care should not be open until schools open. Children immune will not be the same since they have been home for 3 months. it will get worse. we should be able to wear masks. I don't think older staff or pregnant staff should return to work either as that is a big risk. Should have companies to clean the child care not the staff. Staff are scared to return to work, some say they do not want to return until there is a vaccine. Some say they won't be able to return to work to be home with their children ask they do not want to send them back to school or child care if it reopens.
- 
- 43 Child care workers are at greater risk than many other essential workers in that we cannot socially distance ourselves at our place of employment. We are working with small children who cannot be expected to follow sanitary rules consistently (coughing / sneezing into elbow). We cannot wear masks and gloves all day; children NEED close contact at times: comfort, love, affection. In addition, home child care providers are putting their ENTIRE household at risk providing care: their own children and spouses. While I have been providing care through this global health crisis, trying to do my part to help those who are needed in our community, it is a constant worry that I am putting my own family at greater risk.
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- 44 Childcare should be a universal implemented into Publicly Funded Schools. Childcare should not be PROFIT making business studies have shown PRIVATE & some NOT FOR PROFIT have poor quality Staff due to poor wages and benefits. Some operators own their own building charging HIGH RENTS. Food/Program costs benefiting many operators. Taxpayers dollars are subsidizing the PROFITS of many operators. Many Board Benefit by being sitting on these boards paid directly or indirectly. Taxpayers \$ should be providing childcare for the children and not to operators. Our system doesn't make operators account-able and transparent to public funds.
- 
- 45 Childcare staff are not medical professionals. We should not be responsible for screening illness like this. Children do not understand social distancing, nor should they. They need hugs, they Need comfort, then need assistance in bathroom and diaper changes. They need to play with their peers. Staff wearing masks would be terrifying to the children. If groups are reduced, how am I going to decide who receives care first. That is a nightmare of discrimination. It is impossible to retain qualified staff as it is before this happened. We do not make enough income for a living wage, let alone the added responsibility and stress this will put on the staff. Who is paying for new protective equipment and supplies? Who is going to ensure that Parents and children are screened at the entrance before coming in the Centre. What staff is available to stand their open to close? Staff can not work round the clock by themselves. They require breaks and lunches. We are also located in a public school, if the building is closed, so are we. The stress level of being a Director is too much as it is. Adding all of this to my plate makes me considering retiring after 32 years of being a centre Director.
- 
- 46 Childcare workers are essential workers who are underpaid. Once childcare centres re-open all around the country, we deserve to be paid more as we are caring for children, especially those with parents who are essential workers. It is not always possible to maintain physical distancing when caring for children and we are putting our lives at risk because of this.
- 
- 47 Children enrolment and finding
- 
- 48 Closing the daycare centres for longer than two months will create more problems with re-opening! Daycare centres have a lot of health regulations and shall Not be closed same as schools!!! Parents are very concerned and calling about reopening but I have no information from any government regarding my daycare future ! Child RATIO is very important at the daycare setting and the staff is able to control it better inside and outside. Very disappointed with the government luck of decision making!
- 
- 49 Concern about what the expectations will be moving forward once re-opening happens. What will the new normal expectations be?
- 
- 50 Concern: CERB will not be extended and we will be out of a wage while we remain closed and or we reopen with less children to care for and have no wage subsidy for the loss of care due to COVID19 shutdowns. Concern: opening daycares before it's safe to do so. My care personally includes children aged 1-3. New safety measures will be difficult to implement for that age group including social distancing them from one another and or wearing masks.
- 
- 51 Concerned about lack of time lines. Do not announce extensions of closures until the day we are to re-open. We are going to need at least 2 weeks before we open, to get food supplies, staff training....
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- 52 Concerned about parent fees having to go up due to revenue loss this year, sustainable funding for future years, retaining staff, and increasing staff salary next year. The cashflow hit that our bank accounts and revenues have taken in order to keep staff on payroll to avoid the layoff route - how to get that cashflow to the healthy state again to ensure the organization is healthy again will take many years - cost of keeping two large stand alone centres maintenance/repairs updated and dealing with those large expenses - lots of large expenses to consume with a large salary expense as well - organization has been sustainable and healthy for many years - afraid that now there might be years that we will present a deficit.
- 
- 53 Concerned about reopening. How to implement screening and social distancing with young children and still providing quality care. Concerned about staffing, what if staff refuse to work? What if someone contracts Covid-19 Will centres have to run at reduced ratios once open? and if so, will there be funding to make up loss? How to fairly decide who can access care and who can not if we reopen at reduced capacity?
- 
- 54 Concerned about safety of children, Staff and Parents without a vaccine. Concerned about future--if number of children is reduces, you have to ask families who are currently enrolled to leave; less money coming in so now you have to lay off Staff. Health and safety concerns include: who is going to sanitize everything several times a day; what about shared space where guidelines are not followed the way they are in childcare? Will we have the resources we need to implement the new health and safety guidelines that will be coming?
- 
- 55 Concerned about the high rent costs of publically funded schools and how we will manage with lower revenue due to enrolment.
- 
- 56 Concerned about what child care will look like in the future, logistics of a safe space for families, children and staff as well as the financial survival of centers.
- 
- 57 Concerned if government funding changes, or reduces - this is going to be a long gradual process so we need to do it right for the children and families and not rush – I believe we will be down considerable revenues for a long while when we do reopen doors so it is important government funding continues for us to survive to support families. We also operate EarlyON and CAPC so dependent upon funding to continue virtual services
- 
- 58 Concerned that levels of government will not fully consider the impact of group sizes in relation to social distancing, or how groups will actually be able to function in a realistic way; or consider the staff's health and safety working with infants, toddlers or preschoolers; the time it will need to disinfect and sanitize all the materials in a room; the food items/bags/bedding/ extra clothes etc that children bring from home; what about the space required during rest time? There is so much to figure out, the concern is the government will decide its time to open without allowing child cares time to figure out how these things will be accomplished, and without direct guidance from advisors.
- 
- 59 Concerned that we will not be able to fully adhere to new Public Health Guidelines; Concerned about the added costs that we will incur trying to enforce the guidelines: PPEs, staff replacement if cannot attend when showing signs of "mild" illness, cost of extra staff for extra cleaning/sanitation; fear we will not have enough replacement staff to cover staff absences; lower ratios would mean loss in income; parents may opt out of group care for fear children may be at higher risk of contacting the virus.
- 
- 60 Concerned with licensing requirements and compliance post COVID
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- 61 Concerned with the Confusion around funding between the Federal Government and the Provincial Government. Concerned that our RECE's are not treated with the same respect and dignity as those RECE employed with the School Boards Concerned that our current funding which is based on # of Childcare spaces may be impacted with Social Distancing. Concerned that although the Provincial Government continues to state that Childcare will be part of Phase 1 and is so important to getting our economy back on track - yet wages and benefits in childcare are not up to par with other professionals.
- 
- 62 Concerns is that they will restrict amount of students to return in September, however, we do advanced registrations in February and we are full for September 2020. How do we handle this? Financially not able to receive any funding as we are also a private school with students up to grade 8. Government has missed our school needs that has almost 300 students in attendance before the COVID-19.
- 
- 63 Concerns over patents not returning to work until September and the CERB running out after 16 weeks
- 
- 64 Concerns regarding the changes in programs, routines, activities, physical space due to physical distancing. Challenges of keeping children separated. Fears from all staff regarding staying healthy and the ability to prevent an outbreak. Concerns with lack of clear communications and support from all outside agencies. Strong concerns with opening centres too soon before all strategies and safety measures are clear and in place.
- 
- 65 COVID-19 has had no impact on my licensed home daycare.
- 
- 66 CURRENT FUNDING FLOWING FROM THE CITY OF TORONTO IS ENDING AS OF MAY 15TH AND WE ARE NOW GOING TO APPLY TO THE CITY FOR FUNDING FOR FIXED COSTS. THIS IS A NEW UNKNOWN ENTITY AT THIS TIME.
- 
- 67 Currently my concern to reopen is our children. We have no other family here. My husband could find a full time seasonal job to work from home and I am in charge of homeschooling. We are trying our best to keep ourselves healthy and once the risks are lower I will reopen for sure.
- 
- 68 Currently, it would amazing to be able to take our students for neighbourhood walks if we have a 6 seated stroller.
- 
- 69 Definitely concerned about money moving into the second month after opening, as the money that we would have normally received from our fee subsidy families, will not be there. So I anticipate having to go further into debt, in order to make payroll etc.
- 
- 70 Disinfecting of Centre
- 
- 71 Do not feel safe opening
- 
- 72 Don't know if I can safe my family when the child care will open.
- 
- 73 Dont rush reopening, it is not safe!!! We need universal childcare in order to sustain.
- 
- 74 Due to the close down the school is unable to register children for next year, without registration the school will have to close in the fall. We are a 10 month program and rely on parent fees to continue.
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- 75 During this whole outbreak Child Care's have been kept pretty much in the dark. Nobody is giving us any information, and even now we don't know a thing about what things will look like when we return. I am concerned that when the Government says open, we will be expected to open without enough time to plan and implement change. I have huge concerns about how we will manage with young children trying to keep them physically distanced, and everything that is involved. I have concerns too that some staff will not return.
- 
- 76 Employee stress levels dealing with all of the restrictions, changes and perceptions of risk.
- 
- 77 Est ce que vous prévoyez voir des changements dans les ratios exigés pour chaque programme?
- 
- 78 Explanations on how to direct employees whom already received EI or CERB payments, once they start receiving 75% of their regular payroll salaries/wages on what procedures to take.
- 
- 79 Fear of getting myself or my family sick and losing even more income without having government assistance as I am a private operator
- 
- 80 Finding qualified early childhood educators was a struggle pre-Covid-19. I am anticipating needing more staff to meet cleaning/sanitizing requirement, screening of children etc. when we reopen and am unsure where we will find staff to fill the need. If we don't have staff, we won't be able to offer as many spaces and families may not be able to return to work.
- 
- 81 For this childcare, we have been fortunate to continue to pay staff salary and wages as well, pay the continuous bills. Our concern is if current funding stops then we will not be able to do so. As well when we reopen, the management of vacation and sick days for 2020 will require a good effort to resolve and the ongoing cost of protective equipment for staff and children will be a major concern.
- 
- 82 From a social perspective, ECEs and Childcare Workers have gone from a community of social interaction, parents, children, colleagues, and partners to isolation. As an ECE we need to talk and connect, express concerns or just have an ear to listen. We need a support group of some kind away from attachments to be able to talk, share ideas and/or concerns maybe even a hotline, someone one on one. No judgements, safe and healthy conversations.
- 
- 83 Funding and meeting the challenges of a post COVID 19
- 
- 84 Funding for staff in Hcc
- 
- 85 Funding needs to be increased rather than decreased in any area of operations due to mandated closures and ongoing fixed fees as well as the loss of revenues that go hand in hand with funding. To retain and recruit RECEs and child care staff there needs to be a minimum wage of \$ 25.00 per hour for RECEs and \$ 20.00 per hour for other child care staff and offering medical benefits to these staff. Meeting the challenges of COVID-19 must also include ongoing support and assurance of availability of PPE for child care centers as well as compensation for sick time for workers.
- 
- 86 Funds available to keep the centre running when we return to lower ratios but more staff needed to ensure the social distancing. Funds needed for supplies to keep all staff and families safe
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- 
- 87 Future concern are funding and staffing.
- 
- 88 Given a home has limited space to ensure social distancing for 6 daycare children and the providers own family members, will be impossible to social distance when looking after children aged 1-4. Social distancing is impossible as we deal with children who may not be yet walking so they need to be carried, some need to be held to feed them a bottle, we need to come into close contact with them to change their diapers, we need to pick them up to put them into their play pens for naps, etc. Children aged 1-4 do not even understand what 6 ft apart means in terms of distance so how are providers supposed to ensure social distancing and safety for themselves, their family, the children and the daycare children's family. We are basically doing our jobs much like a front line worker but we aren't provided with any PPE. Many families will be very hesitant to bring their children back to daycare thus the operator will have a reduced income for a number of months to come. Unless we are provided with extra income from the government, many providers will have no choice but to close their doors and look for work elsewhere.
- 
- 89 Government needs to help us increase our staff wages to help centres to keep good consistent staff and to encourage more ECEs to enter the field. For ECEs to pay to get there education and to receive a bit more than minimum wage shows us that the government does not value the work of our ECEs and now with the added work placed on our ECEs due to COVID-19 many staff refuse to return centres reopen as they were already working at max with high stress.
- 
- 90 Grave concerns on how to meet the child's needs with social distancing Extremely concerned for the health and safety of children and staff
- 
- 91 Hard to navigate all different funding but the most daring part is. We start having already like 20% of parents not coming back or coming on a part time basis.
- 
- 92 Having sufficient funds for PPE and meeting all the new regulations that will be required once we resume operations; ability to retain staff and clients
- 
- 93 Health concerns regarding staff and children, protection
- 
- 94 Home based childcare needs funds to help us pay our bills currently we have very little funds
- 
- 95 How do we protect ourselves? And how do we physical distance toddlers? Can we as home daycare providers be liable if a child get covid-19 under our care? And if a child gets sick, do we close again for another two weeks with no income?
- 
- 96 How to support children and families to adjust back into the child care centre? Children who may need extra emotional support and being empathetic with families who experience very tough times at home with their children's behaviours, their financial crisis, and their mental health.
- 
- 97 How we can deal with this problem when we open again ? The children need to socialize with another children. Unless we have a high protection from the virus .
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- 98 How will the ratio of staff vs. children be affected as no information, transparency is being shared as to how essential care is being managed currently in depth. I am aware the number of children in care is low, but what how many staff are working per program based on the number of children being served?
- 
- 99 Huge concern about most of the families will not be returning..... and about the guidance how safety can be guaranteed for the families and the staff.
- 
- 100 Huge concerns on how we move forward and keep children, staff and families safe and healthy as well as how do we stay afloat as a business as the next year to 18 months is incredibly fluid and life has too many uncertainties. Difficult world to be in education, be an employer and employee.... and try and retain a volunteer board that is nervous to be part of a world that is responsible for children and staff health and safety
- 
- 101 I am actually the supervisor of a licensed home child care agency, answering for my providers as much as possible! We are part of a centre but we are licensed separately and our situation is very different! One big concern we have for our home child care providers is how they will be able to isolate a child who is ill when they work alone. We also hope there will be adequate training and PPE.
- 
- 102 I am concerned about how to ensure the children and staff's, and families safety upon return. We have good infection control measures and likely more to come. I struggle with knowing how to provide a relaxed environment not knowing how the virus will act in a group setting. The what if...is scary. I question how the childcare programs can receive more assistance with training and preparing for opening their programs safely. Who will sanitize the existing facilities.....all rooms.....all toys. We are presently scrambling to ensure PPE supplies. I question why we would not have the opportunity to have them sold to us by a vendor that may be providing the schools or City employees the same equipment. Who really governs the childcare programs...license by the Ministry of Ed, Agreements with the City of TO, and adhere to Public Health, we belong to all but no one takes us under there wing in these times when we need to be. I am afraid on enrolment issues. I am afraid that my staff will be afraid to return. I am afraid that one of my staff or children will contract COVID-19. I believe that there should be testing for all staff prior to returning. The a-systematic situations are the sneaky and difficult cases to know. I want to support my families and I know that they need us to return so some of them can return to work. I am so fortunate to have a supportive, wise board fabulous staff. I feel for those who are trying to juggle working from home, caring for their children and others very tough. We need to do it in a safe, caring way with real support from our Government. In surveying our families there is a fear and hesitation. I feel it and I feel helpless because I am capable and so is my program but I cannot guarantee anything in this climate. There should be clear policies for all childcare programs. We should not be scrambling to prepare them. Universal childcare under pandemic situations should be unified.
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- 103 I am concerned about our return to re-opening of the Centre. Primarily as it pertains to the health, safety, and well being of everyone who will be accessing the centre, ie challenges of physical distancing, staying safe overall. What support from the TPH/TCS/MOE/Government will be there for childcare centres going forward with re-openings. Health concerns are vital, for everyone now and will continue to be so for the for-seen future with Covid-19. That being said, in regards to this survey, the dialogue would need to be an ongoing one, to further address concerns as they arise to this Pandemic. I could answer the best I could to this survey, but is limited to what have been responded to. So much is happening as more and more information, studies, challenges, etc unfolds. There is plenty I would need to learn and understand still. Thanks for the survey, I look forward to the outcome of information, that would support the childcare sector.
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- 104 I am concerned about reopening safely. We are a small school and will not be able to survive with less children enrolled. Also the cost of cleaning facilities daily or twice a day will break us. We also don't have an area where we might be able to screen the children before allowing them to enter the building when the weather turns cold. Till then we can do it outside
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- 105 I am concerned about reopening, because I do not want to put my family at risk. The parents of the children I provide care for, are different people, with different jobs and everyone does not follow the rules. Maybe government/ region should consider opening centres for us.
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- 106 I am concerned about taking non essential care children - nursery school in addition to full time children as I feel taking full time will be enough of an adjustment. Keeping staff safe PPE Supply staff - obtaining. Staff anxiety levels Staff coping with new rules Managing stress for staff and families
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- 107 I am concerned staff and families will not want to return to work as they will be afraid to get sick.
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- 108 I am concerned that in a child care setting with younger children how to social distance safely. Staff might refuse to work and how to get adequate PPE for the staff.
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- 109 I am concerned that in meetings I have attended regarding the provision of emergency child care, no one raised concerns regarding the quality and possible negative effects of this kind of care on children. Children's wellbeing does not seem to be a consideration in the planning of emergency child care. I am also concerned that this could be the case when centres re-open - children met at the door, educators wearing masks and PPE, physical distancing. These conditions are not conducive to quality or children's wellbeing.
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- 110 I am concerned that the new health regulations returning to work will increase staff and families. Also, causing financial strain to the centre to meet regulations.
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- 111 I am concerned that we will be responsible for developing our own policies and procedures around re-opening without adequate direction from the Ministry.
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- 112 I am concerned that we will have lower number of children after re opening and also How we are going to manage the center with covid 19 precautions.
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- 113 I am concerned we will not have adequate time to make the necessary changes required before re-opening. I am also concerned that there will be little guidance or support for the re-opening of daycares.
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- 114 I am concerns for the children health & staff. will the operators be given guidelines to open safely. Will the center have enrollment to cover the costs, rent, bills, staff wages etc.
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- 115 I am confident that I will have to provide extra staffing to help with reopening and health and safety measures. I am hoping there will be funding available to offset the staffing requirements.
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- 116 I am extremely concerned about our ability to sustain the high-quality programming we usually provide. I was notified at the beginning of March, before we were closed, that our general operating grant funding would be reduced by almost 40% for 2020. And now, we will have no reserves left by the time we re-open. All the little advantages we have been able to provide our educators (paid planning and meeting times, mentoring programs, paid sick days, health benefits, Group RRSP, etc) may no longer be possible. We are going to have to return to times where we relied on fundraising to pay the bills. How can we retain quality, qualified, experienced staff in those conditions? Will our general operating funding be reduced even more? We have been a valuable presence in these rural communities for 46 years, the only licensed child care organization, but I fear for the future.
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- 117 I am extremely concerned that when we get the "green light" from the authorities to open up again. Some of my concerns are: -not being able to realistically follow (and maintain) the protocols from public health due to lack of extra staffing (ie: if we have to take the temperature of everyone coming in. Who does this? We have to maintain ratios) -having the proper PPEs. Where do we get them from?? Masks, gloves, etc are incredibly hard to find now. -I know that the educators are afraid to return to work. We all know that when working with children 5 and under there is no such thing as 'physical distancing'. The employees are very afraid to catch the virus and bring it home to their families, some of which fall into the high risk category.
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- 118 I am hopeful the government bodies will realize just how important and valuable child care is to the community.
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- 119 I am just so lost in what to do and what to apply for.
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- 120 I am mostly concerned about reopening: meeting the needs of families while offering fewer spaces in the short term. How do we choose who to accept???
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- 121 I am nervous about the mandates of re-opening and if it is something that I will be able to afford. Will there be supports available for myself, staff and families?
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- 122 I am really concerned about the health of the children I care for and my family.
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- 123 I am really concerned that our Centre does not qualify for any of the Federal Emergency Response Benefits. Due to the fact that the University administers our payroll, our Centre does not have our own CRA account. However, it should be noted that the Centre is financially responsible for our own payroll expenses. It is my understanding that there will be more Federal and Provincial that will be available in the weeks to come and it seems that our centre will be faced with the same roadblocks.
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- 124 I am the healthiest I have been since opening my childcare and that's because I don't have the children in my home making me or my own children sick. Because children care a lot of germs and I am afraid if you open things too soon children and pregnant women such d myself will be affected as well as the ones going into retirement. It's not fair for the majority of people to have to suffer due to the government's decision to start reopening things like sports that we can live without, parks and garden centers. Keep it the way it is Order everything over the phone curb side pick up. People will be safer the way
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- 125 I am very concerned about the mental health of both children and staff coming back to the centre once it opens. I am concerned about our enrollment. How long will we be able to remain open without assistance from the government to help with our expenses. We may need more staff to run day to day operations and that requires funding.
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- 126 I am very fortunate to be affiliated with the organization through which I am licensed. They have been very supportive and an excellent resource. Very informed and educated with current information as it relates to COVID 19.
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- 127 I am very surprised that the Ontario College of ECE has not directly communicated with its members regarding the stress that COVID-19 has put on our profession. The fact that the order for the state of emergency did not close unlicensed, home childcares but rather deemed them an essential service, is a statement of contempt for all the requirements and professionalism that licensed childcare represents. With the anticipated new requirements for reduced ratios and additional cleaning/disinfecting, no childcare centre will be able to afford to operate. I am aware of how much stress parents are experiencing being home with their children, also while trying to work, and believe that much more attention and support to get childcare centres up and running should be a priority. Mental and emotional health for both children and families, now and in the future, is being stressed.
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- 128 I am very worried that it will be impossible to distance with young children! They need our physical closeness to feel loved and part of the daycare family...how do you explain to a 1 yr old that they can't have a hug from their provider anymore? Push them away? I'm very concerned...I will not push them away. I would not open my home daycare if I was expected to do this. :(
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- 129 I am wondering how child care will be sustainable with the new lowered ratios and limited number of children per room and building. Parents won't be able to afford more yet child cares will not have the funds to pay the needed staff. Or that's where it looks like things may be headed.
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- 130 I am worried about actually opening. My centre will be opening when we are able, however, the actual day to day actions of being open while Covid-19 is still a threat is a very tricky thing. These are children, young children, who don't understand the act of social distancing or playing by themselves in a daycare setting. What about parents? I have a group of great parents who follow the rules, but what about those who don't? Daycare's should remain closed until they deem school's safe to open.
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- 131 I am worried about staff not wanting to come back as it's not a safe environment. There is no way that we can keep children ages infants to preschool away from each other all day. Staff also need to interact but the children hold the children touch the children clean the children they bring her teens how is that going to happen. I'm also worried about when staff get sick and I have no one else to replace them what do I do then as I need staff in order to run the daycare. Also many parents might choose not even to send their children because they don't feel that it is safe therefore we might potentially end up with less enrollment. With the uncertainty of the virus mutation, what if it mutates and now children end up getting severely sick.
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- 132 I am worried the child care centres will open too soon, as child care centres have lots of germs on a good day, putting all these children families and staff at risk when it really isn't safe to do so. ages 0-4 is a very difficult age to understand stay back, our number one core value is "the well being of children" opening too soon does not support that. I am just concerned for my staff, children and families. I have already heard parents say if child care opens too soon they are not sending their child, it isn't worth it.
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- 133 I am concerned the guidelines they place on us in order to reopen will not be realistic for my setting; physical distancing, keeping the children from playing together, reduced ratio. These will directly affect my ability to earn income. I have already lost 2 children because their parents are essential services and needed to find alternate care.
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- 134 I believe a clear protocol needs to be put into place on how operations can begin and continue. My centre's capacity is 90 children - who gets to decide who comes back when? and how? It can't be left up to the centre - Ministry needs to provide extremely clear direction.
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- 135 I believe it will be difficult to recall staff while there is still an 'option' of receiving the CERB. Staff pay too low Parent fees will need to be raised to a point where it will not be affordable for the full-fee parents due to the increased staffing needs/decreased numbers of children in care in order to be able to maintain social and physical distancing Re-opening -how to do this safely while still meeting needs Changing over from providing ECC to providing 'regular' licensed childcare
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- 136 I cannot anticipate what will be needed to reopen. I fear gov'ts will announce reopening with very little guidance/direction to policy and procedure
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- 137 I do not know what our licensing and health expectations will be to reopen and would like to plan now. Parents expectations could be unreasonable going forward. Employees with mental health issues will be greater and more challenging to support. Shortage of qualified staff will be challenging. Implementing and enforcing/maintaining safety measures within the organization. Sourcing adequate supplies of PPE initially and throughout the coming months. The costs associated with reopening will be extreme. Will we get financial help to install safety precautions? Concerns that our staff will not return to work - more may decide to move to other professions or schools. Staff turnover could increase over the next several months. Children could be emotionally impacted to the transition back to care or to care after being home with family for so long. Might now be able to bring all staff back due to low enrollment or new ratios expectations. That is tough. Might not be able to accommodate all of our pre-COVID children due to potential new ratios. How do we deal with that? I'm sure that I will have more concerns over time, but this is a start.
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- 138 I do wish when creating these surveys, that LICENSED HOME DAY CARE AGENCIES are included. This survey seems to be about either CENTRES , or single person home child care
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- 139 I don't believe that as a sector we have been considered at all in this. We have been overlooked, and seeming like an after thought. Our province of Ontario is focused on supporting families, (wonderful) however, they do not and have not considered supporting child care. Or they have not be vocal about it - I believe that child care in Canada is a broken system similar to what we are seeing in our long term care centres. Not feeling confident that all of our issues will be addressed in a recovery plan. Especially if it's done provincially.
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- 140 I feel any provider open and offering care should be paid as an essential worker, not if only the parent qualifies
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- 141 I feel if the government is able to provide top ups or CERB longer than 4 months we as child care providers can be closed for a little bit longer and help flatten the curve a bit more. By rushing people back to work and allowing children to collect as before I feel the 2nd wave will hit very hard.
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- 142 I feel particularly challenged by the lack of information and guidance being provided to the childcare sector. I hope there is a lot more support and clear direction / policy when we are returning to the centre.
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- 143 I feel this whole situation will have a completely different mentality on what a safe and nurturing environment we can provide for the children and families. Safety first but I'm not sure how the social distancing will work and the challenges we face with our children. With the compassion and care and professionalism we provide we need to ensure everyone is safe in our centre. I look forward to the guidelines we are given in order to reopen in a safe manner. stressful time for all
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- 144 I found it very frustrating home daycares were not mandated to close. I understand there are less children BUT this is my home where my family and my children live and I am not trained as a professional cleaner. For my families who are essential workers and had to continue with their work, they didn't understand why I was closed when I didn't have to be. In a childcare center yes there are more people but everyone goes home at the end of the night and things are able to be fully cleaned and sanitized. In my home, we continue to live here after the other children go home. With my own 2 and 4 year old, nothing here is ever truly clean or sanitized because this is where they live, where their things are and they are not confined to specific areas of the house. The announcement of home daycare being essential directly put my family and my children in danger. I have lost families because of it. With the reckless disregard the government showed for our homes and our safety if I could stay closed I would. Unfortunately I have a child with special needs and this is the only way I can generate a consistent full time income while being at home to support him.
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- 145 I have a huge concern on the provisions of spacing and allowable capacity once centre are open. If we are only allowed half the children my centre's will close without available funding to help offset the losses of not being able to be a full capacity
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- 146 I have been told that I must hold fees for parents. I will be reopening in the next few weeks but that's entirely dependent upon having regular and stable income/fees.
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- 147 I have concerns about our financial situation if the closure extends past September but also have concerns about staff taking public transportation to work and keeping the centre safe for everyone. Keeping groups size small will require offering either a split day or 2 or 3 days weekly for parents which will lower our fee income. But we will need a full staff so there will be ongoing financial loss.
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- 148 I have concerns about what COVID-19 return to work protocols will entail and if we have reduced class sizes this means we won't be able to recall all staff at once?
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- 149 I have concerns as a new owner that had a low number of kids was starting to get more kids and get busy and then we closed. Worried about paying rent etc. And if parents will come back. Concerned about the Safety for the kids. How can we be more safe in our centres?
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- 150 I have literally lost thousands of dollars because of covid-19. Families dropped out and I was left with 2 children instead of my usual 6. Parents were told they did not have to pay the days they had already book and that dropped my cheque from \$2000 to \$700 instantly. I have since taken in essential workers families but had to extend my hours to accommodate this. I am a licensed home day care and have been working 13 or more hour days. The local Social Services Board is reimbursing us for cleaning supplies but it is not enough. I work for people who have to work and put myself and my family at risk in the process and still we have not been recognized in this whole pandemic as essential front line workers. I have spent hours and hours doing the additional cleaning steps required for me to be open and that is not being compensated either. Because I also provide meals to these children and I have limited my shopping to once a week I spend a whole day on my weekend making sure I have everything I need for the daycare to operate and again we are not compensated for that either.
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- 151 I have more concern when we re-open, it will be less enrollment, but I have to pay employees and other expenses without government support
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- 152 I have to reimburse my parents their March fees when we were closed. This financial issue made the difference of laying off my staff or having to pay back the parents. The summer months are my slowest month, where I end up in a deficit, add on the fee reimbursements, this will set me back. I believe the Province should have financially supported the lost revenue from the closure in March. Parents had already paid their fees and expect to be reimbursed. This amount is a huge financial challenge going forward. It determines all decisions I make going forward.
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- 153 I heard that because of my daycare is part of a private school, and for the federal govt, private school is a school, it is not eligible to receive CEWS. I am very worried.....
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- 154 I hope there will be clear directives coming from Public Health and/ or Toronto Public Health regarding re-opening of home child care. I also hope that if ever gloves and masks are needed to practice safe distancing, there will be available gloves and masks for purchase.
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- 155 I know our sector is understaffed and underpaid already. I worry about how additional costs/ lower enrollment due to COVID-19 will impact our sector and the already existing challenges we are facing.
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- 156 I laid staff off initially...recalled them due to CEWS...worried this will end before we are back to normal. I am worried staff will not want to come back to the classroom out of fear. I am worried about legal issues from parents if their child gets covid while in care. We provided a credit for future care from March fees not used...I am worried parents will seek legal if they cannot get a refund
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- 157 I'm concerned about the higher cost of gloves and masks, my own health issues and about the CERB. The cost is going to increase to run the daycare and we are already in income lost state.
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- 158 I need funding to hire more staff to cover for lower ratios, cleaning and sanitization materials, PPEs and so forth- not sure if families would be back then what? Who pays for empty spots ...,
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- 159 I personally feel it is impossible to provide Childcare safely in a home environment due to Covid 19. I struggle with 1. Home Childcare are held to lower standards as compared to centers. No reduction of ratio, not expected to social distancing, different safety measures 2. Home Providers will lose their income if forced to close due to someone showing symptoms of Covid (because I'm self employed).
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- 160 I provide home based care and am licensed through a agency. How will I be able to provide adequate care/activities? I will need to be cleaning and sanitizing even more so than I already do. I am the only one in the home, I don't have a team or other people I would be able to delegate tasks to. How does meal/snack times look like? Or quiet time? Or outings? I regularly did take them out to the library, playground, hiking trails/outdoor areas. The kids who come here are friends and like playing together. My own son (kindergarten) had autism and limited speech capacity and is a flight risk. It's a challenge already bridging the age gap (7 year age difference). My kids are all kids from subsidized families. Nothing wrong with that except it can be very challenging to make ends meet. I have a commercial license for my vehicle, enhanced insurance on the house and also pay a bit for the licensing of the agency. Coupled with gas, groceries and activities, I find I usually have to have a second job on the side or use credit to make ends meet. I should acknowledge that we receive at the end of the year a Wage Enhancement Grant, but I am not sure if that was government provided.
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- 161 I think it will be difficult to obtain some of the necessary items that are in short supply for re-opening such as disinfecting products, gloves etc.
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- 162 I think it's difficult to know the exact impacts that Covid-19 will have overall on child care services, as there are still so many unknowns at this point. Challenges starting back up, with continuing operations, and whether there are future necessary closures due to another outbreak are all possibilities. This has definitely had a drastic impact on the sector, and hopefully additional supports will be put in to ensure the sustainability, safety and success of child care services in all areas. Also, I understand your limiting of whom you would like to complete this survey, however not all centers are structured the same, and not everyone would be able to accurately answer the questions provided just because they're a Director or Supervisor. This may not be the case in large centers, but in small ones knowledge of the day to day operations, funding, financial impacts, etc. may be found elsewhere. It may be better to ask the individual that has knowledge of the items you're looking for to complete the survey, to ensure you're getting an accurate reflection of current situations.
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- 163 I think my greatest concern is what will child care look like when it reopens and will we have the educators to be able to do so. I worry that if we will lose RECE's to other jobs if they open up first leaving child care centre with a the challenge of being able to reopen due to lack of qualified staff.
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- 164 I think new operational costs (health & safety requirements) will impede on affordability to full fee parents and therefore impede on enrolment.
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- 165 I think that daycare should only open in centers. Where public health could have a nurse overseeing. There is no way to operate safely in a home with children. As providers we are completely vulnerable to the mercy of parents bringing sick kids. Also some kids have no symptoms but carry or shed the virus. If we can't have people in to visit why should home daycares be mandated to open.
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- 166 I think that the 75% wage subsidy should continue for childcare for at least 4 months upon reopening to help with the cost for wages as this will be our greatest expense and we anticipate more the 50% loss of income due to less enrolment.
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- 167 I think that the face of child care will have a much different look when centres are able to re-open. It will be a very slow process, and families and staff will have to realize this and we will all have to work together to make it work. I hope that if we are reduced ratio/slower to start that staff don't get discouraged and move on. There will be full time work for them it will just take time.
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- 168 I think the problem is not only how to we meet our existing fixed costs but also how to meet them once everything reopens when the number of kids will be significantly reduced. if the revenue decreases by 50% or more and the fixed costs remain the same how are to survive, I think you will have more closures once everything reopens that now.
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- 169 I think we should be eligible for some type of government funding during this pandemic.
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- 170 I want to reopen but am so scared because this is my home.
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- 171 I was a new center that opened only in September 2019 so was not eligible for any operating and other grants. I would like to become eligible as this will support our ability to open and operate in a sustainable way. We had spent so much money on marketing to get enrollments for our business and now have to start all over again. So any support to include this in the funding will help. Unless we have enrollments, our ability to stay open is not viable. Parents are afraid to bring kids back into programs based on our internal survey so we are worried on the impact this mindset will have on our business.
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- 172 I will admit I'm very skeptical on reopening our centre in the near future. The uncertainties around retaining adequate staffing to meet ratios, as well as operating at a significantly reduced number of children seems detrimental to the long term financial stability of our centre.
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- 173 I wonder if provincial regulations regarding the delivery of child care and operating child-care centres will change after COVID-19 and how will those regulations affect the childcare sector.
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- 174 I worry about the affect our child care system in this new " normal " will have on staff and families as it rolls out. Lack of spaces if I can only offer half care , social distancing for toddlers!! Stress on staff for cleaning with bleach and doing jobs they are not "hired" to do , and therefore burn out and lack of qualified staff who can help move forward
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- 175 I would have liked the survey to have addressed more concerns regarding PPE, measures, anxieties educators are having etc.
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- 176 I would hope that before they ask us to reopen, they consult with the sector about our needs.
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- 177 I would like to see the recommendations on how to operate with restrictions in place- it is very important for children to develop attachment bonds which cannot be accomplished with social distancing measures.
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- 178 I would love to reopen my home childcare but my fear is I can't keep 6 children 6 feet apart it's just not reasonable. They don't understand especially since I have children under 4 years. Also I do have families that have the fear of sending them until they know its safe.
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- 179 I'm hoping to start up again on May 9, hopefully things will get better. I miss working and I miss my Daycare children
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- 180 I'm concerned that upon reopening the requirements for physical distancing will impede on educators' ability to provide responsive care. I am also concerned as our local DSSAB pays for subsidized families' fees the month following the month they are accrued (i.e., if we were to reopen for June 1st, we would not see any subsidized fees until July 20th) which may pose a cash flow crisis. I'm also concerned with the lack of information being provided to child care centres and I am worried that we won't receive sufficient notice before we are able to reopen (i.e., an announcement a week or less before we are able to reopen, requiring everyone to scramble to get situated). I am also concerned that this closure may last until September or later, in which case, I'm not sure how feasible reopening will be.
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- 181 I'm worried that the number of children allowed in the centre when we open will not be enough to cover our overheads unless other funding becomes available otherwise we will go into debt.
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- 182 I'm a RECE who has proudly worked with children and their families for 39 years. I'm very concerned we are going to open too quickly and not be given enough time or directives to prepare. I have extreme concerns about the emotional impact this new environment is going to have on children. Our code of Ethics that we are legislated by law to do, demands our interactions with children are in a nurturing environment not wearing masks and requiring children to remain apart. This new environment goes totally against "How Does Learning Happen". I'm also concerned that we will not have enough Educators to return to work as the province opens. The province is providing much needed funds to keep programs going now but how will we manage with fewer children in attendance, financially? This is very stressful for all.
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- 183 I'm afraid to infect my family when reopening full time.
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- 184 I'm concerned that if ratios change, we'll have less funds to pay staff the wages they deserve. Also, social distancing with young children is next to impossible, keeping children safe is always a concern.
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- 185 I'm interested to know if we will be required to have fewer children per classroom and if so, will ratios be in fewer to make up for the lower income.
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- 186 I'm scared to reopen without a vaccine. I'm scared to reopen without having PPE. I'm scared to reopen without knowing if me or the day care kids are asymptotic covid Carriers or not
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- 187 If Childcare needs to practice increased social distancing within centres, this will increase costs as we will need more space, more licensed rooms and therefore increase costs to parents. Other provinces need to implement the Quebec model of childcare
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- 188 If CMSM's would release the General Operating Grant and not reduce/claw back, we would be fine .... but they refuse to make this commitment.
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- 189 If health requirements necessary to reopen are too costly, in addition to mandate operating at lower capacity, may not be feasible to operate the business from a cost perspective.
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- 190 If ratios change, how will staff and space in center allow for this protection of staff and children in centre. Extra cleaning required - who will do this and how will this be accomplished daily
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- 191 If we are to operate at reduced capacity upon return from the COVID-19 pandemic, we will need subsidy to cover our overhead. Margins in childcare centres are very small, and we need at least 70% of our capacity filled in order to stay afloat. If we can bring back fewer children than this, we will be operating at a loss.
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- 192 In my previous response I indicated mostly with respects to while we are closed as far as staying afloat however it does not factor the fact that I paid all wages (100%) in order to not lay anyone off and add strain to the economy and that I have zero income while closed as well as have refunded all tuition to parents.
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- 193 In no particular order: funding for increased P.P.E, staffing, screening children and families, keeping children safe, supporting children's well-being, sense of security, how do we engage with them when we must distance, What are we documenting, what changes will be made to Licensing? how will the Assessment of Quality Improvement continue when we can not meet compliance, meeting and managing public health measures, will childcare centers be expected to offer care 24/7 or weekends or 5am to 9pm? I hope that our government will acknowledge the childcare sector as a vital cornerstone to Ontario's economic growth and development and sustainability by opening more centers to meet the need of families and children. Further, an increase in wage, benefits and respect for the valuable work childcare of committed professionals is desperately needed.
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- 194 Increased communication from municipal and provincial governments needed. Understand there may not be answers yet but would appreciate understanding what is being considered/planned. Hopeful that municipal partners and public health will be able to provide enhanced supports, including financial supports for increased staffing and lower ratios, once licensed child care is able to reopen. Concerned about quality care and possible limited interactions with children and families as well as staff confidence and comfort level in adapting to new policies and procedures.
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- 195 Increased funding to cover COVID -19 safety measures. Slow return of children to the program due to their complex medical needs-- possible lose of funding and concerns of survival related to low enrolment. Paying families not having the finances to continue to send their children to the program. Possible lay offs.
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- 196 Information about and receipt of funding is slow coming, as well as information about stepped up health requirements for reopening, which makes it very difficult for us to plan and prepare accordingly. I need more information to be able to prepare and assure the anxiety level in my staff.
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- 197 Inquiète d'avoir le covid apporter chez moi.savoir si je serai heureuse avec la nouvelle manière de fonctionner, inquiète pour le salaire
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- 198 It is definitely going to be difficult to open, due to lack of monies. My centre is not for profit and I solely rely on the tuition from parents for my centre. I am unable to apply for the CEWS program because my teachers were laid off on March 25, 2020. Thus I am unable to receive that funding. I wish the government would help out with general operating costs for my centre.
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- 199 It is extremely frustrating to hear that my staff are not able to continue to get GOF/EG payments. We have been laid off since March 16th' 2020 and are only receiving the CERB. As a for profit childcare centre we are not eligible to obtain the 75% from the FEDERAL government. Although we are [corporate child care business]. We are losing money each month due to rent, property tax, electrical, phone, internet, water etc..
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- 200 It is frustrating because we are forced to close but have huge rent payments (\$37,000+ per month). The company is losing almost \$40,000 per month. The CEBA \$40,000 loan helps a little but only covers one month. I have concerns of how long this closure will last and how long we can survive without revenue.
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- 201 It is frustrating right now that we don't know how the regulations will change in order for us to return. Staffing is a huge concern, especially if we are required to have extra staff or if regular staff are odd sick and we require casual staff. Also having to catch staff up on first aid courses , immunizations, etc. in order to meet licencing requirements will be a challenge as courses are not being offered at this time and Dr's don't want to see you except for emergencies
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- 202 It is going to be incredibly hard to ensure my family's safety with children and parents coming and going in my home. Due to shared living/daycare spaces with couches, carpets etc I foresee it to be nearly impossible to halt the spread of germs. I will likely not open until a vaccine has been found
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- 203 It is hard to get any of the money they say they are offering - I have a finance team working on it as well.. it is a lot of work and so far nothing! Will try even harder next week!
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- 204 it is hard to teach school age children and keep toddlers social distancing. it will also be hard with special needs children returning as they don't understand the change
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- 205 It is imperative that Ontario organisations continue to receive WEG, Operating Grants and fee subsidies if organisations are expected to pay the other 25% of the CEWS. It is imperative that supports come to operate in a covid suppressed community our current delivery model for emergency childcare in Ontario is not sustainable based on staffing ratios and cost to deliver. If organisations experience a slow opening with limited numbers they will need severance supports.
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- 206 It is interesting to me that 2 months after state of emergency declared the Provincial Government has only now come out and said they need to support the child care sector
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- 207 It is not clear in the application if non for profit organizations are eligible to apply.
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- 208 It is unfair that the government expects home daycare providers to hold places for children who do not attend. If the home daycare is open, parents should be paying fees whether or not they send their children. A provider with a full group at 45\$ a day earns around 5500\$ per month. Having to hold a space is what's in the parents best interests; but who is looking out for the providers. I see in many Facebook posts that home daycare providers are "public enemy number one". Clients take advantage of us and disrespect us, the government acts like we are big company capable of bouncing back. The reality is many home daycares have closed their doors for good. We feel unsupported and bullied by everyone, when we are caring people who open up our homes to care for and help raise children that are not ours.
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- 209 It is very difficult to determine the financial impacts and the financial support that are required until we know when we will reopen and the new standards that will apply.
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- 210 It is very difficult to determine the financial impacts and the financial support we will require until we know when we will reopen and the new standards that will apply.
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- 211 It is very difficult to determine the financial impacts and the financial support we will require until we know when we will reopen, and the new standards that will apply.
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- 212 It is very difficult to plan for a reopening with little or no direction from the province at this time. In order to prepare for a smooth transition it is important that we are able to support the changes necessary to meet the public health recommendations. Educators anxious about returning could help to ease their anxiety with more direction from the province. Organizations are able to support only so much as we can not answer many questions at this time.
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- 213 It takes too long to get a clear understanding of the terms of funding. Everyone was laid off but some of us are still working with no pay to try & complete the responsibilities, ie: our year end. We could not tap into the 75% funding as at the beginning you needed to top up their salaries & with fixed costs that had to be paid, we really did not know how long this closure was going to be, if help would be available & therefore had to keep money aside for the property taxes, fixed bills et.
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- 214 It took us ten years to build up a reserve that will be wiped out in three months
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- 215 It was and is extremely confusing having different areas and levels of care receive different or competing instructions. Licensed home childcare has been mandated to close in my county and has not in others. Private care providers have been given contradictory orders multiple times and don't know whether or not they qualify for the CERB.
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- 216 It's taken years to be where we were post-COVID, how are we going to recover financially. How are we going to deal with a second wave of COVID? Staffing concerns about their safety and working conditions with young children.
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- 217 It's frustrating that all of my families were working from home and offering to pay a fee for support or virtual learning and I was unable to accept as per the new state of emergency regulations.
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- 218 It's very risky to re-open having 5-6 families entering the home daycare with my family living in the same house .
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- 219 Just a note to say on March 13 Board meeting, Board decided to close effective end of day March 16th, THEN the mandatory announcement was made on the 17th. Also Board voted not to cover the other 25% of CEWS. We were told our general grant was not to be used to top up as well.
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- 220 Just hope the funding does not run out before we can re open
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- 221 Lack of clarity & guidance from all levels of government
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- 222 Lack of communication and guidance is very challenging! In discussions with other child care leaders, we are all fumbling trying to make serious decisions with little concrete information. Much is outside our expertise. We need to have adequate time and funding to be able to put everything needed in place prior to reopening. If the government states that centres can re-open, but we are not properly equipped to manage this, it will cause great breakdown in relationships with our families and the community. What will reopening look like? What procedures do we need to have in place? What PPE do we need to protect our staff and families? What are the risks? What funds will support us? There should be clear directives that will provide consistency in our sector that is based on real concrete evidence.
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- 223 Lack of communication has been a significant concern. There has been little communication from governing bodies (with the exception of the municipality). There has been NO inclusion in the conversation about closures, recovery, return, concerns, pressures, etc. The personnel (Program Advisors, District Consultants, Public Health Officials and Special Needs Resource Consultants, School Board Personnel) in these positions to act as conduits in the dialogue have been all but absent to operators.
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- 224 Lack of provincial support and guidance. No guidance in what policies and procedures will need to prepare for re-opening.
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- 225 Le Canada, et les provinces et territoires, doivent établir un système compréhensif de services éducatifs à l'enfance à but non lucratif, tout comme les écoles et les hôpitaux et de le financer de façon stable et garantie avec des fonds suffisants pour pouvoir offrir des services autorisés de qualité pour les familles qui en ont besoin et d'offrir des conditions de travail raisonnables pour les employés, surtout les éducatrices diplômées, (salaires et bénéfices professionnels). Nous devons créer système éducatif à la jeune enfance qui est vu comme faisant partie intégrale du système éducatif scolaire régulier. Nous sommes sous financés de façon chronique et nous devons faire partie des services essentiels pour notre société, comme c'est un fait dans la plupart des pays d'Europe depuis plusieurs décennies.
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- 226 Licensed family child care homes have been forgotten in this COVID pandemic. All the guidelines are for centres and nothing for us. We can't physical distance in a room with 6 kids. The children are coming in contact and will share a space with the providers family as well. We need guidelines and support to keep everyone safe
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- 227 Licensed home daycares have been forgotten. We have been mandated to close, are doing our part but have no type of funding to receive. CERB is typically much less than what we would normally make in a month. Unlicensed home daycares are allowed to be open / they are choosing
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- 228 Little to no information has been given to help prepare for re-opening centres. Day care centres are highly regulated but during this pandemic there has been little to no guidance from any level of government when it is most needed! I feel like centres have been let down. Now I am supposed to create a pandemic plan but am not being given any direction from any level of government.
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- 229 Main challenge we are facing are Rent, TMI, Fix costs and mainly parents fee refunds from March 2020 onwards. Also our next year students are withdrawing which is resulting in further refunds and less number of students for next academic year as well, causing long term financial crisis.
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- 230 Main concern is getting enough staff to come back to work
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- 231 Main concern will be the impact to net income and contingency reserves - based on the new ratios, no. of children per educator, for as long as social distancing measures must remain in place - if government subsidies cease.
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- 232 Major concern regarding reopening and ratios, being able to financially sustain upon re-opening.
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- 233 Many questions about how centres will come back: ramp up period, health & safety issues, funding, etc. NOTE: We are a multi-site child care provider. At some sites, we also provide kindergarten and school age care. Other than the number of spaces and age groups provided, the same answers apply to all of our sites - 7 in total. We therefore only completed this survey once.
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- 234 Measures being in place to protect staff and children from contracting COVID-19 when centers reopen
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- 235 Meeting the challenges of a post-COVID world
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- 236 Meeting the challenges of physical distancing and droplet spreading from the under 4 year olds, pre-screening before entry... knowing what is cold asthma or covid and being sure of the differences...uncertainty of starting up then having to quarantine for additional time
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- 237 More questions than answers.
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- 238 My biggest concern is how we can reopen safely, considering the age of the children we serve. It is impossible to social distance with toddlers and even preschoolers. Some staff have partners with compromised health. We also do not have a true understanding of how the virus affects young children.
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- 239 My biggest concern is rehiring staff. Some staff are currently making more on CERB then I can afford to pay them. Many are afraid to return for their own safety.
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- 240 My biggest concern is the health and safety of front line staff and children. How will social distancing work at child care? How will children react to staff wearing masks, shields etc... currently the emergency centers keep having outbreaks... this can be a big liability. Who will cover the liability? Some staff who have health issues will not return. Staffing was difficult before covid -19, it will be even more so after we will have to purchase masks etc.. this will be an added cost and expense
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- 241 My biggest concern is the lower enrolment and being able to afford or pay labour. Also the additional measures that we have to put in place.
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- 242 My centre was pretty full before covid I'm afraid of the enrolment after we reopen.
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- 243 My comment is regarding the Emergency Closure for licensed child care centres, why doesn't the government try to be in line with the Toronto District School Board and the Catholic School Board closure? It's very confusing when it's announced (extended closure) because there are 3 different announcements: one for schools, one for licensed day care centres in schools and licensed day care centres outside of schools. I know that we fall under the Emergency Closure, which is in two week increments but it's still very confusing.
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- 244 My concern is all that goes into deep sanitizing each day and after each use of equipment, toys after each use. Safety measures for staff and children and if funding will help to cover the costs of adequate PPE.
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- 245 My concern is going forward how are we going to protect our employees and the families as we return to operation. As it stands the shortage on gloves will impact my business as currently, I can only order one box of 300 gloves per week. I order them a case at a time (12 boxes of 300) every other month. If we have to wear masks the children will be frightened and we will not feel comfortable offering comfort. The anxiety and mental health of employees, children and families will be extremely high and the impact will be felt.
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- 246 My concern is I'm in the TDSB and feel you will have to mirror their COVID-19 Schools are very crowded so the concern is health of the children as a whole o this setting I worry that I will have to open and close our business making the daycare to have increase costs not having any control over revenue or future projections concern the center can't hold on for 2 years we do have many subsidized families should in general our subsidy payment is very small. Thank you
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- 247 My concern is keeping everyone safe and that we will have enough equipment.
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- 248 My concern is when child care is directed to re-open will the government provide guidelines to Child Care Centre's safe operations along with adequate funding for lost revenue operating at a lesser capacity. Child Care was already struggling with staffing issues prior to the Pandemic - staff suffering preexisting mental/physical health issues may/may not return without a vaccine to ensure their safety. Should staff refuse to return to work, who will staff these childcare centres. Will staff continue to receive CERB refusing to accept work ? How will centres "choose" who will come back if ratio's are effected?
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- 249 My concern is that the government providing funding ONLY to the centres who have a subsidy agreement. Not everyone qualify for subsidy agreement with the Region the centre resides in. In name, we are a "for" profit centre, but I know and many owners know this for a fact is that "for" profits we make so little money and can only afford minimum wages for our staff not because we want to be cheap. It's because we simple can't afford it. The "non-for profit" centres actually get a lot more funding and priority than the for profit, simply because they are non-profit organizations. I think it's time that we are all on the same page and provide equal funding to all the centres. I have worked for the City of Toronto, non-profit organizations and I know they've received a ton of funding and able to buy all the items they need for a centre. I really think the government needs to start looking at the child care system from the ground up and see what the issue is. These private centre child care spaces were created by people like me who would like to make a difference in children's lives by taking out a loan. How can government help us retain this spot? If these spots are gone because we are closed, how much more money are the government willing to spend re-opening these spots? If economy is reopening, parents will need child care and how can we all do this together if child care services are at the bottom of the government's list. Another issue is staffing, I am unable to pay the staff more than \$16/hour because I simple don't have extra funding. But if you work for the city of Toronto, your starting salary is \$30/hour plus benefits and pension plan. I can't offer my staff benefits or pension plan. You lose staff very easily because you can't pay well and we all know children need stability. Child care workers work in the field, because we truly believe the future of our children and the genuine love that we have for working in this field. But it is starting to get very hard when we are not seen as an integral part of this economy, although government says we are but throughout the COVID19, we have not seen it. We are last to know that we are closed-when schools in Ontario were all told to close because of the concern of the spreading of covid19, child care on the other hand were said "we believe you should close but that's up to you" So the staff and the children that attend child care don't matter? Please voice these concerns that child care providers have and I believe there are so many of us that feel the same way. We need support in all ways, not just financially, but guidance on how to navigate this reopening. Thank you
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- 250 My concern is the uncertainty about staffing, enrollments and child care future in general
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- 251 My concern is with supply staff they are the only individuals who were laid off and getting them back may be difficult once we reopen. Either because of health risk or they have moved on to new jobs.
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- 252 My concern when re-opening is not having adequate safety items for educators, keeping educator from getting sick, the financial strain on the extra supplies needed for staff due to COVID-19. My most biggest concern is not having full numbers in the classroom and financially not being able to run properly. We need to be 85% to break even and if reduced numbers in the centre is 1/2. We will need government funding to make end meet.
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- 253 My concerns are for the well being of my staff, children and parents. Everyone is very anxious about returning. Some feel that it is too soon. I am also concerned about obtaining the proper PPE for my staff prior to opening. We are not a large centre and I am concerned about the challenges of separating groups, altering ratios and maintaining a safe environment.
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- 254 My home daycare is our main source of family income, so it's very important to keep my home daycare business in the future and once it's safe to reopen .
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- 255 My daughter is an emergency physician, recently graduated. Although our child care work of almost 20 years is greatly loved and appreciated, parents don't want to bring their children back to my centre as I am also caring for my daughter's children. They are worried that they may pick up the virus although we are all diligently careful.
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- 256 My greatest concern/stress is not every catching up with the debt that is accumulating.
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- 257 My kids have a compromised immune system and retiring to work put my family at risk. This is terrible because now I have no idea what I can do to earn an income. I used to have a great job before daycare but couldn't continue because my kids needed me because of their medical needs. Running a home daycare is actually awful because of the way society treats you. I've had parents treat me terribly. We get looked upon as having no education. That daycare work is for people that couldn't find a "REAL" job. my pay is less than \$5.00 an hour. I have had people tell me I'm a glorified babysitter. It's usually once the kids start school that I will get a random call thanking me for my efforts. I appreciate the top-up that the government provides. If not for that I couldn't pay my bills. Lastly why do I have to pay so much in taxes if I'm barely scraping by? It's odd that I pay more taxes than a lot of others for what I earn.
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- 258 My landlord does not qualify for the rent program and has stated he cannot offer me rent relief. This fixed cost is what will determine the future of our childcare centre - my lease is up within a couple of months and my savings are running out. Additionally, we have 16 preschool spaces, 13 after school spaces and 4 staff at the centre - if we cannot fill these spaces because of new ratio requirements then we will also not have a business model that allows us to continue to stay open. It's so scary for our families who could potentially now return to work with no childcare.
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- 259 My largest concern is post COVID, opening up and worrying daily about an outbreak as we all know some parents do not take illness policy seriously and younger children do not understand social distancing. Even something as simple meals, should it be mandated that parents bring own snacks and meals? Financially my concern is, making ends meet if we remain closed and when we re-open. We will not be able to take back all of our children, but expenses remain the same. How can I choose which staff return? If the wage subsidy program remains, I do believe this will be helpful post COVID, so that we can rehire all staff and alternate working hours.
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- 260 My main concern is opening safely. We cannot social distance these kids in a small home and I have my own children who are usually in school home as well which makes my numbers higher for longer than usually. A lot of summer camps that I send them to won't be able to open this year so I am worried about safety! Having 9 kids everyday instead of 5 is almost double and a big deal but still meets the allowable amount because my own kids are school aged.
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- 261 My main concern is whether families will be willing to put their children back into childcare.
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- 262 My staff are receiving CERB. Managing the CEWS is time consuming and receiving the funds takes up to six weeks. I need that cash to pay rent and benefits and as a reserve. Parents will be withdrawing over the coming months in preparation for children to attend jk/sk. In a typical year this is 35-55% of my clients. Will there be demand from new clients given the level of unemployment?
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- 263 My staff are panicked about the possibility of having to reopen too early and therefore risking the health of them and their families. While we understand the need for child care in order for parents to get back to work, at this time we feel it is way too early and still unsafe.
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- 264 Need specific cleaning and guidelines from the Government for Home Based Daycares.
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- 265 Need support for extra staffing to meet possible ratio changes, definite more sanitizing procedures, drop off/pick up and drop in revenue due to drop in enrolment however expenses will increase; staff time + equipment.
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- 266 No clear direction when funding announcements were announced. Parents are not all that understanding & were not happy with the immediate shutdown & now having a credit on their account of two weeks after paying for the month. We are not in a financial situation to write cheques for re-imburement. We still have fixed costs that need to be taken care of. It is great that the government will cover 75% of salaries, but where does the centre get the top up money along with not even knowing how long this is going to last. We needed to prepare ourselves to have the money to pay the set bills so that we will be able to open. We had 6 Before & After School programs located in schools effected. How will manage to open in September if it goes this long? Will staff come back?
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- 267 No clear guidelines for post-COVID child care operation/ parents not willing to send kids back to the centre > losing revenues/ staff refuse to work because of insecurity..
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- 268 Not able to operate my centre for long due not having enough funding help from county
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- 269 Not sure how the government plans on financially supporting the center with the extra work put on the front line staff
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- 270 Nous avons eu a cœur dès l'annonce que le conseil scolaire nous a dit que nos garderies sont fermées a partir du 16 mars de continuer de payer nos employées en leur offrant la possibilité de faire de l'apprentissage en ligne. 4 personnes ont travaillé des heures supplémentaires pour s'assurer que l'apprentissage était disponible et du succès de cette apprentissage incluant la vitesse de dactylo qui était 8 mots par minute... Nous avons eu du support de l'AFO- Afeseo ainsi que [name of company] avec leur apprentissage. Nous avons travaillé sur comment apprend-on, tous les éducatrices on fait le test du ministère, passé a travers les exercices du ministère, une demande de permis, pédagogie, tous les politiques, les procédures de santé, les valeurs, construction identitaire, les non-conformes, plan chaque enfant à sa place, l'inclusion, l'autoévaluation faiblesses et forces, Le JE et le NOUS, l'autonomie, la discipline personnelle, professionnelle pour atteindre l'excellence, mode de communication, la formule de compétence, le leadership etc... On c'est pas ennuyé...
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- 271 Nous avons regarder les programmes de subventions possible et dans le moment les garderies municipales ne qualifient pas pour recevoir des sommes d'argent. Il faudrait réviser l'admissibilité des garderies pour inclure les garderies à but non lucratif municipales. Nous sommes un milieu syndiqué et tous les employées ont été mise à pied avec le paiement des années de service tel qu'établi dans la convention collective; ensuite ce sera CERB pour eux.
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- 272 Now is the time to get Universal childcare in Canada!
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- 273 Numbers of children allowed in the building, length of day, if staff refuse to come, revenue coming in - does not cover operations, If an outbreak occurs - then what happens, less children more staff, which families receive initial care if numbers are limited, costs and supply for PPE - can we even get it, guidelines to ensure quality care, policy and procedures - staff training, extra costs for cleaning, start up and phasing in of staff, etc,
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- 274 On-going General Operating Grant funding increased to cover the costs of additional personnel required to maintain Health & Safety standards, new disinfecting procedures and the PPE required for the ongoing COVID crisis.
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- 275 Only allowed to receive CERB for 16 weeks; what about after? I have asthma, iron deficiency and am high-risk for complications if contracted Covid-19. What if I am unable to re-open?
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- 276 Ontario Min of Ed has mandated that if/when a home provider is open, if a family does not want their child to attend, (unemployment, health concerns, parent is working from home, etc.) we cannot charge them, but their space is guaranteed. The family could keep their child home for months, but we must hold their spaces for them without pay, we cannot fill the spot.
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- 277 Opening an emergency child care during the outbreak presents with many challenges. Additional measures have been put into place to mitigate risk. Screening of all children, families and staff. Parents not permitted to enter the centre, no visitors allowed in, full time cleaners for all operating hours constant cleaning. Reduce capacity to 25% of license. Infant care discouraged, but in an emergency situation would only accept the infant with one on one support, two staff are required due to hours of operation. Operating 7 days per week, 6:00 am to 9:00 pm, some sites are also 24 hour care. uptake on 24 hours is low. Average age of the children attending is 7 years. changed license to family grouping, keeping siblings together. Very specific rules that must be followed to minimize cross contamination. Social distancing is manageable with small groups of children. No more than 5 children in a room with and educator. wonderful strong relationships are formed given the small number of children. \$250/per day per child. this is due to extended hours, increased staff for screening and cleaning. Immediate access to public health if concerned about symptoms. Masks are not used in the playrooms with children, unless there is concern about symptoms emerging. PPE used by screener. Municipality responsible for approving eligibility of essential workers and placed the children in the centres. Followed all requirements of public health.
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- 278 Opening childcare is a very fragile proposition. The child must be checked at the door frequent hand washing sanitizing after one child has been using a toy. Screening and monitoring the child if the provider has six children this will take up most of the time. Parents will have to sign off that the child is not sick I believe we should have testing for all our providers and the children the parents should vouch for themselves. The providers will have to be provided with more funds to cover the supplies
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- 279 Our biggest concern is reopening, less children, less staff which means some staff will not have jobs after all this. More debt as the centres will operate with less children, more strict requirements in terms of ratio and we will be in debt trying to get our feet off the ground again :(
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- 280 Our biggest concern is the family we serve are very vulnerable high needs families. Their circumstances are living in extreme poverty, struggling with addictions, mental health issues, homelessness, language barriers, refugees, CAS involvement. During the best of times, these families struggle to survive and parent their children, during this time, we are unable to provide enough care to them, and they are struggling with depression, frustration, addictions, and we fear this will impact children who have already been traumatized. When the economy reopens, we are filled with uncertainty, and receiving little to no guidance on how reopening will happen in childcare, and what it will look like. We are not sure if staff would be expected to wear full PPE - which of course goes against every theory of building attachment and trusting relationships with children, how do we social distance, how do staff come back to work if they have health issues - asthma or children/family members at home, who are compromised due to health issues? The government of Ontario and the Federal Government have not provided any information or guidance in relation to the prospect of reopening and how that will affect childcare sector.
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- 281 Our biggest concern is when we do re-open, what protocols and procedures we will need to implement. I would appreciate specific guidelines from the government on how we can ensure the health and safety of our staff, families and students. Thank you!
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- 282 Our center contains two sections: 0-4 and 4-12; Since we are newly formed after 2018, we do not qualify for few funding. Most of our parents are full fee parents. After the closure order in March, we lost 90% of our revenue. Setting up two new centres is very costly. We are facing more challenges than some well established centers for the years to come.
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- 283 Our centre had only been licensed for a couple of months before the pandemic began. We were not full at the time we were mandated to close. We anticipate losing some families once we reopen. We need to have full numbers to be able to remain open but are concerned about recruiting new families and possible lower ratios once we reopen. We may also have an issue with staff who choose not to return. We need more emergency funding so we won't have to close our program.
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- 284 Our centre is a municipally operated site and therefore doesn't qualify for the funding pots out there. Funding is very specific and limited. Staffing is always an issue and finding qualified presents challenges on a daily basis. Parents can not afford the actual costs of childcare and the subsidy offered for direct operating does not meet the bottom line. The short-fall goes to the general public to pick up the difference through taxation. Costs associated with the re-opening will have to be absorbed into the programming dollars specifically meant for providing for the children. These are hardships that will face our site.
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- 285 Our commercial landlord does not fit criteria to apply for the Commercial tent relief benefit, therefore we cannot receive support for our rent. Once we reopen our enrollment will likely be lower and it may take a long time to return to business as usual.
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- 286 Our daily fees need to increase in order make up for lost income because of lower enrollments.
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- 287 Our landlord is not willing to apply to the Commercial rent assistance. Our centre is large and rent is high. It will be unlikely we will ever fully recover and somewhat likely we will not be able to meet our rent commitments in the next 6 months. We expect to be evicted.
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- 288 Our Landlord refuses to apply for rent relief. Our rent is \$12,000 plus per month without any help we will not be able to continue to stay afloat much longer or rehire our staff back.
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- 289 Our little rural preschool is needed (especially for our farming families). Sadly to keep fees reasonable, we have to fundraise approx. \$6000/year. It would be nice if rural programs like ours were eligible for funding grants to keep going.
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- 290 Our local DNSSAB/Nipissing is currently funding us at 75% based on our past subsidized parents. We hope that our DNSSAB will continue to fund us because they directed us NOT to lay off our staff or we will not receive funding. We can not return these funds as we have already spent the funds. Also, we have lost over 50% of our income due to the loss of full fee paying parents. We are opening next week to provide emergency childcare for frontline workers. We have relied on government funding for the past 40 years.
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- 291 Our main concern is providing a safe environment for our children and their families and our staff. The inability for our children to effectively physically distance is of great concern.
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- 292 Our nursery school has had unequal operating restrictions placed on it as compared to other Canadian businesses. On April 9, 2020, the Ministry of Education in the province of Ontario effectively shut down our small business, preventing it from generating income by delivering value to clients by way of innovative services developed specifically in response to the needs of children during the COVID-19 pandemic. Canadian businesses enjoy the freedom to innovate and adapt to changing (e.g., adverse) market conditions. The Ministry of Education in Ontario, however, prohibited business-critical innovation by mandating that all services must cease during the COVID-19 pandemic. This has harmed our business by preventing valuable new services from being delivered.
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- 293 Our organization has been incredibly support of educators, staff and providers. Complexities of re-opening safely. Loss of families, when will educators/Providers feel safe to return. Redirection of funding unknown at this time. Lack of federal/provincial acknowledgement of role of educators offering emergency child care and during 'normal' times.
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- 294 Pandemic clearly illustrates that the economy cannot be re-started without child care in place. Emergency child care was permitted but the cost of organizations implementing is high and many measures were quickly put in place but not effectively communicated by government. RECEs and organizations providing emergency care were impacted by social media backlash. Rarely was it ever mentioned that childcare workers are essential workers and should be thanked for the essential service they have provided. There must be a national strategy for child care in Canada that is affordable for families and that recognizes the importance of ECEs.
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- 295 Parent fees were waived as of March 17. All staff (PT and FT) continued to be paid until the end of April; FT until the end of June = no revenue, but regular staffing expense paid. Centre is ineligible for federal funding because [name of institution] is a publicly funded organization. Limited regional funding received.
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- 296 Parents being laid off from work in the area will impede on the centre's enrolment negatively (ie parents no longer eligible for subsidy)
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- 297 Parents of the children I care for decided to suspend care until school resumes. Thus, the decision to close was made. It is helpful to have the support and guidance of the organization that I am affiliated with. I am honoured to be part of the organization.
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- 298 Parents sending sick children because they can't take time off.
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- 299 Parents will need to feel 100% confident that their children will be safe going back and if it's done too early the registration drop significantly. A huge part of this worry is that nobody has answers.
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- 300 Personally I feel disrespected by and by the general public as they frown upon home based daycares who remain open for essential workers. We are controlled and limited to the number of kids in care plus our contracts hold no value according to government. We're unable to take on more kids to aid families in need due to covid while the kids who are staying home have are housed with working parents who remain home working. Our pay is reduced leaving us with minimal cash flow for survival. Not to mention home based daycares are required to keep our daily rates lower than a licensed or unlicensed center working the 8-12 hours a day for less than \$50 a day. Although government and media has torn down and tasted our industry over the years I would like to add that most home based daycares are often a better choice for care providing a family, community environment. Why can't the government acknowledge our success and show us gratitude for our work? We risk our lives and the lives of our families remains open because we have no choice, we need to survive. We should be entitled to a pay increase as well as an increase in child care numbers.
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- 301 Physical distancing is not possible when caring for young children. As a caregiver in the senior category I have to consider my own health when there time comes to reopen.
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- 302 Post COVID world, would be nice to know the limitations and guidelines child care will need to adhere to as soon as possible, so we can plan how to re-open and know how many children and staff we can anticipate
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- 303 PPE for staff increased time and energy and money to follow new guidelines parent co-operation enough staff to replace staff sick or presumed infected and have to isolate staff training on new protocols
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- 304 Providers are not being given adequate information regarding funding; what ratios will look like when we re-open. Cannot make plans for return to work and whether or not to apply for CEWS with top up without this information.
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- 305 Public Health risks- the responds of the staff, teachers, and parents. Addressing re-enrolment, staff coverage and consistency of staff providing care for children. Exposing teachers to the risks of Covid-19, reopening only when the whole society at large is ready to reopen. Parents that are Unable to work from home, that have no childcare set up. Emergency childcare's? What that will look like. Inconsistent learning environments and perhaps future closures due to new health health needs.
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- 306 Ratios being reduced. Being unable to keep the staff safe. How it will look when centres reopen. Will the ministry provide new guidelines to follow.
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- 307 Real enrolment and staff concerns for future viability.
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- 308 Realistically, without clear information, how are we to plan for the reopening. Specifically we provide a summer camp from July to August in a TDSB building and need direction on whether we are able to continue to provide this if physical social distancing measures are in place.
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- 309 Really it is just the length of time and the unknown of reopening and all the protocols that will be in place.
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- 310 Reduced ratio is definitely going to cause financial difficulty. Our centre must run at an 80% capacity. Staffing and children infected with the virus, being off for 14 days if not longer. Who will cover these lost childcare fees for the centre and the staff's sick days?
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- 311 Reduced staff child ratios may increase cost of child care. More staff wage enhancements for compensation for working on the front line in child care with workplace hazardous pay.
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- 312 Region needs to help with sourcing and funding ppes required for reopening. If reduced ratio is expected, funding needs to be there to support the business operation. It shouldn't penalize centres who don't have service agreement. Please also ask the region to reduce the paperwork required to get the funding. Halton region has issued a huge template requesting all childcare centres to report all expenses line by line despite if they fund you or not. It's a breach of privacy and a waste of money.
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- 313 Rent payment is currently a big concern as our landlord is not on board to apply for rent relief. Also, parents are withdrawing from our program and not following our withdraw policy which leaves us with open spaces and no revenue to cover those spots and unable to enforce our withdraw policy. Mr. Lecce guaranteed parents their spots but failed to communicate to parents not to break agreements with the centres. Other fixed expenses are also a concern.
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- 314 Rent, utilities, insurance, other costs
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- 315 Safety - re opening and then having to close again
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- 316 Scared that no one will want to work because of Covid and that we are forced to work.
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- 317 Screening / identified illness / self-isolation of children and staff when child care reopens will be detrimental to operations Smaller groups / less funding will be detrimental to operations
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- 318 Some challenges I could envision is consistently keeping the centre sanitized and having supplies on hand all the time. Policies to reflect sanitization, sick children and staff and not compromising others.
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- 319 Special need children will need support to return to normal routine, usually the Enhance Funding is very limited and hard to get. We have several special needs children at our Centre that we are already struggling to manage without the support they need, returning will be harder as they will be completely out of routine.
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- 320 Staff , especially with health conditions, may opt to stay home. Staff may feel sick and leave work.
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- 321 Staff and parents may be hesitant to come back.
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- 322 Staff coming back to work feeling confident in a safe work environment. Provincial and Federal funding agreeing on what childcare centers can use their funding for operations, staffing....? Clear communication regarding funding has not been available and we are two months into this pandemic.
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- 323 Staff who have children at home may not be able to return to work if schools remain closed. No care for the age group, no camp. No care for their adult child with needs. Staff with underlying illness will be at risk. Operating at less capacity will not pay the rent. TMI paid for April , May, June. Full rent July and outstanding amount for previous 3 months. How can I finance rent, payroll, loan, and start up cost, even with the business loan?
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- 324 Staffing - will they want to return, some may be afraid, some may not have caregivers. Ratios and social distancing is a huge factor...so difficult to be able to do this with little children. Protective gear - gloves, masks other necessary equipment needed (extra thermometers, etc.), this is a huge expense. Cleaning and disinfecting more often (extra person to do this) Low enrollment will cause issues as to which staff are rehired and which remain on Employment Insurance. Overall, it's a difficult and trying time and the fear of the unknown is a concern.
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- 325 Staffing and enrollment are my biggest concerns.
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- 326 Staffing funding and procedures are concerns
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- 327 Staffing is the closure extends beyond 13 weeks and we have to negotiate a longer temporary layoff or provide compensation to employees (constructive dismissal)
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- 328 Start up funding available prior to reopening 2 weeks before start up. Additional to cover cost of reduced capacity and ratio PPE equipment funding wage premium added increased risk Facility building funding to allow for safety measures
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- 329 Start up funding should be available prior to reopening a centre, ie two weeks before setup. Additional funding to cover costs due to reduced capacity, reduced ratios and PPE equipment. Additional wage premium to top up staff salaries. Funds to cover renovation costs related to safety protocols.
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- 330 Start-up funding made available prior to re-opening a centre - 2 weeks before start up additional funding to cover costs of reduced capacity and reduced ratios additional funding to cover costs of PPE and equipment funding additional wage premium for child care staff - essential workers funding for facility/building costs to ensure costs are covered to make child care centre healthy and safe for children
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- 331 Stressed about the unknown. Worried about child/staff/parent safety. Afraid of having to keep children at a distance...away from others and groups. Financial stability is a big concern
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- 332 Strong concerns about staffing challenges post-COVID and adequate protection for both staff and children in care
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- 333 Supporting for rent
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- 334 Thank you for being there. We might need help from government funding but we have to wait until we reopen.
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- 335 The administration to put all staff back on Wage Subsidy and incur 25% wages will detriment the budget. I plan to try to top up wages upon our return, but after a few months once we are able to stabilize the budget. I worry that we haven't not been able to register families to replace the loss of children after the summer as they move on to JK Expanding sick leave for COVID will be a challenge as we want to show compassion for health but all paid leaves over what our company is currently supporting will be difficult.
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- 336 The after affects on both the adults and children ie increased numbers with anxiety. What will the lead up time to re-opening be. What the new regulations/standards be and how to ensure compliance.
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- 337 The agent I am affiliated with (licensed through) has been excellent with keeping me informed of new developments, and has done everything in their power to make this difficult time as stress-free as possible.
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- 338 The biggest challenge will re-opening and prioritizing which children we are able to offer care to if we are unable to return to regular ratios. Another challenge is finding the proper PPE and cleaning products.
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- 339 The biggest concern as an operator and Director and hearing from parents and staff is the health and well being of every person coming into the daycare. The risk is high if one person contracts it, and although self -isolates, the group of children interacting with the employee also have to self isolate so we are working with much below capacity. Then if the centre has to close for 2 weeks due to an outbreak and mandated by Public Health, how are expenses going to be paid. Do we charge the parents for a service they are not getting, who is going to fund the 2 week closure? As much as increased cleaning can happen when closed, whats the say the centre can safely say everything is ok and due diligence is done. The reputation of the Centre is also at stake as it will seem standards were not maintained although everything was done following protocol and yet the Centre gets slack for this.
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- 340 The biggest concern regarding child care centres was the lack of information provided to operators in a timely fashion. We were all scrambling to make the best decisions we could for the centre and the employee's with little support from the government. We are not lawyers or accountants and it was a lot of responsibility and stress for the managers and volunteer board of directors.
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- 341 The centre is 90% subsidized! If funding continues our losses will not be so devastating
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- 342 The cerb is helpful but if you live in Toronto it doesn't cover much
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- 343 The CEWS would help a great deal with taking on program staff and staff retention. However until we start to receive income from parents this will not be viable. We are also seeing families want to stagger their return or not return at all. This means our child numbers will be low over the next 6 months.
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- 344 The challenges facing child care have always been there - this is now adding more onto the plate of people who do not get a fair wage and the criteria for working as a non-profit is not really fair to child care. I own a profit centre but I don't see much of a profit at any point. This field should be considered an essential service and paid for by the government as schools are. After all we are now under the Ministry of Education and should all be treated equally.
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- 345 The commercial rent help must be made mandatory for landlords who can afford to do this. For my centre the landlord is not even willing to talk about it as they don't want to lose the 25% loss of income. They don't care where we get the money from. If I can't pay they will evict me. Why are large landlord corporations not being mandated to take part into this program. As long as this is voluntary the landlords will not care for tenants.
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- 346 The concern is to when we will be able to go back to the centres, the prep involved, the safety of the children and staff and how we will be able to handle and meet the requirements to keep everyone safe
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- 347 The concern is, lack of notice and clear information. Centres at school are getting mixed info from School boards and the ministry. For example, as of today are we closed with schools till May 31 or like every other centre not located at a school May 19? When we are allowed to open, what will it look like ratio/separation/ cost?
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- 348 The covid is going to make it hard for the RECE's to provide interaction with the children while protecting themselves and families. This will have a whole new look on childcare. Financially the centres will have a hard time to manage if reduced ratios are implemented. Enrollment is the key to centre's income. Who is going to cover all the new PPE costs that will be required for staff, the new thermometer to take temperatures upon entering the building. We can't operate if we aren't protected. Staff have their own families to think of as well. RECE's are under paid for the job they do. We need to be appreciated for what we do and for the tiny humans we take care and teach and prepare them for their life ahead of them. The early years are crucial to their learning. What is the difference between an RECE in School board making 20 plus dollars an hour and an RECE in licensed childcare making minimum wage or just above it. The RECE's in licensed childcare are accountable for a whole lot more like licensing requirements that have now put the focus on paperwork and fines if non compliant which has taken away from the time with the children. Focus needs to be brought to higher wages for the RECE's. This makes it hard for centres to retain staff.
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- 349 The ei system didn't help for funding as we were self employed.. took over 72 tries to fix my \$ thru the phone
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- 350 The funding to help with rent does not work as I have two landlords and neither have agreed to 75%. The funds should go to the tenant and we should use them to pay the rent.
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- 351 the fundings provided by the federal government do not meet any of the challenges that child care centers offer. The wage subsidy does not apply since we are ordered to close and can not afford the 25% portion. the rent support does not apply since landlord do not intend to lose 25% specially for centers with +100K leasehold improvements, it is better for tenants to leave and the landlord can sell the business for profit The business loan account is deferral liability which poses risk to financial health.
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- 352 The future is uncertain without funding to help stabilize, if we can even reopen!
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- 353 The health and safety measures that will need to be put in place to ensure the health, safety of staff, children and families while practicing social distancing. Staffs ability to return to work due to other circumstances that are taking place because of COVID 19 or the anxiety created from COVID 19
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- 354 The Health Officer closed home child care. I am unsure when it will be lifted and if parents will need care when it is.
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- 355 The lack of information for child care makes it extremely difficult for any future planning. As a 60% subsidized centre, the continuation of government monthly funding to offset parent fees will be what salvages this centre. CERB dollars have been how staff are managing, but it will need to continue longer than the 16 weeks if centres are required to stay closed.
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- 356 The landlord is not intending to go on the program We can't pay our rent ! Make it mandatory !!!! Help please 27 years open .... It's very very serious
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- 357 The long term effects are concerning, as we hope to reopen before a vaccine and will lose money daily in every program due to lower ratios.
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- 358 The majority of measures in place to protect families during covid has come at the expense of home providers. The Gov't had no business stepping in and nullifying contracts between families and providers, esp those families still making a full salary
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- 359 The program operates within a host school, private school, and we are bound by their decisions to remain closed or able to open. The program has a Supervisor and 1 front line staff. We may lose the front line staff therefore not able to accommodate all families wanting to register when we reopen. Cost associated with enhanced sanitation procedures
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- 360 The Public health requirements would be a major additional cost, to limited funds (Pre-COVID) and all level of Governments should strongly look into this, before allowing centres to open, and should take enough time and thinking before opening these places, as keeping distance among young children will be difficult and may burn-out the childcare staff easily.
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- 361 The reason it is not open is because any of the children I had before Covid 19 need care. Hopefully some of them will come back.
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- 362 The situation is very threatening to providing the quality care, sustaining the experienced staff , analyzing safety measures in every criteria of the sector, hiring long term staff to the field and immediate enrollment.
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- 363 The staff are concerned how our centre will meet the needs of our community if we are required to work at a reduced ratio. There is concern that not all staff will be required to operate so therefore some will continue to be unemployed. We are unionized, therefore the younger workers will not have jobs. Life is tough enough for them already pre Covid now it will get tougher as they will need to change their employment strategies and pursue further education.
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- 364 The systematic approach will be crucial for Child Care to continue into the future. We do not know if there will be a post- Covid, perhaps the Emergency Child Care format will be the norm for the Early Childhood. Community.
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- 365 The total loss of revenue has been devastating and even once we reopen, it will take a couple of years to get back to where we were.
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- 366 The uncertainty and lack of communication from all levels is extremely frustrating. Without funding, fees for parents may have to increase to cover all of the additional staffing. I don't feel this is a fair compromise because families will also be struggling to get back to work and financial stability but there may not be an option with government funding.
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- 367 There are many stressors with COVID-19 due to its nature. With people being asymptomatic and still able to pass the virus on to others, I so worry that this virus will make its way into my family home and infect my family and the families that I work with. Even with the increased cleaning practices and policies around distancing, there is a risk that this could come into the home and infect others as the 2 meter distance will not be possible to maintain when the children are playing or needing help with things.
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- 368 There are so many uncertainties around reopening, new health requirements, families being comfortable coming back and ongoing payroll/financial issues. It is very stressful for all concerned. I hope that we don't open so soon as to have to close because of an outbreak right away.
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- 369 There has been little guidance from Public health or the MOE in regards to what we can start doing to prepare for reopening.
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- 370 There is still a lot of uncertainty of the effects of Covid-19 on the provision of child care, especially since we are still to remain closed. Too soon to tell on the whole picture and the effects.
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- 371 There is too little information regarding parameters of re-opening. We have heard next to nothing from the Ministry of Ontario or the City funders. We expect re-opening to be costly and unstable, stressful and extremely complex. We will need funding for equipment and to support reduced ratios.
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- 372 There needs to be extra, permanent funding to increase salaries of all child care workers including front line staff, supply staff, cooks, supervisors/directors. There needs to be permanent funding to provide housekeepers at all child care sites to take the extra cleaning burden (including cleaning during non-pandemic times) from the child care workers. The educators should be able to focus on their responsibilities - the children, quality programming and communicating with parents. Child care workers must be permanently deemed essential workers now and not just during emergency situations. While the extra \$4.00 per hour paid to emergency child care workers is appreciated, it should be a permanent salary increase, increasing each year to meet the cost of living increases.
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- 373 There seemed to be confusion, mid March, regarding whether home child cares, had to stay open, or whether the home care provider could choose to stay open. If closed, and regarding re-opening, it should be up to the provider, whether they want to re-open yet, not forced, dependent upon health/safety for provider, her family, and daycare children, and if parents are willing to return, or if they are still un-employed. All this regarding, to continue to get Federal payments, if remaining to be temporarily closed. It's a very confusing time about all of this, even for home child care agencies, to sort out the confusion for their providers. If providers initially stopped working for fear of anyone contracting covid, they should be the ones to decide, when all is safe for everyone, and the Govt. not step in, and say it's now time for all to re-open. If a provider wants to re-open, to get fully paying parents, paying again, that's up to them, if their financial situation is strained.
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- 374 There should be a funding for the providers for buy sanitary equipment for the kids
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- 375 This about the other cost of going back too soon. This should not be a thought in our minds quiet yet. Schools sure. Not the youngest more vulnerable.
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- 376 This effected all the providers mentally, emotionally and physically. We're all worried and stressed about what comes next.
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- 377 This response is based on myself as the operator of an organization that is responsible for Licensed Home Child Care. Some homes have remained closed since March 16th. Some remain open for essential workers , subsidized families and fee paying. Licensed for 175 homes. Pre pandemic operating at 120. Currently have less than 60 active homes.
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- 378 This situation certainly supports the need for an integrated, universal child care system with strong partnerships at all government levels. This would improve communication and increase equality and equity for families and child care staff alike. The uncertainty of the future is very stressful. Clear and regular communication from the government is needed.
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- 379 This will be a new situation we are facing. Lots of challenges to face for example funding staffing enrollment and covid19 guidelines challenges
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- 380 This will impact staff retention and finance
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- 381 Treat all fairly and equally especially on Reserve I don't want more I want the same treat me fairly and equally so I can pay my staff compatible wages
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- 382 Unclear if we could claim WEG in the CEWS application. We were told not to pay it to our staff as it is attached to working directly with the children towards ratios. Now getting mixed messaging from our municipality when applying for CEWS as being told funds received may be reallocated. Need more clear direction on preparing staff for save return policies and procedures and to ensure we will have access to necessary ppe
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- 383 Unsure that changing ratios is realistic to protect either the children or the staff- if there is more than one child, social distancing will not be in place especially for the younger age groups
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- 384 Until yesterday I was paying my staff 100% of their wages because I expected to receive the wage subsidy. I was forced to lay off some staff members yesterday. I apologized profusely because I had told them I would keep paying them. The government won't accept that I am a private business. They insist I am a Public Institution, because I have the word 'School' in the business name and therefore they won't pay me the wage subsidy. I hope to change that but they seem immoveable and no one calls me back when my request gets sent to the level above. (This has happened twice.) Without the wage subsidy, I am in financial trouble. With the wage subsidy, I can survive, but I will owe money for rent. The fees I can collect for 'online learning' almost covers the 25% that I need to pay to top up the staff wages. It won't cover rent, phone, internet, gas, hydro etc. If I don't get the wage subsidy, I may not recover.
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- 385 Upon re-opening a concern is not being able to meet the families that were already enrolled needs due to lower ratios and families losing spots due to physical space availability.
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- 386 Very concerned about keeping the children and staff safe while still being able to maintain a "hands on", nurturing, play-based, "free to explore" learning and loving environment as per our programme statement!
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- 387 Very concerned about re-opening in terms of health and safety of children/staff/parents. Also concerned about being able to staff appropriately due to health and safety concerns staff may have in working until a vaccine is developed.
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- 388 Very important to get covid related H&S funding to allow for safe reopening protocols, including lower ratios, additional staff for cleaning/screening, hiring float staff instead of casuals who may work in other centres, etc
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- 389 Waiting to see the new Public Health Policies recommendations is very concerning looking at the procedures that are currently in place to function in a daily routine for Staff and Children, very worried.
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- 390 We were receiving region funding to top up wages for our staff that were laid off, and to help us fund the director 25% to continue her salary. This funding was cut immediately on May 11th, so we had to cut of the 30th % to all staff members to fund the 25% to the director. even though we have no income revenue coming.
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- 391 We are a half day nursery school program. Will parents want to send their children? Most of our parents do not work outside the home. Will parents want to send their children, if they don't really need to? (As we are not a full time child care centre)
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- 392 We are a licensed home day care agency very concerned about conditions to be met to keep everybody safe.
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- 393 We are a municipality. The operations grant have still been received. The usual wage enhancement is supposed to be received. No other income is incoming as parents are not charged and subsidy for children has stopped.
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- 394 We are a new childcare center. Unfortunately, we did not qualify for any of the programs and we do not receive General Operating Grant (GOG), as other childcare centers who have been in business for more than 2 years. We also need guidelines from the Ministry of Health before we reopen to minimize risk of infection.
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- 395 We are a newly opened licensed day care centre with struggle to get enough enrolment to break even. With the effect of COVID-19, we are worried about how to sustain our business due to losing current enrolments and decreasing the new enrolments
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- 396 We are at the breaking point. And although we financially need to open to survive financial ruin. We are hearing from families that there is a fear to return to a communal setting such as daycare and the staff is afraid as well to return. Safety? Costs? Fear of transmission of the virus. Cost of running the program with few children if any. How to get over this unprecedented time.
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- 397 We are concerned about the health of our staff and families. Physical distancing will be very difficult to maintain. We are concerned about the protocols that will be put in place once we reopen and the additional expense they will cause. We are very concerned that these protocols will be financially unsustainable without significant additional government support.
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- 398 We are happy that finally there are talks that funding will be coming. Our biggest concern is that we are still liable to rent (our biggest expense right now).
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- 399 We are expected to bring children who are exposed to frontline workers and essential workers into our home and come in direct contact with said workers coming straight out of work. We are expected to fund and maintain a safe and healthy working environment. Provide healthy foods and all cleaning and additional cleaning supplies. Expose our small children and other family members who work outside of the home to who knows what. We agree to do these things because we love what we do however we do this for less than an adequate paycheck, which will be worse as we move forward with the added increased costs of groceries, cleaning supplies not to mention the current scarcity of antibacterial detergents). We are expected to care for all these children, homeschool our own, care for our infants and educate others children safely all by ourselves. I have spoken to many providers licensed and private, we are scared for our families, ourselves, the children we care for (with no providing of Ppe that if we want we have to somehow source), many of us feel forgotten and used by parents who don't need care but are sourcing it because it's free for them (ie \$2 a day per child is a slap in the face), social isolation will now be worse on us due to social distancing, the confusion and lack of direction has been frustrating for home providers etc. Will I open yes I love the children I care for but am I frustrated as a person who is immune compromised with small and older children.
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- 400 We are extremely lucky that we had a 4-month reserve fund. We have applied for CEWS and have topped up to 100% for all 29 staff. I am extremely concerned about staff health and well being when we re-open. Will we have enough children returning? Will we have too many for our space? Will we have access to PPE? How will we keep adults and children physically distant? We need more base funding. How can we afford to operate at reduced ratios?
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- 401 We are licensed as a childcare centre although we operate closer to a private school. Sept to June and only run programs less than 6 hours. Due to our licensing we were caught by the government order. Prior to that we had a successful remote learning program in place and were providing a service. Parents also had signed off on a financial agreement stating that fees were non refundable in any unforeseen circumstance. It was only after the government order did the majority of my families request refunds. My teachers are all working remotely for the few families we had stay the course. Frustrating to be categorized as a daycare when our program has a completely different need.
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- 402 We are located in a school so not sure what will happen when reopening or if we can re-open. Challenges with keeping staff and families safe being in a school with added population other than just child care enrollment. Not sure how a centre can distance and monitor each potential symptom when the corona virus keeps adding symptoms. Some symptoms are the same as every day illnesses that occur in a child care centre.
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- 403 We are very appreciate our municipality and government for any help for us as an owners. We need financial support.
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- 404 We are very grateful for the help that we are getting now, but we are worried how we can meet the challenges after we re-open and about our financial situation in a long term.
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- 405 We are very nervous on what the government Covid-19 policies will be and how we are going to have staff follow with this many children in one setting that does not understand social distancing or how to cover coughs. Staff will be very exposed at all times which will make a nightmare to staff a regular day. If ratios and registration decreases we will be low to cover costs, staff won't have positions to return too, we will have to turn away some current loyally registered families to meet new ratios. Very stressful in many different ways.
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- 406 We are worried that families will not have a job to go back to, or not a good financial support to be able to send the children to daycare. more families may need daycare fee subsidy
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- 407 We have 5 centres and 3 offsite B/A School Programs and serve about 1200 clients across the [location]. Our concerns are reduced enrollments upon return and reduced funding levels, as we have a lot of subsidized clients. Since we are non-profit and all our locations are also unionized, we also need to meet the needs of our Collective Agreements and our overall financial commitments.
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- 408 We have a small space with no opportunity to spread children out. I'm concerned lower ratios will not be enough to cover costs. We also rely on public parks to maximize outdoor time for both programs as our yard cannot be shared. We are just at the end of a play-ground update and are relying on grant money to finish. I worry availability operating Grants will go down. I'm concerned we'll have to cut staff, raise fees and freeze wages.
- 
- 409 We have asked yearly for a contract with the city of Hamilton so we get more government funding and keep getting turned down. My concern upon re-opening is not having enough enrolment as I've had many parents withdraw because of covid. And without the city of Hamilton allowing us to offer subsidized spaces it's harder to fill spaces.
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- 410 We have concerns about the lower enrollments after we re-open as we have heard lots of concerns for putting children back to childcare without a vaccine or before the virus is contained from the parents in our centre. Also, staff is concerned about their health after re-tuning you work, for example, how to maintain current health measures when working with young children, and lack of PPE.
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- 411 We have explored and navigated all fundings available under CERP. CEWS : has a requirement for the centre to pay 25%. A not for profit centre with no revenue cannot take this cost. CEBA : The loan from the bank has to be returned when we don't know what our future looks like. Besides, the forgivable \$10000 do not help much when the costs are 15 fold. TWS : not valid for us as we have laid off our staff CECRA : We are tenants and are encouraging our landlord to apply for this funding.
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- 412 We have laid off most of our staff but a few are still working as we are an Emergency Child Care Program. We do not qualify for most or all of the funding help as we are part of an organization that has departments that did not have any lay offs. My responses are based on our 5 child care locations.
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- 413 We have managed, especially with the continuation of General Operating Funding and the 75% Wage Subsidy to weather the immediate crisis and expect to do so until June when we have a regular shut-down. I am VERY concerned about Coming back in September in terms of current low-enrolment as well as what any health and safety measures will do to capacity, staffing and therefore ultimately our financial viability in the longer term.
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- 414 We have recently been told of Long Term Sustainability Funding, no official commitment has been made. This will be helpful. Biggest challenge is if we cannot open at full capacity by September. Wage Subsidy is less than CERB. We have \$0 revenue so we cannot "top-up" the last 25%.
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- 415 We haven't received sector specific guidelines for reopening the centre. ie. health, ratios, procedures, etc.
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- 416 We know that the ELCC sector is having difficulties keeping staff employed. If things don't change or we get more funding, we may need to lay our department off in the next 2 months.
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- 417 We mostly worry that not all of our staff will return out of fear of contracting C19, that our reserves have been depleted and reopening costs will increase due to safety requirements brought on by C19, angry clients who may have to be turned away or withdrawn in order to maintain lower ratios for social distancing. Clients who will have trouble complying with new rules and procedures ie: scattered drop off and pick up times, not being allowed to stay in program for long periods of time, etc.
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- 418 We need help in rent relief for a longer period than June, parents will be still hesitant to bring their child in the centre, we'll need rent relief, operating costs funding for at least until September. We're going to face a higher costs such as cleaning, cleaning supplies etc.
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- 419 We need to be recognized as "essential workers" (Emergency child care and upon reopening). This pandemic has demonstrated that we are necessary for the economic stability and having women especially return to the work force. The Pandemic Pay should have been provided immediately to the ECC teams/programs. Decent work and wages is also important. The wage differences between RECEs and DECEs is unacceptable. We need to consider a new way of directly funding child care so that we are not having to continue to place the costs on the backs of parents. We need to really consider the non-profit sector and think about converting for-profits operators. We need to consider quality and safety in a new way as we re-open child care. HDLH? sets the tone around the value of relationships and if we are to build back relationships of trust and stability we need to invest in the sector. Staff are worried about their safety. Program Supervisors are in limbo thinking about hiring summer staff or not. Boards are holding a lot of responsibility in such uncertain times. We need a universal, accessible, affordable system of early learning and care that meets the needs of all families. We have enough research, it is time for action. We have raised our voices, it is time to listen. We have been creative and flexible in working around budget shortfalls, it is time to be funded directly. Not every program in my community is able to offer a basic health and well-ness benefit package. This should be a must. My program can't afford a retirement package and we have had staff who have worked with us for 25 years. Sick and personal leave is a challenge. Please continue to offer the incentive for the ECAD program so that more untrained staff can move to increased wages and qualifications of an ECE. I am from the North and recruitment and retention are two struggles. When COSTCO and Tim Hortons can offer better pay and incentives then child care keeping staff engaged is difficult. We need to be thinking of "people" and what they are deserving off so that they feel valued and want to stay in early learning and child care. Program Supervisors and Executive Directors need more support, training and opportunity to connect with their peers. I am grateful for the partnership I have with our municipality but that isn't the same conversation around the province. We plan together and my voice is valued. I am grateful for the partnerships that I have with the school board I work with but that too isn't consistent in my community. More legislated guidelines will help deepen and support relationships. Early learning and child care is not just about safety, ratios, and minimum standards, it's about people and we need to switch our focus.
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- 420 We were already operating at a deficit. The School Board has also advised that they will not be allowing our summer programs to run in the schools.
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- 421 We need to continue to advocate for a universal childcare system. Although parents are not required to pay during the pandemic, once they return, many will be financially burdened having not worked, and to once again pay enormous childcare fees. It will be probable that some families may get behind in payments or make other childcare arrangements which are more affordable. I wish municipalities could have received wage subsidy as we cannot expect our unpaid staff to continue working on professional development/involvement with families although many may be at this time
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- 422 We really appreciate the CEWS, makes total sense and we do not have to pay it back. We will not apply for any loans because the money will be due back and we will not have an increase to cover the extra loan costs when we re-open, we will have less income and will have difficulty covering costs. We don't pay rent we own our facility which sounds great but we have the hydro bill, gas, insurance, monthly annual fire inspections and maintenance, elevator contract, HVAC contract, grounds maint, snow removal, garbage disposal, dish washer maint, kitchen maintenance cost for fridges freezers etc. These are some of the costs that are built into other centres rents. Please consider all the maintenance costs that are included in rents.
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- 423 We were fortunate to have reserve funding which we used to keep our staff fully paid. We had enough funding to cover salaries while waiting for the CEWS. If the subsidized child funding was not received, then we would not have been able to continue paying staff, so we're relieved that we still received the per diem funding for those subsidized children (albeit minus the parent portion). If CEWS was not offered, we would have laid staff off. We are hopeful that the funding comes soon. Very concerned about the reopening scenario. Our age group; 0-4 years makes it impossible to be physically distant when changing diapers, feeding, dressing, transitions etc. Very concerned about staff's right to refuse to work (for fear of getting the virus) vs the need to staff the centre appropriately. Worried about finding supply staff that are "on call, as needed", but not working at multiple sites so as not to spread the virus between centres. Why are child care centres treated differently than the elementary schools? The same children in those schools attend the child care centres - doesn't make sense that the same child is ok to be in child care, but not in school. These groups should be treated the same - close or not close all of us at the same time. Huge increase in PPE costs and the lack of availability to attain these items to protect our staff and children/families for our age group. Most of my infant group have now turned Toddler age, but there's not option to give them Toddler spots - so ages will be incorrect and possibly for a long time until we are able to bring in new families again. Ministry annual licensing inspections and AQI, Public Health etc will hopefully give us all breathing room when we do reopen. Can someone address the added level of stress this brings to our staff when they've got so much else to worry about regarding the virus?
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- 424 We were mandated to close but still asked to pay all our expenses. We finally felt relief coming when we heard about CECRA but since they did not make this mandatory, again we are left with all costs as no landlord has accepted this program. I do not understand why the government did not provide 50%-75% of our lease payment directly to the tenants so we were sure of some help coming to us. We are not able to get further enrolments which is a great concern as we will be losing the majority of our children in August as they will be moving to kindergarten.
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- 425 We were very lucky that our board decided to continue to pay us, most other preschool teachers we know have been laid off.
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- 426 We will need to return open to a new way of delivering Child Care. Educators will need time to adjust their practices to meet the new legislative and parent expectations. There will need to be significant lead time to prepare and funding to support this.
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- 427 We, of course are concerned about the logistics around operating the centre with vulnerable children and staff present. What will this look like? How we maintain social distancing? What new protocols will need to be in place to keep everyone safe? Will they be realistic?
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- 428 Well hearing now there is a new syndrome in children in the USA is now even more scary. Inflammatory Syndrome Potentially Associated with COVID-19." child care should stay closed as long as schools are closed. Older staff and pregnant staff should not return to work as they are at risk. If it opens should be able to wear masks. no drop ins or tours in the child care centre. Staff are scared to return to work without vaccine. should stay closed until September. extend funding cerb and cews until August.
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- 429 What health and safety rules will change for staff, parents, and kids? Will ratios be reduced ? What will we do about bedding, linen, soft toys, water play, sand play, washroom routine, lunch routine , etc. How often will surfaces, tots, equipment need to be cleaned? Do the staff require covid-19 testing before going back to the daycare?
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- 430 What will reopening /transition requirement look like? We need sufficient time and notice to adjust. How will the government of Ontario reopen the economy and who will be prioritized for care if there's reduced ratios? Lottery system? When will the ministry of education release its long term recovery plan??
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- 431 When it comes to home childcare, Pre COVID-19 we weren't completely recognized as an adequate alternative to center based childcare, and yet we were begged with and pleaded with to stay open and to provide safe, welcoming care to those who needed to be working the front lines. I think that it goes without saying, that we deserve the recognition that we are professionalism and that we risked our own health and wellbeing to stay open as well as we are a friendly and welcoming choice when it comes to picking the right type of childcare for individual families. Also, we operate out of our homes and as such we but the risk of our own families health in jeopardy daily with viruses, germs, parents who come in agitated after a hard day at work or whatever else is going on in their personal lives. the compensation isn't up to the standard of most childcare centres.
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- 432 When speaking to staff they are very worried about returning to work and getting sick, being unpaid if they are sick and not having enough time to sanitize properly.
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- 433 When we reopen and we must follow new protocols, such as reduced capacity, this will not provide adequate funding to pay for our staff wages/expenses. If we do not receive some kind of support for this implementation, we will be unable to continue to function.
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- 434 Who will be supplying PPE for staff in light of the shortages and expensive prices? What will be the number of people allowed in a childcare centre at one time? Are ratios going to be changed?
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- 435 Will how do we keep our families safe and work in a home place setting, not sure how it is going to work
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- 436 Why are we not getting full funding to fixed costs including rent/lease? Staff should be paid their full payroll, in order for them to return to care. when we do return, how will be able to afford all this PPE and keep up with payroll/ bills? The ministry/ provincial government needs to step up, making an announcement two months after our closure, isn't good enough. how do they accept us to stay in business? Half of centres, are just making it this month. What will happen for June and on-word?
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- 437 Will child care receive assistance to ensure we have the required PPE for staff and the program in general. Will we reduce the max size of groups for example instead of groups of 15, 24 and 30 will these change to max group sizes of 10, 16, ?? Will we be covered for extra staff above meeting ratios to maintain a safe environment
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- 438 Will ratios be reduced? If so, we won't be able to afford the staff. How fast can we get back up to Capacity?
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- 439 Will there be any directions on Re-opening such Policies and Procedures in regards to the safety of all; distancing, or simple such diapering, taking care of very young such Infants and toddlers, etc. Will the ratios change? Why we been treated like we don't belong under the MOE, unlike the school boards who been informed and provided with the directions from the beginning?
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- 440 Will we be able to find PPE's when the time comes to open the centre.
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- 441 With reduced ratios it will not be possible to meet the funding requirements to continue running a self-sustaining business. Staff fear they will be unable to meet the new demands placed on them due to Covid-19.
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- 442 Working groups on a municipality level need to work in partnership to reopen the childcare sector. I am disappointed in the Ministry of Education for NOT having a clearly identified voice for childcare sector that actively engaged in public announcements and a defined message and/or direction to address the implications of these decisions.
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- 443 Worried about mental health on providers during the pandemic
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- 444 Worried about parents lying about child's health when dropping of children to the centre
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- 445 Worry about spread still especially with young children as they do not understand under age 3...and are in close contact and mouth and sneeze on everything.
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- 446 Worry about the future of Child Care in general.
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- 447 would like a heads on on new requirements. Concerned that we are full and if they reduce the number of children what do we do with the extra children??
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- 448 Would love to have some type of guidelines/protocols for when we have to re-open. Get some feedback on how the emergency daycares are being run.
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- 449 Young Children can not social distance and don't take care when sneezing or coughing. It will spread like wild fire.
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## Manitoba

- 1 I'm greatly concerned about the risk of bringing public into my home and with my own children and spouse -financial implications of having to close every time someone in the household so much as gets a sniffle

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- 2 A cause de plus exigence, Et bien d'augmenter la prestation.

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- 3 Any comments or concerns I have will only fall on deaf ears

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- 4 As a family daycare provider I have been and will continue to work in complete isolation without access to my co-ordinator. They are supposed to be a liaison between the provider and government/regulations. They are there to provide information and support services. This was withdrawn immediately when COVID 19 affected daycare. I have had to make my decisions regarding closure/re-opening without the support that was supposed to be in place for me. When I most need this service it was withdrawn and instead a central government phone # was provided me. Not good enough.

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- 5 Can I apply for financial support from the government?

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- 6 Concern about how to provide a safe work environment for staff when physical distancing with small children is impossible. Concern about the wellbeing of low-income families without supports while we are closed.

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- 7 Concerns for our centre and others is staff safety. Having group size guideline for general public. At 10 but feel it's fine for centres to have 26 children plus staff is ridiculous. And to think that it's wont be Much of a problem to social distance children especially preschool children is just stupid. If it's safe and fine for daycare than school should have 16 children in a classroom too. What's the difference? To say we have better disinfecting is the reason ridiculous. The way our sector has been treated during this pandemic and basically thrown under the bus by our minister of finance. And only does things once we all stand together. Shameful. Even prior to h the is pandemic not much support for our sector or value.

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- 8 Considering the information provided by scientists, I project my income to be cut in half during the next year or so, in order to comply with the new COVID-19 guidelines for daycares. This could bring stress to my financials and likely will have to reconsider to remain open or close permanently.

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- 9 Currently have families who are not sending their children but who continue to pay for their childcare space - if they did not or could not then I would not be able to pay my bills.

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- 10 Currently, our biggest hurdle is the unknown. Although it is difficult to anticipate future child care needs and practices, a lot of planning goes into programs and the not knowing what to plan for creates the great potential for financial hardship on many levels. Reduced parent fees puts a strain on the centers bank account so that any prolonged reduction of this income may have negative irreversible effects on programs. Communication between our governing body is a challenge as well because the trickle down of information reaches us long after the need to know has passed. Frustration and stress is fast becoming forefront to anything else, and that is an unhealthy place to be. Leaders cannot give parent, staff or boards clear answers.

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- 11 Daycare workers And centres that stayed open should be classified as essential.



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- 12 Difficulty reaching ELCC staff. Numbers given went to voice with no reply or were redirected to other government agencies that could not answer any questions daycare related. We had to contact the Manitoba Families Ministry department which then did lead to us getting help and contact from ELCC. We had difficulty figuring out what support if any was available for us as a Licensed Home Daycare. It seemed we were a small footnote in most communications. It felt like we fell between the cracks for programs and assistance being offered.
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- 13 Ensuring that we are doing enough to meet the needs of children, staff and family's. Ensuring beyond best practices for health and safety for all. Staff are not currently being paid adequately will this just push people out of the field faster? Lack of Government support throughout the closure. Lack of information in a timely fashion. No training. thankful to our Professional Association MCCA for their leadership, support and guidance during these difficult times.
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- 14 extra funding to operate the costs
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- 15 Governments need to have 'active' Pandemic plans that should be ready to roll out immediately. Have previously identified centers who would be open during a pandemic to maximize spaces for essential workers immediately. So much time, confusion and mismanagement happened because our province MB was not prepared. Every centre here had a pandemic plan in place since H1N1, yet with changeovers of directors; many centres had no idea they even had a plan. We did, we used ours immediately, it helped keep everyone calm and it gave us a sense of direction. It had us training staff right away on hand-washing protocols, public health initiatives. If our MB gov't had used their plan (no one now knows where the plan is!)
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- 16 Health for my family is at risk bringing kids into my home with covid19 until a vaccine is available .
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- 17 How will centres who plan to expand their programs proceed after the pandemic has subsided? How long will the max. 16 spots be lifted?
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- 18 I am a group family child care program in Manitoba. I had to lay off my 2 staff. I am trying to operate at the lower family child care numbers. The essential service workers children that were to be needing care just never showed up. I have 1 child for around 4 weeks. I felt I could not abandon this family but it certainly was hard to justify my time or 8am-5pm for \$20.80 parent fees per day.
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- 19 I am concerned about hiring trained staff for jobs .
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- 20 I am concerned about my income if I need to close due to Covid, with the possibility of this happening multiple times. I worry about bringing the illness into my home, my daughter is immunosuppressed. I worry about teaching my kids from home while working. I worry about the sanitation needs to keep everyone safe. I also worry about keeping kids physically distanced.
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- 21 I am concerned that operating grants may be reduced or not given. As time goes on and we can only take reduced children it is hard to bring back and maintain staff. our bit of reserve will be eaten up quickly if we have to keep numbers reduced and staff will not all be able to be brought back.
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- 22 I am concerned that the Provincial government's last payment for subsidy till May 31st, is called a subsidy advance. It lumped 3 billing periods together. History has shown, that the Government will most likely call for re-payment of the "subsidy advance". Also centres are not eligible for ISP funding at this time & when children with current ISP return to the centre, we have been told that a new application will have to be submitted for ISP funding again.
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- 23 I am extremely concerned about the well being of the entire child care field. I think that ECE's are exhausted and angry. I think that many wanted to leave the field prior to this and that Manitoba has handled child care so poorly during this that more are wanting to leave. I am worried about staffing in the future. I am worried that cost of living in the future will be higher and that child care wages will continue to remain stagnant. I am worried that this will go on long enough that ECE's will settle into this new norm and simply accept that child care has never been regarded as a career that is deserving of proper pay and compensation. The future does not look bright for child care.
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- 24 I am very concerned about enrolment as our Centre usually needs to enrol about 35 new children every year, wonder how this will affect our income once we no longer have the CEWS to help with salaries.
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- 25 I am worried a lot of ECE's or CCA's will not return when things get back to "normal". We have not felt really appreciated through this whole process. Some felt guilty into opening again. I worry about the financial strain on a lot of centres to open without full capacity and paying their staff and operating expenses.
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- 26 I am worried about keeping my trained ECE's in the workforce. I know there is some that are looking at different careers.
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- 27 I am worried about the future of our center. Families are not comfortable coming back to a group setting. Parent fees will be down drastically if we do open. Some staff will not be called back. I worry that we will loose out Operating Grant for the next period July-Sept 2020. If we lose that funding, we will close our doors for good and we are the only center in a 50 KM radius.
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- 28 I am worried how we will start again. We will open when the public Schools open. How do you keep 3 and 4 year old children separate?
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- 29 I am worried that families will leave my daycare and that it will be difficult to find & enrol new families.
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- 30 I believe if centres stay closed it could be the end of childcare programs.
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- 31 I closed on March 23rd. I have let parents know that I am open. However, all parents have kept their children at home.
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- 32 I fear that with all the talk about the long term care workers, they will be the ones that will be provided an increase in wages, and child care will once again be pushed to the bottom of the pile and forgotten. We really should be listed as essential workers, and our wages are nowhere near those of other University or College Degrees wage scales. I fear we will lose a lot of our younger generational employees, as they will need to find a job that will pay them more in order to come out of the COVID debt, that many are trying to stay a float.
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- 33 I feel concern all centers are being dealt with in the same manner, while many issues are center specific. It was unfair to keep coordinators in the dark and unable to be a support and resource to their facilities. Manitoba subsidy payments are a mess, unfair and not a good use of money. There is a strong belief in our sector that the province is using the pandemic as a catalyst to privatization.
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- 34 I feel daycare workers should be receiving big recognition and support as essential workers. I have been left out of every financial program with no recourse. Funding was too low previous to COVID-19 and it will likely remain too low after. I have been asked to put my family and myself at risk and have received nothing for it.
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- 35 I feel given the current situation - everyone is trying their best
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- 36 I feel government officials should be reiterating the effects that covid has had on young children to help build confidence in Canadian parents to have them return to care.
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- 37 I feel strongly that centers staying closed should not be receiving the same funding as those of us who have remained open, we are incurring more expenses.
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- 38 I feel that home providers need to be separated from Centers. Home care providers were pushed to the side and fell through the cracks. I'm horrified and very disappointed at how we were treated
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- 39 I feel that the government should have had the foresight that this all could happen (by watching the other countries who had covid before Canada), and could have warned businesses and individuals about what might come. I felt completely blindsided.
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- 40 I feel that there has been a disconnect between the government on all levels. I feel that our job is not valued, respected, or appreciated. Limited funding makes it difficult to get ahead. Qualified staff is hard to keep due to low wages. There is little or no support offered.
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- 41 I have a big concern regarding children with additional support needs. Children who qualified for additional funding pre covid-19 do not receive that funding once the centre re-opens - the centre and the family has to re-apply. Why?? They are the same child 2 months later so I feel that is completely unnecessary and I worry that it's the government's way of reducing these supports. Also, each centre used to have a licensing coordinator assigned to them so if we had any questions/concerns, we could call/email them for support. We now all call a central number and someone will return our call - not necessarily our coordinator, or for that matter, any coordinator - just someone who will try to answer our questions. I worry that this will be how it stays after the pandemic and the support just isn't the same at all. Also, after not receiving an operating grant increase in 4 years, what will happen now?? Our costs have definitely risen due to covid-19 ... additional sanitation supplies, more staff needed to screen, sanitize, etc. not to mention how we are going to staff when each staff member needs to stay home until all symptoms of a common cold are gone ...
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- 42 I have found that parents are not confident in the safety of their children or themselves when their children are exposed to a child care environment. Close contact and shared equipment and toys etc. allows too much exposure to their children and parents shy away from child care for these reasons.
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- 43 I have an ISP staff that lost income because the child she supported has been staying at home as parents decided. I sent emails text messages, phone calls to all families that I remain open, they all decided to keep their children safe at home. Not a single child in attendance since March. The essential workers will contact through email for space and, and I replied that I'm open and spots are available but they will not get back. I guess the essential workers send out emails to many facilities and then register with the first person to reply. Government forced too many facilities to open, so the child care in operation is way too much than needed right now due to COVID-19 pandemic. Most parents choose to work from home; to keep their children safe at home, also to save money because Manitoba Government have made public announcement that Parents should not pay Child Care fees unless their child is attending Child Care during COVID-19, and Child Care facilities must keep children spots without asking for money. We are not being treated like a professional. Teachers got better treatment, though I love my job, without being paying, I host video calls with my Child Care families twice a week, and we do activities e.g. Scavenger hunt, Colours hunt, bingo game etc. just to keep in touch with children.
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- 44 I have managed to create a bubble with the families I provide for and have managed to avoid coming into contact with anyone who has had or been in contact with anyone who has had COVID-19. I'm worried that funding won't be available if I do get COVID-19 in the future and am forced to temporarily close.
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- 45 I have not applied for any COVID 19 relief funds on the federal level because I have not yet had clear direction from the province. With the exception of the province telling me that I can not charge rates to the enrolled families that are not using their spots; and asking me to send an email with the subject line saying: staying open, financial pressure, and then detailing the income loss. This cut my income by 60% for the April reporting period with still no direction if there will be subsidy on the provincial level or if I have to apply federally. Very frustrating to say the least.
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- 46 I just wanted to take a minute and shine a light on what the Manitoban government did to us here. I don't know if other provinces shared similar struggles or not, and as we know, funding for our sector is grossly inadequate and unfortunately here in Manitoba at least, so is respect. Since the announcement of the closure of schools there was no communication for over 4 days. Next, they shut down all communication to our coordinators and referred us to a general public information line. We were told by the Minister of Families to "step up" and help our heroes and then they threatened our operating grants if we closed. Our pay was also interrupted and paid out, 3 weeks over due. It took them 1 month to get us PPE yet the whole time expected us spend our days well within 6ft of the cutest and sweetest but also, most asymptomatic carriers of Covid on the planet. Ever tried to social distance from a 2-year-old! You know! And you know what! Many of us were so willing to step up from the beginning! Because that is what we do! But we needed support, information and communication. Many were forced to close as families couldn't pay daycare because they weren't working so they were giving notice, and those spots are unfillable during a pandemic. Our daycare families are stuck in a horrible position too. Many having to give notice because the government would not help daycares cover parent fees, even though the number one recommendation to all is to stay home! Many daycares are trying to fill spots with children of essential workers, yet many of them waiting on the list have already found care with a neighbor or family member. And now, despite empty spaces in current daycares, they are giving out 3000 to people to open temporary home daycares almost overnight. I can't even begin to list the concerns that arise over this. Thanks so much for reading!
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- 47 I just worry about when we can re open to full capacity. We cannot afford to be open for only 16 children
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- 48 I like that we are being informed on a daily basis.
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- 49 I think the operating grant should increase as we now have the school age kids for 5.5 months fulltime instead of only the 2 summer months. Cost of food to feed the kids during these months should be seen in a increase of operating grant not come out of the Day-care Providers Fees
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- 50 If we can get the 75% wage subsidy we will be ok for the short term but bringing back staff even with our operation grant and not getting full parent fees we will only be able to maintain operations for the very short term and would have to close
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- 51 I have zero parents out of my 7 spots wanting to send children to childcare currently. All are able to keep school age children home right now.
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- 52 I hope early childhood educators are seen as essential service workers and are duly compensated and respected.
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- 53 In Manitoba centres are risking permanent closure due to the loss of parent fees; the provincial government is not providing any funding assistance in lieu of this crucial component of our revenue streams, and at the same time we are also losing the fundraising revenue stream. That only leaves one revenue stream, our provincial operating grants, which were threatened to be taken away by staff of the Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care Program if centres did not immediately reopen their centres for frontline and essential service workers. This was quickly retracted once news went public, and the quarterly April operating grant payment was given to all centres - however there is strong suspicion that the July quarterly payments will not be given to centres who have not/continue to not be open for frontline and essential service workers. The provincial government is announcing the provision of our April operating grant payments as an "assistance for our sector during COVID-19", which is a blatant public misdirection to give the illusion of supporting our non-profit ELCC sector - these are not new or additional funds, they are the pre-budgeted amounts already set out to be paid to centres. So the reality is centres have lost two of their three revenue streams (parent fees and fundraising) and are only receiving their operating grants - for now. And even that is at risk. The drastic reduction in number of children attending centres due to COVID-19 means the amount of parent fees being collected right now is just a drop in the bucket compared to the normal amounts of parent fees collected each day.
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- 54 It has been very disheartening that we have not received sufficient funding from Early learning and child care in Manitoba. A lot of mixed messages but basically feeling that we are being left in the dark. We need to be recognized as an essential service. Manitoba can't work without us.
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- 55 It is virtually impossible to social distance and stay safe in a daycare -
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- 56 It isn't just about the federal funding. The provincial funding drops the ball on a regular basis. My center was severely underfunded prior to this with wages being nowhere near what they should be! I don't know when the building that houses us will allow us to re-enter.... everything is such a mess right now and we feel extremely disheartened.
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- 57 It was surprising to discover that we could not have direct contact with assigned CCCs and Crossing the thresholds of both Family Services and Education has been a challenge. The "tactic" to be a hero felt like the CC workforce was being "shamed" into reopening for essential/critical service workers... Respectfully there was and continues to be no rule book for this pandemic and how to best proceed with anything and so to point fingers or lay blame on how something has been handled seems irrelevant. There can only be reflections considered from lessons learned and experiences had as we continue on managing life and work in a pandemic.
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- 58 It was/is very challenging and heartbreaking regarding the lack of support from the government. With having no access to coordinators, to being told our funding will be cut if we do not remain open, then blaming the opposition for starting rumors about that, to hearing rumors our funding will be cut if we do not open in the near future. The lack of funding for ISP children. I am worried for the Child Care Sector and how disheartened they are. With the slap in the face "Please step up and do the right thing" campaign, so many people in our sector are feeling very defeated.
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- 59 It would be great if the province would provide us licensed daycare homes with ppe and cleaning supplies.
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- 60 It's incredibly challenging working from home. I also have school age children with me. It is also or can be very confusing with so many emails and posts about what the right decision to do here is. For us the biggest challenge is the health and safety of our staff and those children in our program.
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- 61 J'aimerais que les garderies Familiales puissent aussi avoir des informations ou recourir en cas des situations comme Covid 19 quand les parents qui fréquentent la garderie ne sont pas subventionnés.
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- 62 Je vois que la province a mis beaucoup d'argent de côté (18\$million!) pour ouvrir des garderies familiales pendant le Covid-19. Je crois fortement que notre ministre Pallister veut éliminer le système publique, car il n'a rien offert comme aide au garderie (qui dans mon opinion sont déjà gravement sous-financé).
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- 63 Les services de garde en milieu familial pendant cette situation pandémique jouent un rôle très crucial. Les garderies familiales ont été considérées comme solution intermédiaire avec la fermeture des grands centres. Je suggère que le gouvernement puisse revoir la subvention des garderies familiales à la hausse. Car, la subvention de fonctionnement des services de garde en milieu familial représente même pas la moitié de celle donnée dans les grands centres. En fonction de la levée des restrictions de l'utilisation des structures des publics au Manitoba, je suggère que le gouvernement puisse mettre en place des équipes mobiles de désinfection pour limiter les risques de contamination au Covid-19 dans ces lieux publics.
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- 64 Manitoba child care are not allowing providers to charge parents who choose not to bring their child to daycare...but no compensation is available to providers...it's not fair.
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- 65 Manitoba has not yet committed to the continuation of Operating Grants past June 30, 2020. How to plan for the future without this information is impossible. Also Province is renegotiating all funding for "children with additional needs" when they come back and this is making it difficult for us to even considering these children for a return to the Centre.
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- 66 Manitoba did not consult with the childcare sector appropriately, the mandatory shut down was made with less than 3 days' notice, the shut down was met with a reversal in decision and other miscommunications that left the child care sector fearful to lose operating grant, permanent shut downs, staff loss, and the list goes on and on.... Manitoba announced financial aid and temporary licenses for 'babysitters' and did not put that money into existing centres, staffing - a misuse of funds to say the least and a disrespect to the childcare sector that has been stepping up for decades.
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- 67 Manitoba has been extremely difficult on the ELCC sector, with miscommunications, outright extortion that if we don't reopen (even though public health told us the same day to close) we'd lose operating grants, lack of information (we find out about changes with the rest of the province during press briefings), we have been cut off from our Child Care Coordinators so we have no direct contact to our governing body, licensing requirements have been removed which jeopardizes the safety and quality of our sector, and we continue to be insulted publicly by our Premier and Minister of Families.
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- 68 More on fear On the safety of my own family, because of might exposure from the kids coming in and out in my house. We feel neglected from the government when they announce the closure of the center not including the homebased daycare where in others families need to stay home for their safety but for us we remain open for the services needed. But we don't have a choice we don't qualify in any government support program if we voluntarily close unlike with centers the staff can still take necessary precautions before going home to keep their family safe.
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- 69 My biggest concern has been the stress placed on me as a Director. I was informed about daycares closing via the news release from the Premier. Within minutes I had a multitude of questions from staff and parents which I had no answers for. I was unsure how we were going to manage financially. I wanted to remain open for Essential workers but it took two weeks to do that because we are located in a school and I had to get approval from the School Division. I think the government should have worked with the school division to ensure this was possible as many Daycares are located in schools. I worry now that the government will make another announcement about reopening with no notice to get prepared.
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- 70 My biggest concern is the length of time that it will take to be "full" or even if this is realistic. We laid all frontline staff when we were mandated to close mid March. We paid the employee and employer portions of the group insurance benefits for these staff. As of May 11 we brought all staff back at full pay and applied for 75% wage subsidy. We are overstaffed now but felt we wanted to be fair to our staff and also to ensure that we would had sufficient frontline staff to meet current and future health and safety guidelines. As of May 20th we will have 4 out of our 10 locations open. Each location will have staff divided into 2 teams that will work at the centre one week on and one week off all at full salary. The off teams are expected to be on call as we open new locations. This will be costly but the fear is that other wise we might not have the staff if we are told to fully open.
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- 71 My concern is the depletion of funds that we used to support our deserving staff. We hope to be financially stable once we reopen. With no parent fees coming in we are very limited.
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- 72 My worry is about the future of the center is we cannot open to full number. also if we don't receiver the next funding from the government because we chose to close due to financial reasons.
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- 73 My deepest concern is the affect on our professionals. The lack of respect and expectation to risk their and their family's lives during this pandemic will drive more people from the field. We are expected to control the disease while caring for young children. As well as screening, cleaning and taking care of planning while getting paid the lowest wages out there. The issues around keeping them separated and still be able to show love and caring and provide appropriate and stimulating educational activities are mind boggling. There will be an uprising...or a complete loss of the child care non profit sector. PC government would not be upset by any loss in this sector. We were tired and under paid before .... I think maybe ECE's will FINALLY step up and leave. :( and centres will fade away.
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- 74 My enrollment was already at a low number when this hit. My many part-time children stopped coming, but I got more temporary children.
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- 75 My experience was terrible. I went from being a well ran business that was thriving to a business that was open for my families (two essentials) but no one was bringing their children due to isolation. Parents did not want to pay to hold their spots during this uncertainty and I am unable to provide for my own family without an income... I was not going to endanger my own family by bringing in new faces during all of this, and so I had no choice but to close. Parents felt that our contracts were then void due to Covid and refused to pay their final payments leaving me in a tough situation... I was supposed to have the same families returning in the Fall, but am not unlikely to re-open.
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- 76 Not knowing when we can return to normal capacity and how long we can sustain lay offs for staff we can't use
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- 77 Not knowing when we will open to full capacity makes it impossible to book children in for spaces that are becoming available as you are not sure if or when they will expand the number of children we are allowed to have.
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- 78 Not very reassuring when I hear Director afraid their staff make more on CERB. Who will be left to work in the field? Will they bring quality education and resources?
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- 79 Nous sommes une garderie dans des locaux privés qui nous coute très cher en location. Ensuite 80% de notre revenu va dans le salaires et le reste dans le loyer ce qui fait que nous rencontrons des déficits à chaque mois. Alors il nous faut des subventions en dehors des grant de fonctionnement. pour survivre. Nous sommes des nouveaux arrivant qui avons crée cette garderie pour avoir un emploie pour l'amour des enfants francophones du Manitoba.
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- 80 One of our programs is usually [majority] School Agers...now we are only 16 full time children 1/3 of the income same am of staff. They now allow 2 infants in a school age room.
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- 81 Our centre is brand new, just opened in January. Our enrolment was not full yet when COVID-19 hit, and now the families we had enrolled are withdrawing permanently. We rely only on parent fees to meet our expenses. It is a business started by a young couple with infant children ages who had difficulty finding infant care, now they're in deep financial trouble.
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- 82 Our centre is trying to plan opening our centre but we are having concerns over utilizing the surplus that took us so much effort and so many years to accumulate in order to fund having up to 16 children in the centre.
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- 83 Our centre was in fiscal decline for the past 2 years and have no funds in reserve. All staff, including the director, were laid off on March 20 2020. Board of directors wanted director to donate time to complete work at centre, including all financial work. Director brought back on payroll for 5 hours a week to "do work". our centre is located in a low-income/poverty stricken community and all children and parents would be considered having compromised immune systems and it would be dangerous to open centre. Provincial Gov't has said we can re-open but only to 16 children and limited staff. Our enrollment is 42 and the centre would lose money by hosting only 16 children and paying 3 staff and a director. The fear is that we will not be able to re-open if shut down goes into July. Provincial Gov't has said they will not honour operating grants past June 30.
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- 84 our financial needs to reopen are mostly met because of the federal support. We can only reopen because of CEWS and when that ends Jun 6, our days are numbered to stay open without more support from the province. ISP children previously approved should NOT have to reapply when they start care again. The lower group numbers and ratios are to reduce the risk of COVID, and the identified child still has special support needs in addition to that. Our MB government was pretty bad with leadership and direction to work with the ELCC sector. Like they had no idea this was coming or that day cares should be affected until the reporters kept asking about it? Facebook (director's group) was my best source for information and guidance.
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- 85 Our funding is not adequate to offer our staff a competitive wage to encourage them to continue to work in the field so we are always trying to hire new people as you make more money doing less work at other places of employment.
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- 86 Our government has frozen our operating grants for the last 4 years!!! Now they want us to "step up" and open our daycares for only 16 children? What a disgrace.... If our government wants more daycares to open, they should pay for all daycare spaces. I have 65 and now can only have 16. It's a no brainer, we will lose money and why should we have to? It's totally unacceptable. It's absolutely appalling how terrible the government has treated the child care sector.
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- 87 Our profession on a normal day takes such an ego hit because we are only seen as glorified babysitters, this COVID-19 puts us back into the closet and shuts the vault. No where have you heard any gratification to the daycare workers who have put their families in danger to watch essential worker's families or assisted families with their child's homework. We are not "Teachers" in many peoples lives, but we do the same as they do in a preschool setting. We sent programs home so children had activities to work on and would not forget what we were working on for Kindergarten prep. That will not be taken into consideration once that child starts Kindergarten. We all need to give credit where credit is due. We are all walking into a new unknown normal exhausted by the old normal and fearful of the future.
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- 88 Our province has been less than helpful in working with the child care centers. Much confusion and threats of reducing operating grants and an overall feeling of disrespect to the field in general. It is hard to reach an individual to discuss concerns or answer questions. Boards and Centers have been left on their own to make difficult decisions feeling that we have little to no support from our provincial government.
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- 89 Our Provincial Government is not supportive of Child Care at all. We are getting mixed messages, bullying and shaming from our Minister. Disgusting and very disappointing.
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- 90 Province of Manitoba has not helped out Child Care centres. Very disappointing.
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- 91 Provincial government is using the pandemic to forward their agenda to privatize child care services, by starving us out and providing no funding increases
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- 92 Safety requirements i.e. social distancing amongst the children
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- 93 Staff are on CERB will make more than the minimum wage they were making as a Child Care Assistant. As there was an extreme shortage of Qualified ECEs in Manitoba, centres will have a difficult time hiring CCA's/ECEs to reopen to maintain ratios. CCA's are making more on CERB and choose not to return to their positions in daycare. Salary for ECEs is outrageous and is not attractive in future to return to.
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- 94 Staff laid off that's why the funding programs don't work for us. We don't want to have to pay back any loans. Landlord would not cooperate for rent subsidy.
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- 95 Subsidy pay ... wish it stayed the same I've been shorted \$400 ish on my cheque Wish there was something that we could get paid so parents don't have you struggle paying us to keep their daycare spaces
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- 96 The ability to provide quality care with hands on learning, sharing, turn taking and working in a group setting prior to covid-19. Staff hesitant to return with the concerns about contracting covid-19 from the children who may be not show symptoms. Chance of not receiving operational grants and funding if re-opening is delayed.
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- 97 The biggest challenge and frustration is how our provincial government has not offered any advice, support, direction or contact for those centres that have closed. We were told to close for a 3-week period and have not heard otherwise. We were left to make our own decisions. Thank goodness for our Manitoba Child Care Association who has been supportive and informative through this entire journey.
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- 98 The biggest concern during the pandemic has been making good choices for our families, staff and community. This is mostly in part that the centre wanted to help out in any way possible however the financial stress previous to covid made it difficult to make informed choices that would not negatively affect long term how the centre managed throughout the closure and reduced hours, fees and staffing.
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- 99 The biggest concern I have run into is having a volunteer board of director's making decisions that should be made by a qualified ECE. Volunteers do not understand the finances of a not for profit child care center, they do not understand the licencing, the ratio etc. They should not be run by parents who cannot make educated and informed decisions based on the best outcome for a business with employees and other families. This system is so outdated and dangerous.
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- 100 The Manitoba Government's solution to Subsidy from March-May was abysmal. It was unfair across the board and nearly impossible to administer. We have yet to hear what we will receive for June. Parents feel that we should know when we will be able to provide care for them, but we can't answer their questions. We are cut off from our coordinators except for when they call to ask questions. The info line has no answers when we contact them, so we are left relying on each other for support and answers during the biggest childcare crisis in decades.
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- 101 The fact the we were sent advances subsidy was appreciated although the rates had changed since February so the difference from what they sent and what should have been sent was a big difference have not received the new amount. have messaged subsidy advisor for info. There has been difficulty in finding certain cleaning supplies and toilet paper, plus I find grocery cost have gone up in some cases, therefore things are costing us more. Plus, we have bigger eaters as the school age children are bigger eaters. Helping daily with school assignments is also trying but rewarding at the same time. With new protocol and screening it seems us providers would be having to be closed more often (common sniffle Etc.) same for the children which seems like their absent days will be used up faster and will run out. Plus, if we have to close due to sickness we also will miss pay. Would be effective if subsidized daycare providers could have a conference call so we can ask questions or concerns with either the minister of families and the head of childcare this would helped answer several concerns we all have and also learn from other providers of what concerns they have. Would love a call to discuss this.
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- 102 The one question asked if we were mandated to close by the government (I'm assuming provincial). I answered yes but in actual fact we were mandated to suspend care by the Chief Public Health officer but our provincial minister was pressuring centres to stay open and accept children. So yes we were mandated by one division of the provincial government but not by another. I could have answered yes and no for that question.
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- 103 The stress it puts family cares under (for me and family) both mentally and financially. We have been the one that have been open but already feeling like we will be pushed aside again. We have lost income, we have Opened our homes as always and put our families at risk of COVID-19 and we have helped essential workers. The help will go to the centers and we will be forgotten.
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- 104 There are so many unknowns. Childcare is already a sector which is greatly under funded. Employees are underpaid and not respected in the professional sector. As far as funding and financials go... the budget was projected in a deficit this year, but this is not out of the normal for most childcare centres. With COVID pandemic, I believe it has brought to the surface some of the struggles our sector tends with on a daily basis, and being able to apply for some of the wage enhancements might help us balance our budgets, this is a larger conversation on how will the Province and the Federal Government better support our sector to ensure we can run quality programs.
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- 105 There has been a lack of support and communication from ELCC We have lost 60% of our revenue. There is not a lot of faith in the future of many programs
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- 106 There has been funding issues for several years now. No increase for operating grants for 4 years, no increase in Parent fees. Costs keep rising and no additional funding. Also, very hard to hire new employees. No one wants to work in a field where you make 12.00 per hour and then they need to pay for their criminal record checks etc. Have the centre pay for them you say? Impossible! 84 percent goes to salary. 15 percent for everything else. The centres are on the verge of collapse. I am the Director and I am doing all the administrative, covering shifts on the floor when people are on vacation or sick, making snacks, cleaning, etc. etc. The only reason the centre survives is because of the Director covering all the holes funding isn't. If centres have to wait for years until a new funding model is put in place many centres will close.
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- 107 There is funding available for Centers that have stayed open or have staff on payroll. For Centers like mine, we can't apply for anything. And they might put us bankrupt when we open again
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- 108 There was a lot of confusion and uncertainty at first. The week of March 16th told we were closing, then Friday March 20th told if we close we would lose our operating grants. So Friday March 20th we were planning to stay open while fear set in about the unknown. We have never closed, and have had made it work with very little support in the beginning. Not able to contact my coordinator what so ever was extreme during all this. We have taken in 16 children, 7 of them are not typically enrolled. We have made it work, and are in a new normal. All staff work 1-2 days a week currently, and as things progress over the next few weeks we will look at taking more children hopefully. Lots of fears with reduced income as we are not charging fees to parents not receiving care, normally we have 78 children, only charging 16 parents is a drastic reduction in revenues. We have applied for the wage subsidy to help our situation.
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- 109 This has been poorly handled from the one set. Why should we have to take on more debt as a private centre just to provide essential service. Why on earth hasn't anyone addressed this?
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- 110 This job is very difficult in a precovid world. Our hands are tied with not being able to raise fees and operating grants not being adequate. We have to fundraise just to pay staff. We do our own caretaking. It is the staff who are subsidizing the parents. Now it will be even more difficult. Our centre needs to move locations and we can only afford half of the going rate in our area for rent.
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- 111 This pandemic has opened a lot of peoples eyes to what could happen in a very short period of time! This has been a struggle for all people but especially our children. The new normal in our world will be very different from what we know now! Most children are very resilient; but I hope and pray that the children who need "help" (counselling) do not fall through the cracks and that their fears are recognized and dealt with in a very calm fashion. These children need a listening ear and people they can trust and look up to in the now and in the future.
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- 112 This pandemic shines a light on the problems in child care already at crisis levels. Inadequate funding - worse. Retention and remuneration-worse. Provincial support-Worse!
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- 113 travailler avec moins enfants et moins de finance pour gérer la garderie
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- 114 Unsure how we will manage with reduced numbers mandated by the province when we re-open. Can fees be charged if spaces vacant? Concern for staff with underlying conditions when told to open.
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- 115 Way more support is needed!!!
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- 116 We are already under paid and under valued as a profession. We stretched every dime pre-Covid...now we left to fend for ourselves. The mental stress of being forced to closed, then shamed and bullied to open by the province has devastated many in our profession. Thank God we, as Directors, have each other's backs in trying to navigate these uncertain times because the province has abandoned the very profession they need to get the economy up and running,
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- 117 We are located in a school. The school division has made it hard for us to re-open.
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- 118 We don't know what will be happening in 2 -3 months
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- 119 We had to lay off staff initially, we rely on school custodians cleaning and it needs to be more deeper cleaning,
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- 120 We have 2 facilities. preschool 40 children. School Age 62 children. I included the total of 102 in the Survey. We are only planning to reopen preschool at this time. School Age will remain closed until Sept 2020.
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- 121 We have been waiting for funding that our minister of families promised us in March. Up to date nothing. We are running at a loss and no financial help was given to us to remain open as we did and as promised. It's very disappointing. We expected the help we were promised to stay open from [name of person]
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- 122 We have received mixed messages from our Provincial government. One day they suspend childcare, then the next they ask us to STEP UP and help and open childcare. Some staff are making more money on CERB/EI then working. This makes them not want to come back. We need more money in this field to retain staff
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- 123 We just worry for the safety of our family. If we chose to voluntarily close, seemed to be we don't qualify for any funding due to covid. That's why we decided to remain open but the fear is there. Unlike in other centers, they can do distancing, etc. and before staffs go home they do necessary precautions before going back in their houses. But us home providers, all are automatically exposed from the kids coming in and out everyday. Kids that are uncontrollably sneezing or touching their mouths, faces not to mention mouthed toys. But of course we do all necessary precautions, sanitation and all, but the fear is there for our own kids. Home space is far different from centers... if the pandemic continuous some parents already told me that they may withdraw their child, the only thing they keep paying is because they also don't want to lost their spot... but also I don't think I'm ready to receive new families to enroll in this time of pandemic to replace the future loss of income.
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- 124 We kept our staff on as we thought it was going to be temporary, but here we are still closed. Now parents are really concerned to come back, few families have withdrawn. I'm hoping that money comes through that we applied for. Staff are doing projects, but are anxiously awaiting for safe returns.
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- 125 We opened up last week and brought back 2 staff other than myself. We are able to keep up with all the cleaning with a small group of children. But once we open up more spaces I can see this being an issue.
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- 126 We originally had 9 children of essential services families sign up saying that they still needed child care, during the middle of March. So our center decided that we better stay open to help them. In reality, only 3 children of essential services needed child care during the last 7 weeks. Many days we wouldn't have any children. We are only charging the families when the children are in attendance, so our income from parent's fees is extremely low. We now have let all of our families know that we can provide child care for all families and not just for essential services. We have one more child coming now! So we have had 4 children coming out of the 50 that were previously attending pre Covid pandemic. We will definitely need more financial assistance if our numbers of children do not increase.
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- 127 We were surprised by the different provincial guidelines for reopening and the wide range of approaches to closures across the country. It's somewhat unsettling seeing the maximum group size of 5 children in one province, maximum 16 in another and yet others closed indefinitely.
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- 128 We're a small preschool/nursery school in a school classroom. 75% of the staff have underlying health conditions (including myself). I don't know if they will come back, will I be able to find staff and or have new staff approved in time (MB regulations), will parents want their children to be in preschool/nursery school? I'm very concerned about low enrollment--whether or not we'll be able to re-open at all. I'm concerned our government will change funding, take away our operating grant for not opening as a day care (an option here), or change our funding saying they have to make up the covid costs they've had. I really question whether preschool/nursery schools will die out... at least for the next year. After reading what's happening in Quebec with re-opening I'm concerned the government has no clue about children, that children will lose their right to be people... how do you tell a 3-year-old 'don't hug me, don't hug your friend, don't let your friend share your toy, don't play s close to each other, don't sit so close, etc. etc.'.... How do you even enforce those things? and how do you give that with your morals?
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- 129 When this started the Manitoba Government dropped the ball, first they told us to close, then open, threatened us with no operating grant. We were told that there was a list with family's names that we would get if we stayed open. We stayed open, had 3 children to start, now we have 10, but only allowed 16, financially this will kill our day care. The government is offering to give \$3000.00 if you want to open up your own daycare with 8 children. They have not offered the centres any money to purchase items needed for different age groups. We are a 64 preschool space, which means we don't have things for the school age children that we can now take in to the centre. The Minister of Family service insulted the field by saying we needed to step up to support the Front Line workers. I wonder if the Government even knows how essential we are; without us no one would be able to go to work. No operating grant increase in well over three years, no increase in parent fees. My rent has increase every year, food costs have gone up but not my income.
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- 130 Why we weren't qualified for CERB although we lost at least 50% of our income
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- 131 Will there be funding to accommodate the post COVID needs for the children and operation of the centre?
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- 132 Will there be funding when a center is unable to fill all licensed spaces, due to the Health Ministers recommendations. If we can only have 16/55 children that will put the Center into a deficit situation.
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- 133 With the amount of money spending on safety supplies and with the before and after school care being full time now the grant is not enough money to help these needs additions
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- 134 Worried about children and staff safety, need vs want, prioritizing, low numbers of children, losing funding, staff with medical concerns not able to return, feeling of unsafety, provincial gov't using dialogue like we need to "step up" to help, now we are "essential" when that was forgotten in the first place, we are mere puppets, doesn't feel good or safe. Daycares are like the guinea pigs in this, because Pallister is worried about economy.
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- 135 With the government wanting child care centres in schools I am fearful due to local board decisions we will not be able to reopen until the schools reopen. Parents going back to work will not have quality care. We rely on school board custodial staff for cleaning and it is far from high standard. Even though child care is under the ministry of education ECE and child care staff are still undervalued and we were forced to layoff our staff briefly (in process of hiring back) while other ECE, EA and custodial staff were still paid. I continue to feel the inequity of ECEs in comparison to the "formal educational system" Also while we have been closed until recently renovations to the school for child care expansion was halted and therefore we are in limbo about renovations for our move will not be completed again this year.
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- 136 With the wage subsidy and the provincial operating grant, we are able to maintain a stable financial situation while closed. My concern is reduced enrollment as we re-open versus the staff component needed to meet regulations. I am also concerned about my staff who have underlying conditions and may be exposed to the virus when they return to work.
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- 137 With tiny children, there is too much contact (nursery enrichment program) No idea where their families go or what they are doing. Too much close contact. Some families have said they will not attend fearing for child's health. Therefore, lower enrolment, less staff needed. Our good staff may go elsewhere. If I need additional staff, may not be able to hire any- health concerns, won't leave their children in care. May want higher wage due to dangers involved. Centre cannot afford to pay higher wages. Costs for additional protective gear not in budget. Will have to cancel parts of program. Classrooms in schools have problems with principals at the best of times. Cannot see a principal welcome our many families. Programs times run throughout the day. Too many additional bodies in this building unnecessarily.
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- 138 Worried about how this is going to affect childcare going forward. Pallister has wanted to privatize childcare for so long and now he has his chance. Why else would he set aside 18 million for ECE's to open centres in their homes with a \$3,000.00 grant instead of funding licensed centres who have everything in place. The inclusion support funding is also under review in MB. We have been told that we have to reapply and it's on a case by case basis going forward. Here we go again!
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- 139 Would have loved to get more funding to help with lost wage for parents keeping their children home during covid.
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- 140 Would love to be able to increase numbers of children and start charging parent fees as soon as possible. Then I can look at bringing staff back. Would like greater communication and direction from the province.
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- 141 You forgot to ask about debt incurred during the time no parent fees were collected. I still have to pay all property associated bills, with no income. I also expect the government will find some reason why I am not eligible for the CERB and they will demand I repay it.
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- 1 The regulations for hiring Early Childhood Educators (ECE) allows for hiring individuals with no education or training in the field of early childhood education. There is an exemption process which is an expectation and agreement of staff to take ECE classes (at least one per semester) to work towards, and eventually reach Early Childhood Education certification: level I, Level II or Level III. However, the pay grid reflects the lack of education, and as stated earlier, new employees arrive at early learning centres uneducated in the field, and therefore grossly underpaid--often times at minimum wage. Directors and other managers take the time to train the new employees regarding policy and procedures according to our licensing manual, the early year's curriculum, child engagement, and child behavior management, as well as the cleaning and disinfecting of facility and equipment. All this takes place while the new staff has no teaching tools of their own utilize. An early childhood educator in Saskatchewan can have a ratio of 1 teacher to 10 preschoolers, 1 teacher to 5 toddlers, or 1 teacher to 3 infants. This is a sink or swim situation for an uneducated, inexperienced staff member. With the wage being minimum, often times the incentive to remain and fulfill the requirements, and gain the knowledge to excel in the field, fall short due to inability to preform the task at hand (care for and educate young people), burn out from the pace of the day, and stress from not reaching desired learning outcomes. A number of minimum wage earners have a second job outside of our facility, and when they return to early learning in the morning they have not had sufficient recoup time for another 8 hours shift with little people. Our school divisions are unable to hire an employee to teach in Saskatchewan classrooms without a valid teaching certificate, yet in early learning, employees can start the job without the education, training, or practicum. Without the education, the ECE staff is inadequately prepared to take on the huge role and responsibility of an early childhood educator. That being said, during COVID we have had to double the staff compared to our pre-COVID ratios, as the same group of children are to have the same staff with them all day. Our families have 10 hour contracts and our staff work 8 hours, so 2 staff for every 8 children: one staff will work the opening shift and the other staff will work the closing shift, they work together during the day, they can cover each other when they go for their lunch break, as ratio has to be maintained throughout the day, thus maintaining the same teachers with the same group of children over the course of 10 hours (during COVID). This is costly ratio to maintain—its double. Especially now with only 1/3 of our children attending, and the loss of revenue from parent fees. Naturally we have our most senior staff and highest levels of ECE working at this time to maintain quality programming, safety and well being of the children, as well as high quality cleaning standards. Post-COVID, the cost of staffing, coupled with low enrollment, as well as a shallow pool of educated educators will be a continued conundrum. As well as the cost of added cleaning and disinfecting supplies, and the time it will take staff to complete these extra duties and responsibilities. If prior COVID early learning was experiencing extreme employee turnover, the added duties and responsibilities, with lack of decent compensation (and lack of education) it will be a health risk to children and to staff. During COVID, our environment is constantly changing, and so is the information and guidelines being shared by our early learning consultant from the Ministry of Education. We are now being guided to use the square footage of our preschool room (one open room) and divide it into 3 or 4 rooms by means of shelving. Therefore, we could have more children attend in the one large preschool room during this time of provincial restriction of 8 children per room. While this sounds like a good way to have more children attend,



and would bring in more parent fees, it also means we have to set up 4 centres within one Centre. This would require 4 times the equipment, supplies, staff, and all the while having more children and adults in one space. Physical distancing is difficult with a mix group of toddlers and preschoolers, or toddlers and infant. A virus does not stop short because of a shelf. We have currently separated out our play yard, and one group of children can go out at a time using their bin of sand toys, or their designated ride on toys, as to not share equipment and cross contaminate between the groups. The sand box has to be disinfected and raked after each group of children have gone out to play. As you can see the feasibility and ease of ability of free play, the tenants of early learning, is thwarted, and now contained within an ever shrinking room space for the outcome of income to remain open and provide an essential service to families returning to work. But at what cost: safety, learning, health and physical and emotional well being? I repeat, the issue of qualified staff in the early learning environment is paramount. No more can we piece meal together care and programming, for minimum wage, nor with uneducated educators. Educated experienced educators need to be our front line workers in our post-COVID world. It is time for ECE education to be valued and promoted so that we can attract and retain new educated employees to the programs throughout our provinces.

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- 2 We have lost revenue from parent fees. Our ECE staff have come in to our building everyday to work through a Pandemic and work with children of frontline staff. There is no supplement and no rewards for them coming to work although they do understand that they are lucky to be earning their full wage. As an organization with all of the revenue lost we are unable to top them up as well which is unfortunate.
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- 3 As a small non-profit cooperative childcare, it is very challenging for our center to cope with our expenses considering the fact that there are no enough children which means no enough funding that comes in. That is the main reason why we have to lay-off staff, shorten our hours of operation and staff hours. No children attendance-No subsidy.
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- 4 as our daycare is an open concept, we are only allow 8 children down from our 25 spaces
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- 5 Big issue in my group home day care is the low enrollment due to non working parents.
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- 6 Child care providers now have to find an entirely new way to provide care. In my case, in order for families to return on May 19th I need to find new staff, I need to find a way to divide my home in to 2 separate daycare spaces to follow new number restrictions, I've been searching for weeks to find more approved sanitizer that doesn't seem to be available, and I have to figure out how to meet the menu requirements with empty store shelves. It also means that my home will no longer be my home, I will be working much longer hours to meet the new cleaning regulations, and I will be getting less pay since not everyone will be returning right away. I am going to be working to meet these challenges, but my husband and I have already agreed that if I burn out quickly I am closing. Especially since there has been no help from the province to help, not even any recognition that we are an essential service.
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- 7 Childcare was barely making ends meet with staff to child ratios. The lower group sizes cause inefficient use of staff and the new requirements result in an additional full time staff. With lower fees collected due to fewer children in attendance results in a deficit
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- 8 Clearly idea on how to apply for funding on the grant that came out. Family Child Care homes are always the last to be looked and helped out.

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- 9 Concerned about number of children returning and how would a person hire staff back if the numbers are lower.
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- 10 Currently operating this school based centre as part of the community pandemic response childcare service initiated by the Sask provincial government - as such this centre is eligible for a Supplemental Operating Grant to offset the revenue reduction caused by lower fees/ enrollment
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- 11 Did not know child care was front line essential service! Find it interesting that we are required to be open but NO ACKNOWLEDGMENT from government or anyone else and NO respect for our profession.
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- 12 Early Childhood Educators are essential service providers. They need to be thought of in those terms on a regular basis. Education and support of children begins at birth not at age 5. This has been difficult for all of us who are used to being the family outside of the home for these children. Regardless of our current salaries we ALL need support and appreciation for the difficult situation we are put in every day we show up for these children. How do you social distance from a child who sees you as their parent when their biological parent is at work? Our profession is all about comfort, closeness and human touch. This has been a heartbreaking time.
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- 13 Early Learning is so poorly represented at all levels of government that we feel the current situation will only worsen the pull for qualified staff. Our remuneration is so under valued compared to our fellow teachers (less than 43%) yet our credit hours are more than a B Ed. It is difficult enough to make it through, then add all the regulations of COVID with zero guidance from anyone, that leaves us high, dry and broke. We wanted to stay open to provide services to our community, but at the risk of going bankrupt was not the plan. Our Ministry asked us to remain open and then gave us no funding. Any funding we did get is now reduced due to other grants that I worked hard to secure. This has been such a stab in the back from our own agencies, and shows how we are even undervalued from within. We put our lives in harms way, take that risk home to our families and NOT ONCE have we been remunerated in any way. This has been a real awakening as to our value in our communities, provinces and our country. We should have all closed and that would of, in itself, shut down the country...with or without COVID.
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- 14 Federal Government should consider making CERB tax free for child care provider who applied for it. Because as a self-employed individual, we are not qualified for EI which left us no choice but to apply for CERB. We should be considered as essential workers too.
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- 15 Funding
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- 16 Funding for lost income
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- 17 Funding not qualify any benefit. No one appreciates us as a essential worker who work at high risk also ,
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- 18 Have been advised that we can reopen our closed school based centre (did not reopen as part of the community pandemic response childcare service initiated by the provincial government due to staff not wanting to work/staff with health issues etc.). Unable to reopen before June due to low enrollments and no provincial support to offset reduction in fee revenue. Currently figuring out how many fees/children required to be able to use the 75% federal wage subsidy without incurring to large of a shortfall.
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- 19 Having to close because of a high risk resident in the home for their safety and not being able to access benefits from the a Government - voluntary closing
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- 20 Health inspectors say to social distance. How can we when a 2-year-old is saying goodbye to Mom and is upset and needs our hugs? If staff wear face masks does this hinder the kids who need to see the staff's lips and mouth for speech delays?
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- 21 Help
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- 22 I am a trained Manitoba ECEIII working in Saskatchewan. If I was not already the executive director and my husband has a high paying job I would not work in this field. The low wage for the amount of work, qualifications, expectations is terrible. I am thankful to be still working during this time, however I have been questioning why I am in this field and considering a career move. The field of Early childhood education is under appreciated by the government and public.
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- 23 I am concerned about the reality of it is impossible to social distance in child care and nor would I ever want to with the children that attend before, during or after the pandemic
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- 24 I am I licensed daycare I employ one full time member if staff and 2 casual I have had to lay off MY casual staff and cut back on my full time [employee] hours. In the middle of all of this this the house I was doing my daycare in was sold due to financial strain on the owners which has meant vie had to change locations and put my license on hold until a time when inspections will be allowed this has caused me to also loose all government funding. I cannot apply for aid due to it being voluntary if I close so I am no struggling to pay for everything while trying to care for the government regulated rules of not above 8 children in a childcare space which puts an extreme strain on myself. I'm running the risk of loosing staff because I cannot give hours nor a pay rise which she deserves I can only pay \$12.50 an hour and I struggle to do this and keep my head above water if this continues as it has before COVID and during COVID long term I will not be keeping my day home open as I will be unable to do so.
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- 25 I am very concerned that I may not have parents that will enroll their children as my centre is a nursery school that runs 3 hours daily for the majority of my students. I am more of an enrichment program rather than a necessity for daycare. I have been operating my school since 1998 at full capacity and I am very concerned that I will not have enough children to operate at all.
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- 26 I believe our sector needs to be treated like we matter. I feel, not only the government but he public as well don't see child care as important as other jobs in society. We are still thought of as baby sitters and are disposable...I wonder where the province or Canada would be without childcare? It's time the government takes a serious look at child care and start treating the people who choose to pursue that as their career, like we matter, like they would be lost without us...after all we are teaching and caring for the most precious beings in the world, whose life is influenced by what they learn in the first five years of their lives, when their brain does the most growing.
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- 27 I feel that up until recently, ECE's were brushed aside but so heavily relied upon for the essential workers. I really hope that a light will shine on our profession because it is one of the most essential in my opinion.
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- 28 I believe the Government should provide more monthly funding on a regular basis so that if such an event arises we may be able support ourselves. Also, the monthly grant increase would allow for higher wages to withhold staff in our small town centre which simply doesn't have the population for enrollment to stay open. It is very worrisome when there is no reserve for your centre and you are told you will lose your funding if you close. Following the ratios in a centre without full capacity full-time enrollment is difficult during the year on a regular basis.
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- 29 I can't believe there isn't any help for us. Once again child care workers treated like garbage. I've taken money out of rrsp's to survive. When all this is over I'm looking for a new job. Sick of how we're treated. Saskatchewan subsidy takes dates income received not for when they're allocated for so when parents get multiple back dated EI or CERB payments all at once they don't qualify for subsidy. There's no special circumstances given for this. Ridiculous. They'll just pull their kids out because they don't need daycare...just wanting their spots held for when they go back. They're not going to pay a full fee when they're at home and don't need care. This has hit me so hard financially. I'm using the food bank. I'm really scared for when my mortgage deferral is up. I'm just so saddened and furious at the same time that there is absolutely no help for us. Waiting to here details about the 400/month from Sask government but honestly what's 400 really going to do. I would even love an interest free loan from gov't like bigger businesses got. I don't think it's fair that I had to take out rrsp money to live while the government has taken care of pretty much the whole country financially
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- 30 I do have a few concerns. How are we supposed to bring back our families, when our premier is telling all workers who are headed back to work this month and need childcare, that they are to go to the daycare centers that are in the schools (which have been specifically deemed for essential workers)??!! How are we supposed to provide quality care while implementing social distancing? We have concerns with ratios once we retain our prior families. As in, how many children can we have (right now it is 8), and how are we supposed to choose which families are able to return to our center (Phase 3 of reopening claims only 15 per building)? I am concerned that our employees will find employment elsewhere and will not return once we resume normal operations. Also, if we do not receive government financial assistance soon, we may be looking at potentially closing. We are having difficulty finding sanitizing and other disinfecting cleaners too. I feel that will for sure remain a problem throughout this pandemic.
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- 31 I feel like we are left out when no one ever mention about us childcare worker. We are also essential worker that need to be addressed.
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- 32 I feel our Saskatchewan Government has no idea how childcare works and has no want to know. I feel we were brushed aside in the whole process of COVID and that it is clear we are not valued or acknowledged in Saskatchewan.
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- 33 I had a full daycare before the virus, Now I have 3 kids and at the end of May I will be down to 2 kids , This is hurting me hard.
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- 34 I have lost great staff to better paying jobs due to layoffs
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- 35 I hope that the government will continue the funding for those who are daycare that are closed because nobody want to be like this situation .
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- 36 I hope that throughout all of this the government realizes the important role that childcare providers have in the everyday working lives of families. Without these childcare employees the frontline/essential workers would have no way to attend their job without childcare. In the future I would like the government to recognize the importance by subsidizing wages of employees who work in childcare and provide a grant for centres to be able to pay their employees more than minimum wage.
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- 37 I think Saskatchewan should have a wage top up for childcare staff. The \$400/month is a flat rate regardless of hours worked and only applies to those who earn less than \$2500. This is also only paid during the COVID. In most other provinces the government tops up these services with an hourly dollar amount.
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- 38 I think we were not at all recognized at essential services. We shouldn't have been placed as a phase 3 when childcare is NEEDED for phase 1 to start.
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- 39 I was really hoping the view on ECE would change throughout this but it does not seem to be. We are essential enough that no one can go back to work without Childcare but not essential enough to be viewed as a valued sector of the community.
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- 40 I was unable to collect COVID funding as I closed voluntarily because we have an at risk family member residing in the home
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- 41 I wish I could talk to someone, I have read and reread, and don't think I have don't what I need to do to help the business. The children who are using our centre are both from our licensed daycare, our unlicensed before and after program, and new families who are essential services or just have to work .
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- 42 I wonder how this affects children when constantly reminded not to get too close to other children. A child's day consists of play; this is their world of learning. I feel it will leave negativity with a child. Also, adults are not to hug and cuddle children. This is also their world of security and this attachment with the ECE's creates trust with children. Are children to feel isolated, numb and confused? Older preschool children may u derogatory d but infant and toddlers will not understand.
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- 43 I would like to receive some kind of material assistance from the state, since now we are going through a difficult time
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- 44 If the government expects us to stay open and continue with "Business as usual" we need to be able to access our usual supports and resources. The parks and playgrounds are essential for gross motor physical development. And the 8 to a room needs to increase to 10. Most ratios do not exceed 10 as is.
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- 45 If we had a National Childcare system in place prior to this, I believe we would have been far better supported. The inconsistent messages, and lack of information has been frustrating and worrisome. Although it seems some levels of government have realized the importance of childcare in our society its only been from the people requiring the care view. ECE Staff safety has never even been mentioned. We have had no assistance or even recognition that we, and our families are in possible danger with absolutely no PPE guidance.
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- 46 Inconsistencies Health in providing to each centre. We have four centres and receive different information. The increase protocols mean we need more staffing which is a financial hurdle. If it continues long term it would be hurtful to organizations.
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- 47 In the short term, the wage subsidy is great. But, what happens when its done on June 6th, then what? Our enrollment is not near to what it was prior to March 15th, we're down 85%. Even in Sept when the school goes back in, parents will find alternate child care as they're scared to send their children to daycare, then what? My concern is if we lay off too many staff, how will be get them back? We are in a rural community of 500, finding ECE workers to work for min wage is near impossible. We need more financial help to keep workers on payroll for a longer period to time, until things are back up and running.
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- 48 Increased cleaning protocols, screening and not mixing of groups is hard and requires more staffing. Limited enrollment and having to only take essential services families hurt our enrollment and funding.
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- 49 Information was very poorly communicated in our sector and it has been difficult to get current, correct information from the government and its workers!
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- 50 Is it possible to encourage parents to start sending their children to daycares by advertisements, through workplace memos etc. as this will be a challenge to get the parents to send their kids back to daycare again.
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- 51 it is difficult to plan ahead as we do not know what families will be doing short term and long term. It feels as if we went backward 10 years as far as enrollment and budget. Will families feel safe using group care??? How long do we live poor and fund raise to stay afloat while maintaining health- safety and quality programs...? It is all in our hands not to strain the system and move forward...much work ahead
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- 52 It just didn't make sense to close schools and put pressure on daycare centers to remain open and take in school age kids whose parents needed care. Children under the age of 12 do not understand the concept of social distancing and it is ridiculous that the government expects infants, toddlers and preschoolers to stay apart and not play together. It is also pointless splitting up into groups of max. 8 because everyone is still allowed to play outside together. It would have made more sense to let centers keep operating under the normal staff to child ratios instead of following the 8 children max/ per space - this just means the daycare has more exceptions on keeping kids split up, can have less children attend than normal, and we need to find more staff for less kids.
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- 53 It will be very hard to fill spots all at once.
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- 54 It would be nice if we could be helped financially for just our vacant spots that we cannot fill. I have chosen to keep my daycare open so I do not qualify for the CERB benefits. My income has gone down a lot and it would be nice to receive some financial aid while keeping my daycare business open and trying to fill my empty spots.
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- 55 It would be nice to get some help cover low enrolment because of covid
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- 56 It would be nice to receive extra funding from the government to help pay wages when workers return to work without all the loopholes. We Currently are waiting to apply for the 75Percent wage subsidy but can get into our business account. May wasted hours on the phone to the government to be told it's staffing issues on their end that's taking this so long
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- 57 Meeting the challenges of COVID keeping everyone safe and healthy it will increased daily by about 2 hours when you work alone in this crazy times extra help would be essential I feel more homes will be closing due to burnout less time with your own family.
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- 58 It's amazing that we are not recognized by government to receive adequate pay but yet we are now considered essential service workers. Without us, many 'IMPORTANT, recognized' Essential workers wouldn't be able to go to work. We put our health and health of our families on the line to stay open as we have NO other source of income to supplement ourselves, eg: employment insurance. No one should have to work 10 hours a day just to make minimum wage and no insurances, securities, pension unless we pay into it ourselves.
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- 59 It's been a trying time for everyone but it's definitely been quite an eye opener of how little importance the early childhood sector plays in our community. Mostly all extra funding is coming from the federal level and with the extra provisions needed to be taken at our centre it's a bit defeating to know there has been absolutely no extra funding to help with these new restrictions. Such as extra funds to buy more cleaning supplies or giving us accessibility to hand sanitizers, no-contact thermometers or giving us exceptions to when we do need to go out and buy extra supplies or food for our daycare and not have to be consider like everyone else. The provisions that were made because of COVID-19 varies across the country and a few are just so impractical to do. It's been very mind blogging time as I can't figure out if they were to shut down the schools but not daycares and teachers were not lay off and was able to continue their year delivery short online learning while we had to basically lay off all of our workers?! I'm not sure what is a difference beside between an 8-year-old and a 3-year-old. They are all kids?! Let's also talk about the mental health of everyone too .... including the kids. There is a lot that is on the line and it's just not about just re opening and pick up where we left off. We need to adjust to this new normal of things. The adjustment may take up to a year or more...
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- 60 It's difficult when Governments announce funding, but then say details will follow. Then you are waiting and hoping that your business will qualify for it. Also being a non-profit, we don't want to put ourselves in a future position of owing lots of money when we already operate with a break even budget.
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- 61 It's hard and scary to get new families to enroll to replace the ones still keeping children home. No families are looking for care but we still need to be open and the requirements expected of us has raised. I feel SECA is advocating but I feel the ministry is just asking more and more of us and pointing fingers saying we need to do more(change OUR contracts, put more pressure on our families about filling out forms, I feel resentful towards the ministry of education right now)
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- 62 Les critères d'admissibilité pour obtenir du financement ne sont pas toujours flexibles pour d'autres petites entreprises surtout à travers les banques.
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- 63 lower attendance and lower hours and funding for staffing
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- 64 Main concern is the amount of time will be spend on cleaning and preventing than educating
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- 65 Mask, Sanitize and other material which are approved by ministry of health, should be provided by Government in facilities.
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- 66 My greatest concern is that I am the only caregiver for my elderly mother, who lives next door to me. This is the reason for my closure.
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- 67 My problem is that I had all the qualifications to apply for CEBA but because I didn't have a business account I was found to be eligible for the government funded loan and many small business owners are facing the same problem.
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- 68 Notre Centre aimerait réembaucher les employés en comptant sur la subvention de 75%, la question que l'on se pose est: Qu'est ce que le centre fera après le 6 juin? Le centre n'est pas à mesure de continuer de payer les employés avec la subvention du gouvernement sans les frais de garde que les parents paient chaque mois.
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- 69 One of the first question was were we mandated to close. we were not told to close, but with screening check list, I was sick with cough and needed inhaler. That put me at risk and parents had to withdraw kids, and with social distancing enforced our home is not suitable.
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- 70 Our Centre needs more funding. We have half of our spots funded and desperately need the extra funding in order to maintain and improve our Site's. We cannot buy anything for our children, or do upgrades because we simply don't have the funds even with the minimum 4-5 fundraisers a year we do to make ends meet. I am also frustrated with being told (when hemorrhaging money) that we were not allowed to close (when our numbers were just 2 or 3 kids a day) or they would take our funding away. I was appalled to say the least. We are in a very small town in [name of town] - we had 1 essential worker family who did not pull their child; I would have been a lot inept to want to stay open if we were serving more essential workers, but we weren't. Child Care Centre's get the short end of the stick and it's tough. (Pre-COVID) We are the building block to healthy communities and get treated like we are nothing and get looked down upon. I just want to provide adequate childcare in buildings that are properly furnished to grow our young children, but its impossible with the menial funds we receive.
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- 71 Our family day homes fell through all the cracks, no funding or supports put in place to help/protect us.
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- 72 Our main concern will be what is going to happen when we open? We know that enrollment will be low, will the Government offer financial support past COVID -19? Will the government review the Subsidy amounts for low income parents attending Child Care? will they offer top ups for the Educators salaries as other provinces have been doing for a few years?
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- 73 Our provincial government did not close daycare's down, he closed the ones in the schools and then had them re-open for essential service workers. He only talked about the daycare's in schools, people thought we were closed. Even when we started to re-open the province he talked about school day cares. I feel forgotten in all of this, the provincial government did keep giving the ECS grant, however it went to centres that closed as well good for them. They're bank account grows while mine is slowly being depleted. The centres that stayed open for our parents should have been compensated a little more to help meet payroll and other bills. As a non profit I worked hard to build that cushion and was planning to put it back into our old building. The government gave a \$400 wage increase to lower paid essential workers. We were all here working providing essential service everyone deserved an increase, we are all out here potentially exposing ourselves to the virus, so my mom who is a nurse can go to work, my moms who work in long term care homes, my dad who drives truck and so on. When the province re-opens fully if my numbers do not come back up I can't afford to hire all my staff back and meet payroll. I have applied for the grants will it be enough? and pay back that loan....
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- 74 Right now we are very thankful to be able to stay open, to have our wages topped off and be working to feed our families. This whole experience has been quite stressful. Many people are scared to come back. I don't know if our clients will return or if we have to start over to attract new clients. We have been able to keep 3 rooms open this whole time. We are managing. Keeping up with all of the new rules has been a challenge, but we adjust!
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- 75 Our Public Health officer asks people to stay at home if they can, yet we have many families bringing their children in for care because they need a break from their children. They are at home, but do not want their children home with them. Our Program is running a [project] for the Government of Saskatchewan. Our community does not have a PreK program, so we are offering free programming for 4 year olds in our community for early intervention. Children will qualify for the program if they have 1 parent who is at home not working or going to school. Our [project] is still running, even though every other school and PreK program in our province is closed. Some of these children continue to receive this free service/programming even though they are advised to stay at home if they can. I am honored and happy to come to work everyday to support our essential workers. I know that without them, we would not be OK. They risk their health and their families' health everyday for us and I am happy to risk my health and my families' health to support them. I find it hard to come to work when I am supporting others who are not doing their part to protect. My hands are tied and I cannot refuse care to families who can stay home. These children and parents continue to come into our program and put the children and families who have to be here at risk. Our province has left the decision of who we provide care for up to the program's Board of Directors.
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- 76 restrictions make things very difficult. Ratio is hard to manage having to keep siblings together
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- 77 Revise subsidy eligibility as some families struggle to pay full fee. Also government should survey the area before opening a Center in specific as it can have a lot of impact on license day home.
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- 78 Saskatchewan provincial government has not provided licensed facilities with any type of top up. Everything is inadequate. They have taken away EA grant funding if child is staying away, very well knowing that centres are struggling.
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- 79 SK govt needs to support rather than ignore home child care. See what other provinces have done. No support for guidelines for opening. See what bc has produced for guidelines. Federal gov't - no support for childcare
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- 80 Staff are not wanting to come back to work , as they would rather stay home on CERB , than be exposed to groups of children. We have had to point out to staff, if they refuse a recall, then they quit, and will not be eligible for CERB, but I doubt they will actually be " caught" refusing to come back to work. I will issue ROE saying they quit though. Also SASK only allows a 12 week total lay off, so If I don't call staff back my Mid June, I have to pay 1-8 weeks pay in lieu of notice,, so ill probably just call back staff who I don't need, vs pay full wages by labour standards for 1-8 weeks,
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- 81 Stress-free processing of collecting unpaid fees from parents
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- 82 Support. No one really gave us procedures to keep everyone safe.
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- 83 The expectation of social distancing in the Center is just ridiculous to even say. Children need love and hugs from their educators so it really does put us in a hard place. My educators are risking their health everyday coming to work so my concern is that we are not receiving appropriate wages associated with these risks.
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- 84 The COVID19 challenges for our centre is multifaceted as we have one centre that remained open and one centre that closed as it operates out of a school. The centre that remained opened saw the impact of the lack of information being shared about the reasons for the school based centre to close but not the Early Learning and Childcare Centre that we also operate. There was mention that the school based centre was needed to provide childcare for the essential services workers but it has not been utilized by anyone and even the centre that was chosen to provide those services are not being utilized to it's capacity. The families of our School Based centre had no childcare available to them after the date of the closure - we were also uncertain at this time if our second centre would be able to accommodate some of these children or not without knowing if it would be closed shortly after. Our childcare centre also had Early Childhood Educators that have underlying health conditions and immediate family members with the same types of conditions and they were unable to continue working during the COVID19 pandemic in order to stay healthy. The only benefit of this was that our attendance drastically decreased and left us with no other option but to lay off some of our Educators and those were the first employees to receive the lay off, benefiting their health and well being. Another challenge that our centre encountered is that we had no choice but to continue charging our families a monthly fee whether their children are attending or not as we continue to have salaries, bills and operational expenses to pay as well the need to have an operational centre for families to utilize when they return to work. During this time, we saw families withdraw from our centre due to the provincial pandemic leaving some spaces empty, families on the wait list are reluctant to bring their children at this time and will not commit to taking a space at this time. In the early stages of the COVID19 pandemic there was not enough information shared as to the direction of the childcare sector - many businesses were mandated to close excluding Early Learning and Childcare Centres and there was no information provided to our centre as to why other provinces closed childcare centres but not in Saskatchewan.
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- 85 The economy will re-open at a fasted pace than the child care restrictions will be lifted. As a result, we'll be turning away families because we don't have the number of spaces we used to.
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- 86 The effect of COVID-19 on my financial situation is significant, even with the IE support I have quarter of amount of income that I had pre-COVID-19 for the month of April and coming in May and perhaps in the next months to come depending how the reopening of the economy plays out. Not only financially I am under stress but also emotionally very stressed., My mother passed away in a care home (not coved 19 related) on April 14 and I could not attend the funeral or visit her before she passed, I have developed some depression. In order for me to work Efficiently in my field I need more financial and Psychological support.
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- 87 The lack of communication and the overall lack of immediate support, both provincially and federally, was very concerning. It shows child care is not of importance to our governments.
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- 88 The main effects of covid-19 in our childcare home is that we cannot decide now to re open our facility because many of our kid's parents are not yet working and they are still keeping their kids at home. And one thing there is no clear directives that we (home daycares) are already allowed to re open. Thank you
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- 89 The most frustrating part out of all of the funding that has been announced is the top up wages that the government is giving out. It only applies to low income workers, when the ones under the most stress(managers/directors/supervisors) get nothing. Doesn't seem fair that the ones under the most stress receive nothing while all the employees under them get something for just showing up.
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- 90 There is an Essential Service grant available to some centres operating for essential workers in Saskatchewan. Our centre became the default program as the only other licensed centre in Kindersley chose to close. We never had the option of closing. We had a lower number of families requiring care but we still had families without childcare options so that is why we stayed accessible. It's our role! I do not think it is a fair manner to treat the programs that are operating outside of a school building from those who exist outside of a school building. What difference do our walls make?!?! We have had weak leadership from the Early Years Branch of our Ministry of Education! Disappointing to put it mildly!□
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- 91 There needs to be a universal approach to ensuring the ELCC sector is still viable when this crisis is over. Right now there is a patchwork of ideas that are just temporary band aids to the overall financial crisis that ELCC is in. Some provinces are addressing the issue by ensuring centres are funded while they are closed while others (Saskatchewan) has no funding in place and have hinted at taking the small amount of operation cost grant funding they give on a monthly basis. There is no guarantee that that "ECS" grant will remain in tact from one month to another making it impossible for centres and homes to have any financial stability.
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- 92 There wasn't much guidance from our province because we weren't mandated to close and when we closed we didn't know there may be funding to stay open.
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- 93 This lock down has affected our center like a tsunami wave. If things don't change soon we will be forced to close altogether. Our center is completely dependent on enrollments especially in September. We predict far fewer enrolments in September because all of our parents have been negatively impacted financially as well.
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- 94 Throughout this pandemic I feel Early Childhood Educators have been treated as disposable by the government. At no point has clear direction of any kind been offered. Very little support by the Early Years Branch and absolutely no support by the Ministry of Education or our MLA.
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- 95 Uncertainty is difficult. Not knowing if kids will return or when. It's hard to look forward and it's hard to plan financially to make business viable.
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- 96 very stressful, the government left us out with preplanning the closure and then reopening to essential front line workers. guidelines are very hard to follow with younger children. low wages makes it easier for most ECE to go on CERB rather than work.
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- 97 Very unrealistic to expect us to stay open and look after 8 kids on our own with everything going on, to be able to keep 8 kids distanced from each other while at the same time keeping our spaces, ourselves and the children clean. But financially we have to. Unlike schools we are doing this all without any extra help, janitors, secretaries etc.
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- 98 Very upset that the funding seems to be going only towards centres. Homes are just as valuable and being government licensed we need to abide by the same regulations. We have fallen through the cracks and I feel so under appreciated. It took the government almost two months for any funding and most of it is a slap in the face. In some cases people on welfare are making more than a daycare provider who lost all their families!
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- 99 We already had concerns before this Covid hit because childcare workers are not paid a decent wage and therefore it is extremely hard to obtain and retain workers with such low income. It was already a struggle with an insane amount of fundraising to meet financial obligations without gouging families needing care.
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- 100 We are a small centre that has only half of our spaces funded by our local government. We have taken a loss to our non-profit organization savings in order to serve our families and staff during this crisis. Childcare has been deemed an essential service but is left out of consideration when talking about safety measures, PPE or funding. We would like to see acknowledgement of our importance to the economy and society as a whole and see the funding to match. We have been asked to put ourselves on the front lines of this crisis without the compensation that it deserves. We would like to see further funding to increase spaces, raise wages to a living wage and reduce fees to make early education accessible to all families.
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- 101 We are concerned about the number of children attending our centre in the near future. (low enrolment)
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- 102 We are doing our best with the staff that has remained to be available for the families in our community needing our service and as of now our operating grant is helping us sustain cost. The future uncertainty is what is of most concern but we are managing day by day
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- 103 We are so short staffed and we are now reaching over 8 kids, splitting rooms. There is minimal staff, I'm director, cook, cleaning, and with a special need [child]. I am running my butt off and I am exhausted, as are the rest of the staff. There is ALOT of cleaning to do, with no time to do it because of the group splits.
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- 104 We have been grandfathered in to the physical space requirement many years ago and have been unable to find larger space, therefore we were overcrowded before covid, so keeping distance will be impossible for the future. this may mean closure at some point as we will likely be too small to be viable.
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- 105 We have lost staff due to this pandemic and those staff will not be returning to work. We are left short staffed now and when children start returning to the centre we will not have adequate staffing to accept these children.
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- 106 We have staff with elementary kids, so they are able to stay on the CERB. This means finding temporary staff for an unknown amount of time - especially difficult when it's for EAs with kids with autism who thrive on routine. Our numbers are low because many people are using no childcare as an excuse to not go back to work, but I can't fill even my reduced number of spaces. My opinion is that something should be done to encourage people to go back to work instead of staying on the CERB. Perhaps parent subsidies could increase so that they are more likely to go back to work instead of staying home and not paying childcare. Perhaps there could be something that in order to continue to stay on it because of childcare issues they need to show proof that they tried to find a daycare spot.
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107 we were told to close because we are located in a school. I don't feel we needed to close, we have our own entrance to the daycare and we would not have to be in the school. we are in a small town and the only businesses that were closed was the school and the daycare. our [name of town] still needed us to be open. other daycares that are in their own building could stay open, but we couldn't. with the school closed we technically had our own building and would not have been in contact with anyone else. I think that in the future you have to look at each situation not just with a single brush for everyone. there was no reason for our facility to be closed during the pandemic. we are a small town not a big center

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108 why did the Ministry of Education, relay to us: "as of now it is up to providers to include in their policy whether they expect fees to be paid whether the child attends daycare or not, whether provider's fees increase to summer rates for school age children, what your policy is if a daycare child becomes ill at daycare, what happens of you, your assistant, or your own child becomes ill?" First of all, why should "I" / "We" have to change our policies to decide if Parents still had to pay us? that is unreal expectations put on to us from the ministry of education! And if we told the parents not to pay us, then who was going to compensate us? Absolutely no one, as no one is compensating us now. We should have been compensated per child care space lost, & then the parents would not have had to worry about paying or losing their child care spaces. Shame on the Government, & the Ministry of Education, for forcing that upon the Parents. CONTRACTS: there needs to be changes made to the Agreement of Child Care Contracts. VACATION TIME/PAY: this needs to be changed. Why are the Home Child Care providers, required to find the Alternate Child Care and Pay for the Alternate Child care, during the Providers Vacation time? (it states in the licensee manual, that we are to pay for the alternate care, so as the parents are not paying twice for care!) Parents receive Two extra pay periods in a year, & are not paying us the extra payments in a year. We are entitled to 4 weeks' vacation, but not paid for those weeks, but still have to pay for the Alternate Care. Day care homes are based upon 48 weeks, meaning, parents have available 48 weeks of care in a year, & centers are based upon 52 weeks of care, meaning parents have available 52 weeks of care a year. SICK PAY: we do not receive sick pay/sick leave. Parents are required a full reimbursement of a daily rate, for every day we are sick/closed. BENEFITS: we have none! ALTERNATE CARE: we used to have an alternate care program, to hire an alternate to come into our homes if we had doctor appointments, a funeral to attend, or any other thing we wanted to do during the day care hours, that other wise couldn't be done out side of the daycare hours. The Government took the Alternate Care Grant away & therefore we could not continue on with our program. FUNDING: our Grants are just that, a grant that is allocated towards certain items, & can not be spent on anything except what is approved! It is not an income, because it is not going towards me personally. MOVING FORWARD: the effects of COVID-19 on the provision of child care, is going to be challenging. Where are we going to find the supplies we require? I do not have an extra \$70.00 for a 4-liter jug of hand sanitizer! We have no one supplying us any products that are required for the safety & well being of everyone involved. I am currently going through all the toys, & packing things up that can not be easily disinfected, so those will be limited. I will have to put faith in my day care parents, that they are following the rules for social distancing, outside of my Daycare hours. All of the Licensed Facilities are governed under the same Licensing, Ministry of Education, early years' branch, but we are all treated differently, Homes & Centers. Changes need to be made in our Sector. Thank you

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109 Worried that once the second wave hits the amount of income will be less.

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## Alberta

- 1 It is concerning that the guidelines were not in place before the government announced day cares and out of school cares will reopen as early as May 14. There is also a disconnect within the system, Schools and pre schools are still closed, this will cause a huge strain on out of school care centres to now arrange full time care, lower ratios, parents already requesting we do school work with them, what children get to attend because of social distancing etc.

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- 2 -lack of ability to receive required protective gear. Masks, med grade gloves, hand sanitizer  
- covid requirements will not meet the educational needs if a child. -no ability to nurture, hug, comfort a child. Huge negative emotional impact for children expecting this kind of care  
- social distancing goes against everything a quality ELCC center practices and believes in  
-viability for such low enrolment and the necessity to over staff to properly implement strict cleaning protocol

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- 3 A concern is that how fast or likely the parents are wanting to come back to care when the re-open occurs in the months to come How the centre will handle filling the spaces or holding the spaces of current families or new families to meet the financial needs of operating a centre when it is in the early stages of re-opening If staff have concerns returning to work with thing still uncertain

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- 4 A funding strategy should be put into place to help out licensed day homes with reduced numbers due to covid 19. A wage enhancement subsidy to help cover the open spaces as well as hazard pay

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- 5 A huge reduction in attendance. Reopening guidelines are slow to coming out

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- 6 Accepting loans and deferring payments only creates future debt for which child care centres do not make enough revenue to repay later and therefore results in closure

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- 7 Alberta government has given a date of May 14 for opening but has not provided any guidelines or plan for this to happen. After polling my parents, only about 3 are willing or able to bring their kids back to our programs. This is a significant decline and many of our parents are currently laid off or not working because of COVID-19.

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- 8 All of the benefits are loans that need to be paid back or you still have to pay upfront with no cash flow available

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- 9 Am shocked and disappointed that Out of School Care is allowed to open in Phase 1, despite K-12 Schools being closed, yet Preschools are not scheduled to open in Phase 1 despite providing Child Care spaces to thousands of families across Alberta. There appears to be no logic in opening Out Of School Care which will never be used until and unless K-12 Schools are reopened, and keeping Preschools closed when we provide a holistic education to young preschoolers and a valuable service to parents who are employed.

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- 10 As a daycare centre, we are hoping and expecting to open on May 14; however, we still have not received the guidelines that we will need to put into place. Only giving us a few days to prepare once we get these guidelines makes it very difficult. Also, we have not been given the 100% to open on May 14 so it's all still feeling quite uncertain and parents are unsure if they should give notice to their current care in order to return to our centre, just in case we are unable to open after all.

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- 11 As a new centre we appreciate the open space fund as we do not qualify for other grants/funds. But landlord was truly amazing and has cut rent drastically for us so that is a huge weight off our shoulders.
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- 12 As a preschool owner, it is very concerning that my program is not included with the other child care programs that offer child care. Not every working family needs all day child care and preschool programs provide a more cost effective way for parents to have their children in child care. Because the preschool is not a part of the relaunch strategy, I don't know when I will have to opportunity to open again. If it isn't in September, I don't know how much longer I can continue to pay the cost associated with having a program. The hardest part of all of this, is not knowing when the preschool can open.
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- 13 As Alberta day homes stayed open when every thing else closed I have felt like a fish out of water with little to no information from our minister Which has been extremely frustrating. I hope we get information now that daycares are opening.
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- 14 As an early educator working in a day home setting, I was so proud that the government deemed us both essential AND safe due to our lower numbers. However, that's where all the good stopped. We were left behind when it came time to offer care to essential services. Day homes were deemed safe and an essential service itself, but we weren't even considered as an option for frontline workers to go to! Instead, the government reopened daycares with strict rules and then PAID THEM EXTRA FEES!! What? Why are day homes always the last in line? We care for children too. We provide a safe and loving environment. Many of us have more education that the daycare workers...but we're "just day homes"
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- 15 As one of Alberta's \$25/day programs, we are not permitted to raise parent fees above that rate. We are not being compensated for the spaces that we are not permitted to reopen. However, the provincial government is providing \$41/day of compensation for each of the reopened spaces that are vacant, which means we are losing money by having those spaces filled. It's been difficult to have the staffing to operate, as many of my educators have children of their own to care for (and we were not designated "essential services" for the purposes of being able to access reopened childcare spaces), others have health conditions that put them at high risk of complications from covid-19, and at least one has stated that some kind of wage increase/hazard pay would be a condition of being willing to work. We are operating with minimal staffing caring for stressed-out children (most of whom are new to us), with restrictions on outdoor play/playground access, increased housekeeping workload, and rapidly fluctuating instructions, all while operating inside a hospital and having to adhere to the hospital's rules. We had just found some sense of balance when it was announced to the public that childcare programs will be reopening in phase 1 of the province's economic relaunch strategy "with restrictions" (but no information on what those restrictions may be), in potentially fewer than two weeks. Now we have to navigate prioritising which of our educators we can recall, which families get priority access to return, and how soon will our temporary families be able to go back to their previous providers.
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- 16 As the director I'm not in charge of financial issues. I'm worried about less children that would make it financially difficult for the owner to reopen. We have a high rent and less numbers, she isn't going to open if there is no profit for her. How would she pay her mortgage etc.
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- 17 As the families and children slowly return they will be challenged by anxiety and added stress. ECE staff will need to have special training to face these situations to support the needs of our families.
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- 18 Based on our survey conducted with parents, as of most of them lost their jobs or can not continue their studies or have school age children who need home supervision it seems impossible to have children coming back to the daycare and re-open in the next 2 months probably. Ending up with rent and bill and Revenue payment difficulties it is even harder as there is no guaranty that any loan we may take to pay our debts due to the closure , we could pay back in short time due to the very less number of children we may will have at the time when we reopen
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- 19 Because of the uncertainty of child capacity and when it will increase it's unknown whether the current funding will be enough to cover rent and operating costs of my centre (20 years ownership)
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- 20 can we have more information on programs that support non-for-profit organizations please.
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- 21 Centres re-opening will likely face lower enrolment and increased Financial Cost. Our centre will likely experience more financially hardship and difficulty once we reopen.
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- 22 Children are not able to understand that social distancing. you cannot get the children to play alone. I was willing to work to the best of my abilities and my day home agency coordinator came and picked up all of the files and the FDA sticker to say that I am approved. when she did this she closed me until I am able to reopen. So when I reopen I will need to get all of that back. I was fully willing to stay open. My coordinator was the one that closed my home down as there was no kids that needed care during this time.
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- 23 Concerned that the child care sector has now become unregulated which increases the chance of poor care, and at the very least takes away all aspects of early learning which are so beneficial to young minds. We need to move toward higher quality, not let this be a thing that takes three steps backwards.
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- 24 Concerned that we will not be able to have enough children to operate. Concerned about who will come back.
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- 25 Concerned with funding's in place from provincial government. Concerned In regards to the enrolment of children, and health and safety of all who enter the center.
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- 26 Concerns about safety and risks to staff and children and how to distance children who are so little
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- 27 Concerns are that aside from 2 of the subsidies, the rest pf the help available are deferrals or loans. this increases pressure on faltering/struggling centers in the future. Loans and deferrals still have to be paid regardless.
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- 28 Costs associated to set up the facilities to implement the procedures and protocols for Covid 19
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- 29 could be the top up and northern allowance funding be resumed? are PPEs will be provided?
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- 30 Day Care will take a long time to be viable with many people losing their jobs permanently. It is going to take a long time to get back our numbers to full capacity.
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- 31 Day cares were provided funding yet when day home have remained open to support families there was no support in funding or maintain wage top up. There were regulations put in place to increase sanitation however there was no immediate funding available. I have been able to claim my 180 hours yet when children are not in attendance my top up decreased through no fault of my own and the government continues to support subsidy and allowing parents to have access to the full amounts. I will continue to support my families in care however I require financial assistance. If the government is putting in regulations they must provide the tools so Educators can accomplish the regulation sset.
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- 32 Day Homes depend directly on enrolment numbers to make financial ends meet. With families laid off/fearful, enrolments are down. This may cause homes to close permanently, which is very distressing.
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- 33 Disorganization of support- we are left hanging or find things out through social media verses from our government bodies. We are more than just daycares - the collaboration between our support networks needs communication help
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- 34 Distancing the children will be very difficult with 6 months - 5yr. olds. I am also worried about long term emotional /social impact this type of care will have on the children.
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- 35 Enrollment has reduced by half as parents have lost their jobs, some now work from home and do not need childcare, some are immune compromised and others self-isolate.
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- 36 Every body gets help from government, except licences childcare day home, which they are offering services to families and their children by putting their own family in risk and spending money for sanitizing equipment and supplies. In meanwhile, losing top up (government funding) for reducing hours. I wish government understand that we are caring and educating their current little citizen and future society.
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- 37 Federal Funding is hard to access for non profit centres if at all.
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- 38 Financial situation will be effected badly
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- 39 FIRSTLY, MOSTLY PARENTS DON NOT WANT TO BRING THEIR CHILDREN BACK UNTILL VACCINE COMES, SECONDLY IF CAPACITY WILL BE REDUCED IT WILL BE HARD TO MANAGE FINANCIALLY VERY HARD TO MAINTAIN 2 METER DISTANCE IN CHILDREN AS THEY DONT UNDERSTAND THAT. STAFF IS ALOS SCARED TO COME BACK. MOREOVER SCHOOLS ARE NOT OPEN AND AFETR SCHOOL WILL HAVE GREAT IMPACT
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- 40 For kids under the age of 5 years, it will be difficult to teach them to stay at a certain distance from each other, They feel safe when they are close to provider or their loved ones.
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- 41 For me, working with the kids and tell them to make a social distance is hard. Two years Old won't understand. But cleaning hands work, cover mouth when you cough helps as well. I was happy to have my day home during this hard time and most of the parents are so happy to have me taking care of their children
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- 42 For the first week only one child terminated their contract, but since then 2 more have switched to only one day a week due to parents working from home/layoffs. This has significantly affected my typical income, in addition to government funding cuts.
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- 43 From time of announcement to the time of protocols and guidance is too long, Child care Centers should have been in phase 2. Some information could have been directly forwarded to us without us having to read between lines or do our own investigating.
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- 44 Funding not as helpful if there are no children.....until health concerns are allayed the problem of getting children will persist.
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- 45 Getting staff to come back before CERB benefits have terminated is posing a bit of a staffing challenge as staff are still uncertain if it is safe to return to work.
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- 46 Going back to providing quality affordable care will be extremely challenging and a DELICATE balance that will have expenses attached. We NEED a universal child care plan to support families required to return back to work. We know we need to be part of the reopen but don't want to be responsible for second wave. Early childhood is almost impossible to physical distance! Period! It's our opinion that its not time yet. And when we get back at it we hope for a continued ELCC grant. if not THIS CENTRE WILL LIKELY CLOSE. There are no way parents will be able to pay the expenses. Thank you for being a united voice! It's now or never for the needs of this important society sector TO BE HEARD!
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- 47 Having staff comfortable with the changes that must be made in our daily routine in child care will be difficult as every staff member has their own comfort level.
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- 48 Having to purchase additional learning & other related materials to ensure development is being met (ie: being restricted to our own property & not being able to experience learning experiences hands on outside of my home). Damage to personal property within the home due to frequent cleaning of high touch areas using the appropriate ratio of bleach/water solution. Loss of potential parent fees when older kids transition to kindergarten (ie: unable to fill their spots with a new child(s))
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- 49 Higher costs to stay open extra cleaning and supplies needed
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- 50 How are OSC programs located in a school going to operate? The children attending the programs, might be kept separate during the day in class, however when they come to a one room classroom of 25 plus children, how is this going to be possible, if at all?
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- 51 How do we decide who will attend childcare if we have limited numbers that are allowed to attend? How will we have access to PPEs and cleaning supplies. How do we distance groups of children that don't understand social distancing? Will the government top up still be available? How do we need kids physical needs of we can't access parks
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- 52 How do we operate with low numbers of children and high numbers of staff?
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- 53 How long will this procedures of physical distancing, ratio and other practices to be enforced How can we advise the parents to be more cooperative with the daycare management. What other procedures like temperature taking be and how long.? This is important because most of the covid-19 cases are affecting the adults and elderly. There were not mentioned about children being affected. Thus far it's good. My main concern is how to prevent this from spreading to children and children, and children with adults. Do you have specific guidelines, I would like to adhere and reinforce if the daycare is open.
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- 54 How will be able to keep kids especially toddlers and babies 6 ft. apart?
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- 55 How will we be able to support the workforce that was already marginalized prior to this pandemic, with lower or worse provincial supports than we had prior?
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- 56 How will we maintain social distancing with young children.....
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- 57 I am a day home provider and I am struggling because I have lost children and there is no one looking for care as they are fearful their child will get sick because of the Covid-19, and it has greatly impacted my income. I feel like I don't fit the qualifications for any financial support which makes it frustrating and a little overwhelming as I am staying open for parents that are needing to work but am also taking the risk that myself or my family could be affected. However, with the maximum number of children allowed in approved family day homes being temporarily changed to 6, not including their own children, has from my experience so far with my own children 10, 11, 13 years old that I suggest they look into changing the age limit of 13 to at least 11 years old that the child is no longer counted, as my own daughter who is 12 has been babysitting since she was 11 years and took a course that is for 11 year olds. So she can be at someone home and babysitting 3-5 kids on her own and then comes home and still counts in my day home seems silly and doesn't make any sense. My 10-year-old goes down town by herself and goes to the grocery store and has a mowing job. If the standards are there because some kids are not as mature as other kids, then have a rule that the agency the provider is with can make that call. It has effected my day home as I can't take more day home kids that are in need of care and I have to turn away because my kids still count. Thank you for this opportunity.
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- 58 I am certain that we will open with a capacity of about 5% as parents are scared to return children to childcare and parents are still at home so no need for childcare. It is very concerning as we still have to pay our rent to [landlord name] for 24,000.00 per month, property taxes etc. This is not good as we are going into debt 100% for what?
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- 59 I am concerned about physical distancing rules to be applied to preschoolers since kids are all over the place at this age. Concerned about limited enrolment due to possible new regulations resulting in the inability to pay our 2 staff Concerned about remaining open after Government imposed closure Concerned about surviving one year within these parameters: lack of enrolment and lack of additional funds [location].
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- 60 I am concerned about staff as they will not be very comfortable when we will be operating in covid 19 situation. I am also concerned that the staff will be hesitant to do all the extra cleaning and sanitizing when they are not getting their living allowance any more. Another problem is boiled water advisory; it is going to be challenging while we do not have any source of boiling water at our centre. It will be difficult to work with young children and maintain social distancing as well because in this way you cannot create a sense of belonging with them and children like to play together so it is going to be challenging to separate them.
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- 61 I am concerned about the future of a business that I have built for the last 7 years. It takes time to build to a place where a daycare can sustain itself. I am purposely trying to do things without government assistance because I am afraid of the long term effects like increased taxes to business. I am finding it extremely hard to do social distancing so we have all households of children over 3 in the same area. We have separated infants and don't social distance without them. I feel that if this continues long term that it will have a profoundly negative effect on the social development of children. It is not normal for them or anyone to be socially distant. Children need to learn healthy social connection at this age and are very confused by the latest events. We are already noticing problems relating to this with the children who have returned.
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- 62 I am concerned about the mental health impact on children who are in day homes or day cares where adults are wearing masks and children are asked to practice social distancing throughout their day.
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- 63 I am just worried that opening too early might worsen the situation or result in less turn out of children.
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- 64 I am not finding any assistance for licensed preschools and while our non operational costs a fairly low. No money in equals no bill money
- 
- 65 I am really concern about maintaining a safe and healthy environment at all times for the children, families and staff, considering the social culture and nature of young children.
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- 66 I am so worried about my staff-I want to rehire them but can only bring them back as children return to day care :(
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- 67 I am the Director of an [family day home agency name]. I would like to see the [home day-cares] sector receive the same consideration and status as the child care centers (daycare). We feel like in all areas we are an afterthought. This includes everything from funding to information when pandemics occur.
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- 68 I am the owner/director of a [family day home agency name] in Southern Alberta. We have seen several of our providers close because of Covid-19, thankfully they have CERB to help them. We also have several providers who are operating lower than what they previously were. There is no support for those providers who remain open. We don't have the supports that were given to child care centers (ie. PPE and funding for unused spaces). We need to recognize [day home providers] as the educators they are. They have specialized training/ education, rules and regulations to follow, personalized planning for individual child needs, lower ratios...the list goes on and on. The people who are educating and loving our children while we're at work are absolutely essential to getting our economy moving. Please give them the recognition and support they deserve.
- 
- 69 I am unsure about the benefits on the previous page, how much will help and how many I can apply for.
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- 70 I am very concerned about the sustainability of my childcare business in the post-COVID world because the impact of the economy on families, directly impacts my business. I a not sure there are enough safety nets to help us. Staffing requirements may change for a very long time and I don't know if I can afford that.
- 
- 71 I am working over time and very tired all the time because covid.
- 
- 72 I believe day home providers should be given financial relief of cleaning items as well as financial relief as to lower ratios in our homes
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- 73 I believe that the Alberta Government and Federal Government should put plans and financing in place to help the child care Centres. Alberta currently is the only government in Canada that is not assisting the childcare centre. Actually involve preschools and not just daycare, out of school care or day homes. Preschool must follow all licensing regulations and it would be nice to be recognized as part of the childcare sector. Government funding should be provided to Preschools, we all have the same if not more education than most child care facilities.
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- 74 I can't imagine we are in this crisis but together we can get through. I'm just worried about staffing as we will have less children and won't be able to accommodate all the staff. How to compensate the staff who is willing to attend and still can't work because of less enrolment numbers? How to break even the bills cause of less revenue generated.
- 
- 75 I decided to close my regulated [family day home name] after Covid hit. I had one family who had a new baby born, another who was laid off and a third who was down to part time hours. It wasn't a choice to close, it was situational.
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- 76 I don't feel we are fully informed about the reopening.
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- 77 I don't know if our grant funding will be renewed because my center was part of the \$25 program for the next year
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- 78 I don't suspect we will go back to what was normal when things start up. There will still be a great deal of people laid off and there will be various restrictions on enrollment and extra rules to help keep children and families safe. This will result in lower enrollment. The budget plan for our organization doesn't have surplus. Less children will mean less revenue and less staffing. The lesser amount of staffing will not offset the lost revenue. I am worried about future financial viability.
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- 79 I don't think daycares should be allowed to open this soon.
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- 80 I feel as if licensed day homes have been left out of wage top ups, essential workers increase in wages and assistance for buying PPE. We stayed open, we risked our health and safety and our families. We lost children and are working less hours and receiving less money but not enough to qualify for any funding and that isn't fair. Licensed day home providers should receive the same \$2 an hour wage top up as other essential workers. We should also be given PPE for free as the supplies are almost impossible to find in stores. The economy won't recover without day home providers and we deserve to be treated with respect.
- 
- 81 I feel that we will experience challenges staffing our centre. Many staff will not return in fear of increased exposure to the Covid virus. Other staff have found other employment while waiting to be rehired. Yet others have no access to OSC and have little help with the strains of homeschooling so they will likely not return.
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- 82 I felt like I had to stay open during COVID as my clients were all considered "essential workers". The toll this has taken on my mental health, energy level and financial situation are considerable. My parents are paying full time fees, however, with having to buy school supplies, printer ink, huge increase in need for food during shortages, and a huge supply of hygiene and cleaning supplies, I am not sure I will be able to continue without raising my fees. I am also not sure if my clients could pay increased fees. So I would like to see some sort of support during these times. It has been very stressful.
- 
- 83 I have 3 programs in our city and have one open now. I'm losing money each day I'm open as an emergency site. I don't qualify for the rent program and I fear I won't be able to recover. We have a few families needing care for June 1st and I have 16 staff wanting to come back to work. I have an OSC program that I can't open back up because we are in a school building and most families have children in both age groups. It's so frustrating. We have only been given a loan from the province and no other support. Everyone wants childcare to be here to help rebuild but no one wants to help us keep our doors open or our families and staff stay afloat. I don't feel the province has done anything to support us at this time.
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- 84 I have had to make decisions to lower the amount of children in my care in order to provide the quality service I was previously providing, as well to assist the older children with their schooling. Due to that I am loosing income. I am very appalled the government thought raising ratios in the Alberta day homes was a good idea, based on the amount of stress these children are currently under. My operating hours are lower however the amount of time spent on preparation work is significantly higher due to time spent cleaning and planning for more complex curriculums for school age children.
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- 85 I have only 12 kids coming back in June from the 35 I had before Covid. I don't think I can sustain the staff costs and overhead costs on such low enrolment. Also moving forward if they cut our capacities for an extended period of time, this will detriment our business. If we could get the CEWS that would help some but we will still be facing such low enrolment, many centres will not survive and not all staff will be able to be hired back in the long term
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- 86 I have staff not wanting to work or return to work as they are afraid of getting covid19 while working with children and around families.
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- 87 I know it's hard to back to normal things but I'm not losing hope that we will surpass this problem.
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- 88 I lost money, cause some parents of my children in care are laid off.
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- 89 I love being a day home provider however to work for less then minimum wage for the last two months is disheartening. I work 50 plus hours a week plus I am taking college courses to get my Early Childhood Education Certificate and Diploma. More funding is needed for early childcare. Funds spent with equate to long term savings down the road.
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- 90 I need more help from the government. the rent relief program doesn't work for me since my landlord doesn't want to do it. it is more favorable to landlord not to business owners.
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- 91 I think as a [name of day home] the health requirements with distancing would be an unreasonable expectation within my home as it would greatly impact quality childcare in making the kids feel safe and comfortable. Ex. If we couldn't cuddle to put a child to sleep or give a hello hug or goodbye.
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- 92 I think parents are not that confident to send kids to child care as before covid 19
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- 93 I think preschools should be treated as any other form of childcare. People work or need a break or need help and if some are getting it then so should they all receive it. There should be immediate help for landlords of these facilities as well.
- 
- 94 I will be drowning in debt when my center was making it month to month and now I lost %75 of my kid's enrollment and I can't re hire my 12 staff if I have no kids. so now in addition to my struggles I have a \$40 000 debt to the government and it is going to take months to get where I was. I do not want to raise fees even if I do it literally helps
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- 95 I wish this pandemic will be over then everything goes back to normal. Then we don't need to worry about social distancing.
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- 96 I wished there's a funding for Day homes to compensate our loss of income
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- 97 I wish the restrictions on numbers would be lifted for licensed Day home's. I wish that they would reflect the same as the private Day home allowance to help us offer more care to more families who are expecting to return to work and who also don't have the availability of putting their children in school. Specifically allowing us to care for 6 children on top of our own. If we can operate under strict high stress times, such as providing care for Covid Front-line workers, then we should be able to function during regular times and regular situations with the same amount of children
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- 98 I would like to see funding to help my family with my reduced hours as my husband lost his job the end of Nov and has been unsuccessful finding work so I am the only Remaining financial provider.
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- 99 I would like to thank you for trying to help out daycares in the province, my fingers are cross that we all can get back to normal and family do go back to work, I would like to know if something happens like this that centre are able to open earlier than what happen at this time a lot of family went to private care which is not helping daycare centres. Thank you
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- 100 I'm concerned for after the May 14th allowance to open, that current funding for unused spaces will be taken away because this is allowing us to currently operate with so few children of essential workers. Many parents are not comfortable coming back yet until the threat is gone. If we have less than 10 children, we are guaranteed to lose money.
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- 101 I'm curious how the government and the child care centre will make sure the frontliners safety when they will reopen it? What precautions/safety measures they will guaranteed?
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- 102 I'm upset that subsidy pulled their funding from parents after the chief medical officer strongly urged a "stay at home" order. Which parents followed.
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- 103 I'm concerned about parents being more reluctant to return to child care centers, they are nervous & afraid. With lower numbers & post- covid restrictions I'm not sure how I can financially return to where I was pre covid and withstand further government cutbacks to our industry.
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- 104 I'm concerned about the safety of the children and staff at this time. Why is child care is opening when it's not safe? It's not safe to open schools how is it safe to open child care?
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- 105 If schools do not reopen because teachers cannot keep children 2m apart, how are educators?
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- 106 If there is any major lay off from work it might affect my day home business .
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- 107 In a facility that can not reopen
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- 108 in my case I remained open with lesser kids/enrolment, we should have gov't fund too to cope with monthly bills I remained open for parents' needs but their fee is not enough to pay my monthly payables
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- 109 I'm feeling the cost of food and cleaning supplies is an issue. As a day home provider I need to supply Snacks and lunches everyday. The cost of food went way up in the past couple months and the parents are still paying the same fees. I feel it's hard on a tight budget. Also social distancing is not allowed in day home. The children come to my day home even when the parents are at home so it's hard for my family to see so many people through out the day when we have been told to stay at home. We don't know where the families go and visit on the weekends so with children telling me they visit other family makes it scary for my family and putting them at risk. The rules are on the news every day to stay home if you can but I'm feeling the families are not following those rules and being there children to my home every day of the week even when the parents are not working. We also cannot wear masks and gloves so the children are very close to me through the day and trying not to hug them but it's hard and hard to think if they are not well they cannot always tell us as some don't talk. So social distancing is out the door in day home as we cannot protect our self. Also we hear on the news of all the great people helping others essential workers but not once are day homes mentioned. We don't have a plastic shield to protect us or allowed to wear masks but still are remain open to help families that do work and are essential. So for us the risk is greater but we have not once seen or heard any praise for the job we do. Makes me sad as I remain open to help people and could get sick being with people every day but it feels to me the government doesn't see us or acknowledge us in any sort of way.
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- 110 In question 8, you asked the reason the child care centre was closed and the only two options were because "I chose to" and "because it was government mandated" but it was neither. It was because most of the parents who had kids in my day home centre were now either working from home or were laid off so I was forced to close because there were no more kids coming to the day home. This has affected the funding of my day home and family and most likely will for the foreseeable future even though I am still looking to open the day home if I can (which is dependent on the kids coming to the day home).
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- 111 Increasing loans and not knowing if landlord will participate in Rent Assistance with no grants or funding from the province put the centre in a very difficult position to recover from this especially since capacity of children will be far less.
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- 112 It appears that all essential workers are receiving some level of government funding. It is unfortunate that the providers who remain open do not receive any type of funding for being there for other essential workers.
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- 113 It has been very disappointing that the UCP government hasn't waived the monthly hour requirement for our wage top-up grant. As a Level 3, I earn an additional \$6.62 an hour for hours worked up to 180 hours a month. With the loss of children attending my hours have gone to under 25 hours a month. Some parents have left completely; others have lowered their hours to bare minimum so as not to pay needlessly for care they're not using. The impact to my income has been incredibly negative. It's frustrating knowing that the UCP has those funds earmarked for providers but won't just release them regardless of our hours. If they did, providers like me would receive \$1198 a month in addition to our small parent fees and that would go a long way in carrying us through this pandemic.
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- 114 It is frustrating that both the shut down and re-opening of child care facilities happened without any apparent consultation with Early Childhood Educators. It is doubly frustrating that the government announced the re-opening of child care facilities to the public prior to notifying Centres and WITHOUT any enhanced safety protocols in place for programs.
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- 115 It is hard to find new clients now, when parents don't work. I lost all children in a first week of a lockdown. Parents kept them home and work from home.
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- 116 It was very short notice of closing. We were expecting the news in the Friday, not Sunday.
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- 117 It will be more costly due to all sanitizing and other safety equipment.
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- 118 It will effect our income and will put a pressure on us financially due to taking precautionary measures and increasing expenditures regarding taking safety measures. Also a low attendance of children will effect our income too
- 
- 119 It would be nice to have support for PRESCHOOL programs. Everything is always geared towards Daycares.
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- 120 It would have been helpful if the provincial government had not placed additional financial burden of termination of BCG grant to childcare operators effective April 1, 2030.
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- 121 It would really help keep office afloat if we had the same administrative funding each month, funding that we received before coved virus.
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- 122 Lack of planning on the province has created a very upset condition. To announce in Alberta, we will open in less than two weeks but not have appropriate health guidelines in place is unacceptable. To have made that announcement to the greater public before announcing it to the child care centre is also unacceptable as now families are putting pressure to open when it clearly isn't in the best interest of anyone involved if we don't have any guidance in hand from the Ministry. Increased expectations of lower ratios but not supporting any cost is discouraging. Not paying staff support funding to directors who have remained working to connect families, share resources, support staff to get financial aid and pay bills, clean etc. is also insulting in this field. This was done without any explanation to Directors or written notice. There was not any consultation with Directors who could have presented some excellent alternatives like an ECE registry to set up care either in essential worker's homes or the ECE's home as a cohort of care until things had settled. This was done in Ontario and was an excellent idea. Alberta chose not to pay staff, put any type of financial assistance in place for child care centers, they have simply directed centers to use federal financial supports.
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- 123 Just worried about the length of time it will take for us to get back to pre-COVID. We were profitable prior to our closure, and now with the added loan repayment for CEBA, and backed bills etc. We don't know if we can recover fast enough to keep us a float. We haven't heard the requirements to re-open, how many kids can we have? Is the income from those returning able to meet our debt load and the CEBA Repayment? We have been OK through the closure because of the CEBA funds, but don't think we will be ok when we reopen..... because of the CEBA funds adding to our debt load and lower then normal attendance.
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- 124 Kindly provide top up for unexpected low income right now. Thanks
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- 125 Lack of P.P.E. Inability for kids to socially distance or hand wash. Programming will be secondary as cleaning protocols and disease transmission prevention will be paramount. Staff are scared to work while there is asymptomatic spread.
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- 126 Just a couple of things, although I felt Alberta Children's Ministry did their best when they chose essential service child care spaces to open up, they did not take into consideration the child care space's history on their specific ability to follow health care regulations as part of the criteria for choosing an appropriate space. For my community they chose a child care space that had 2 communicable disease outbreaks in the last two years, the last one was an upper respiratory infection. I felt that I needed to advocate for the children in our community and when I went to Alberta Children's Ministry and our Regional Licensing I was told that they did care about the children in our community but that information was not as important as that it (the childcare space) was a stand alone location and the size of the facility allowed them to practice social distancing. I also feel that currently our community, [location] is not ready to reopen as of May 14 because we still currently have a [high number] of COVID19 cases in Alberta and worry about the children, families, staff, and my community. For example, I ordered hand sanitizer and PPE for my staff in March before we were mandated to close as a precaution and was just told yesterday that it was still back ordered until June. That they were going to take some off of someone else's order to get me some by June because we were a child care center. If I am having such a hard time getting these basic supplies so would the other child care centers in my area and it worries me that we will not be prepared to reopen. I feel that I will be the only center in my area that chooses to remain closed until I get the necessary supplies to protect the children and staff and that worries me for the health of my community. Lastly, I am concerned that social distancing is not appropriate nor humane for preschool children and worry of the consequential affects to the social/emotional well being of the children and of the staff. If a child is a child, why would they allow child care centers to reopen when schools are staying closed until September in Alberta? At least school aged children are developmental able to understand the concept of social distancing. Thank you for taking the time to let me share my concerns.
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- 127 Les employées ont été mises à pied à la fin mars et ont été rappelé pour le 20 avril car nous appliquerons sur le programme d'aide du gouvernement fédéral pour couvrir 75% des salaires. le 25% sera couvert par la société.
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- 128 Less enrollment of children due to covid 19 because parents has lost their jobs and keeping children home.
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- 129 low enrolment rate which results to inadequate funds to pay workers and sustain the center's needs
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- 130 Maintaining ratios, safety and cleaning protocols is a lot to ask for staff that get paid minimum wage to care for Tre most vulnerable of populations.
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- 131 Many of my clients plan to keep their children home to reduce their exposure to COVUD-19 and as they are not returning to work. I may not have enough clients to reopen for months without support to cover staff wages, especially as we look at lower ratios. If my landlord does not participate in the rent subsidy the amount of debt we will take on will take a decade to pay off.
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- 132 MANY PARENT LOST JOB SO THEY STAY AT HOME THEY DON'T NEED CARE
- 
- 133 Meeting the additional cost of providing health and safety equipment and extra cost for cleaning due to COVID-19 which means hiring additional people to do the job.
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- 134 More details on the policy for the covid-19 related closures and reopening for daycares
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- 135 More Grant's from the government
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- 136 Most of my staffs are worried to get infected because they do not feel safety environment when there are 120 Albertans die of Covid-19. An additional incentive funding for the returning staff.
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- 137 My biggest issue is the downfall of the field. If you look at restrictions in place they are now preventing us from providing care in a fostering way. It is no longer about education, supporting families, or fostering development. It is about providing babysitting to working parents. We are required to put ourselves at higher risk by working with a sector that does not adhere physical distancing rules in order to babysit. In my region believe the only reason they are reopening centres is to reopen other businesses, not because they believe in the quality work we do.
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- 138 My Centre is co-located in a continuing care centre that is funded by AHS. The childcare is an extension of the centre. We are not a separate entity. This makes it hard for us to receive the covid19 funding.
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- 139 My centre specifically runs in [portables] of the school with no running water and no bathrooms. My concern is that we will not have access to the school's water and bathroom facilities. I am also concerned with the amount of space per portable. If we ran at half capacity that would mean, we would need to have no more than 13 children in each portable (max 26 children). The [portables] are not very large and when having 13 children inside (which we normally do as we run in small-large groups) plus 1 educator for the children. That makes 14 bodies in total and there is not enough room in the portables to house that many bodies maintained at a 3-6 feet away distance. Also children are handsy and like to be in contact with one another as well as staff. I believe that if Covid is present it will spread relatively quickly. Many of the children in attendance in my centre live with or are typically in very close contact to their grandparents.
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- 140 My child care day home business is severely affected with covid 19. I'm left with only 1 kid now. I'm not sure if I'm eligible for CERB as my day home is still running for 1 kid.
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- 141 My concern for the future operation of my company as a result of COVID-19 are: #1 - my part-time staff who are receiving CERB will not return to work because it pays more than what they were making monthly when working. #2. Having enough customers to return to. Safe distancing DOES NOT make sense in childcare settings, it is IMPOSSIBLE to reinforce. Until schools re-open, parents do not feel confident that it is safe to send their children to group settings regardless of the limits. #3 I need a minimum of 15 children needing FULL TIME care to reopen my doors financially. Many parents are uncertain of their job reinstatement and whether they will even need childcare going forward.
- 
- 142 My concern is the safety of educators being returned to the center without the adequate cleaning and PPE due to shortages in stores. Also, how can you expect child care staff to provide quality care for children when it requires us to be distanced from children as well as making sure children stay apart from each other. Children need the closeness of friends and caregivers to support their social and emotional needs.
- 
- 143 My focus will be on the staff wages. Asking for risk pay as we will be put in a situation where the government has bent to peer per pressure to get childcare up and running. With no thought of the mental health issues that will come from this for the children and the staff.
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144	My income will likely be changing again. I lost 2 of my clients due to Covid, but then gained a full time client and a part time client due to their daycares being closed. Upon the re-opening of their daycares they will likely return to their original daycare so I will then have less income.
145	My worry is when we re-open how the business is to survive with lower than normal ratios, how to attract children for the ones lost and why it takes so long to get a plan from the government when we knew we would be going back to work one day.
146	Need more financial support to be able to reopen my centre.
147	Need more information for providers about accessing PPE and acknowledgement from government that we are taking risk by remaining open.
148	No plan in place for re-opening other than the date. No guidelines presented, I'm worried about immune compromised children, families and educators.
149	Not being able to open due to the facilities we are located in
150	Once we reopen our reserve funds are Diminished how do we pay the staff.
151	One of my main concern is staffing, requirement for eligibility for programs and long term financial. If I take the loans (no real grant are available) and my capacity is at less than half, I will be in bankruptcy. Also offering a French service in an English province is hard to find staff. My current staff has little ones and finding a place at an other childcare center is difficult so availability is not there
153	Our income will decrease + extra pressure on financial issues
154	Our [parents] are expecting a 50% off rate when we re-open. This will make our September pay roll almost impossible, considering we have to provide snack, pay rent, reinstate health care benefits, pay insurance on our leases and so on. I am not sure how we will be able to do it!
155	Our provincial government should be using their approved budget to continue providing supports for our programs. There is 25 million in the budget - why are we being shorted? There is no reason that they could not continue doing providing this funding while programs are closed - the money is there - and this would be a huge support for programs!
156	Parents working from home and kids are home yet. Hopefully things will go back to normal.
157	Pay rates in childcare are already so low that we have difficulty getting qualified educators. With this new increased danger, I fear it will continue to increase the difficulty.
158	people are scared still with COLID19 special the infant parent It is scary I don't blame them to be coshes I hope these is over soon it is very stress full for every body challenges time and every body was busy even to spend time with the own children no time for children quality time many of the they told me they speed and to know the children better because for the long ours spend in the day care or out of school it is not to blame but the life it self is hard to make time they have materiel but quality time I hope these will change for the best god blesses and safe every body Thank for give us chance to comments COVID-19

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- 159 PHYSICAL DISTANCING WITH ANY CHILD DURING THIS IS GOING TO BE DETRIMENTAL. THERE IS NO WAY I CAN DO MY JOB PROPERLY WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO HUG OR COMFORT A CHILD 6 FEET AWAY. AT THE AGE OF THE CHILDREN IN MY CARE I CAN NOT MAKE THEM PLAY ALONE .
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- 160 Please note I am a FDH agency owner, and answered the questions based on an average of all of our homes.
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- 161 Please provide funding to day homes and agencies. It is devastating that we have been ignored and people are losing their livelihoods.
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- 162 Preschool teachers need a wage top up too! We are just as valuable as any ECCE Regulations should be broaden for preschools to be able to run full day classes without having to have a daycare license. This will increase enrolment and help us survive this financially. 8:30-3:30 is what parents want/ need!
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- 163 Probably, I will lose my business.
- 
- 164 Re-Opening Clear guidelines and potentials of more "Waves" of COVID-19
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- 165 Really disappointed with NO wage top-up facility available for those staff/directors who are working (although from home) during this pandemic as it is big impact on their earning. Also, scared of the future enrollment in the centre due to this pandemic and loss of jobs/working from home. Additionally, Benefit Contribution grant is no longer available which was really helpful to cover some costs. Not sure, what kind of Government funding will be available to cover the cost of operation especially if we open at 50% capacity. As we are part of the school basement, we can't except children from the community or enrolled in other school.
- 
- 166 Recognizing enhanced covid 19 health monitoring as necessary however along with meeting those increased requirements will create challenges in meeting regulated ratio requirements where staff must be sent home when displaying symptoms. Increased testing and rapid results will be required. With isolated cohorts staff and children from different groups are discouraged from mixing. How then can ECE be replaced when they are required to stay home. Sustaining child enrollment will be a challenge given the heightened requirements for health monitoring
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- 167 reduced enrollment finances to cover expenses
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- 168 Rent and utilities and insurance are hard to pay for during this time (while the center is closed). Difficulties after reopening: - getting staff back -children registration/ children numbers -spending money on extra sanitary equipment (more than usual)
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- 169 Right now, Alberta is talking about allowing centers to reopen as part of phase 1, as early as May 14. We have many concerns about that: - we feel its too early - schools & universities may not open, but child care can.... does not make sense - very high risk for staff - puts the business at risk of legal action - implementing physical distancing with little ones is impossible - it seems the government is "allowing" childcare to reopen so that they are not accountable for our financial issues related to it, but the best interest of the children is not considered
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- 170 Rise early childhood educators salary because most of the child care worker are receiving minimum payment and right now we all have to do this high risk(much higher risk than people who work individuals office) and high responsibility job(one child is one family, we are taking care of their families too) .
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- 171 Selection of Reopened daycare for essential workers were seen not logical. Most of the open daycare not get any children. Also many have only few. I believe Gov't funding which was consumed for this might not the best utilization of fund. In my opinion already approved child subsidy amount should be distributed to respective daycare to at least utilize to survives. Although Gov't reserved that fund to pay Subsidy of child, and if that amount was paid to daycares, it will be a source of slight income.
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- 172 Social distancing won't work with children. Smaller Ratio in Our one room Center can potentially close our doors forever.
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- 173 Some parents lost jobs and I lost families/income but gained others as school was closed. We gained more support as we could spread kids out in our home to hold up social distancing. I find funding low to help accommodate cost associated with more cleaning supplies or finding supplies at an appropriate cost.
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- 174 Staff funding and staffing is a big issue in Fort McMurray area. The existing college only graduates an average of 6 ECE teachers each year. For the last year the program was closed. The North East office is expecting that all licensed child care centers will not be allowed to reopen unless they have the staff members that meet training levels. Day cares here are fighting for level 2 and level 3 teachers because they is an acute shortage. In my case we run thee centers. Two of them will likely not open because the supervisor of the North East child care centers made it clear that child care centers will not be allowed to operate with waivers for staffing levels. Already the qualified staff members are quitting their jobs to go and work in the camps and for some cleaning companies where they can get better salaries and medical coverage. The morale is low for these teachers since the Northern Allowance that they were being given is going to stop in July. Most child care workers also work two jobs because the money they get is not enough. Fort McMurray is a unique community that is expensive and has its own challenges and yet it is compared to other Alberta communities that have high number of ECE graduates and the average cost of living is way less compared to Fort McMurray. Unless the Child and Family Services engage the early childhood educators of North East in an honest conversation about the struggles we face, child care will continue to be a challenging field for both employers and employees.
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- 175 Staff lost the COLA and no top up for the time closed. Not all staff are returning and staffing was a challenge pre covid.
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- 176 Staffing ,Funding and meeting the challenges of a post- COVID world.
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- 177 Staffing costs with higher cleaning standards are one of the biggest concerns we have. Especially since staff cannot move from room to room we are worried about this not being a long term option as we won't be breaking even.
- 
- 178 The CECRA benefit doesn't really work for me. my landlord doesn't want to apply he want full rent. this program is in favorable to landlord. landlord can decide if he or she want to apply for this. it is unfair to business owners we have lost 100% income from our business how we are going to survive this if we have to pay full rent and all the other expensive.
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- 179 Staffing will be an issue as there are some staff we currently have that have to worry about their immune system, due to previous health conditions and have been told by their doctors that they should not be exposing themselves to children at this time. We also have issues from parents wondering if it is safe to bring their children to the centre once we are able to open. Staff have also made it known that they are unsure of what to do when a child needs comforting, as they are young and growing and learning and to not receive comfort in a way that will entail social distancing doesn't work, especially for infants/toddlers. Having to hire cleaning staff also will be difficult as funds are already very thin.
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- 180 Still early to reopen and daycares staff and kids are impossible to do physical distancing.
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- 181 Thanks to our Government they are trying to help everyone as much they can do.
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- 182 The Alberta Government says we can open up on May 14, we have heard nothing about protocol, ratios, nothing. I have surveys out to parents and the majority will not be returning for several months. I have staff who won't work because they make more money on CERB and others who won't work as they don't want to get risk bringing it home to their families. They say their wage is not worth the risk. How could I even pay staff more for their risk when all my money is coming from parent fees and the parents are not bringing their children. As well as the reduced ratios. It's a nightmare, I am so scared I am going to lose my business, I have been doing this for 25 years and I could lose it all.
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- 183 The application of quarantine periods until have covid test results for either any child who assist to my home or a family member means closure and not income during that period.
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- 184 The challenges of returning back to work is the lack of guidelines, protective equipment and funding and adequate resources to ensure families, children and staff are safe as we adapt to the new normal of social distancing. Prior to covid 19 we already had budget issues, but it was manageable and we were able to cope with the constraints within the organization. Since covid 19 happened we are now going to endure endless struggles and challenges financially as our childcare enrolment in our centres will be lower to comply to physical distancing to contain covid 19. This is going to be detrimental to the business and a significant impact in ensuring we have the opportunity to hire back all the wonderful staff who were laid off post covid. I know it will take time to rebuild the childcare care economy again, but with adequate funding and a strong support system we can do it if we work together. When we do re-open we will continue to strive to provide quality care, services and focus on the accessibility and affordability for our families, but in order to be successful we will need to feel protected and safe. I feel without knowing what our guidelines and restrictions look like that we are re-opening too soon. I also worry about not having all the safety protection in place so that we know we are not going to get the virus or spread it to the families, children, staff or bring it home to our own families.
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- 185 The government should be assisting day homes and daycare centres with specialized funding for cleaning/sanitation products and services to assist in the much higher than usually costs to maintain a sanitized child care space.
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- 186 The current government assistance plans are all short term, patchwork plans. We need long term solutions without penalties (ie. Deferred payments and loan payments). The government needs to realize all the industry struggles (closures, increased costs, etc.) will fall on parents/families and it is the children who will suffer.
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- 187 The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly impacted our Indigenous families in the community. The pandemic brought about fears even before the lock down took place as parents were reluctant to bring their child to program out of concern for their well-being. We are uncertain how long it will take for these fears to subside, and return to our centre. We serve many low-income families who we are connecting to community supports for food and other related household needs. As we are uncertain when we will reopen and need to hire 2 education staff it makes it difficult to know when to post for these positions as there is no job security as we have no known date of reopening.
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- 188 The current support is inadequate and are only quick fixes, not long term solutions. additional costs to businesses will be passed along to parents in the form of higher fees. child care is ESSENTIAL to economic recovery and solutions must reflect that.
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- 189 The effects on the staff during the COVID-19 for some of the educators is psychological in that they are anxious about not working, income, and even coming back to work while the pandemic is ongoing. The fear of getting or giving the virus to someone else. The children will be affected with being out of routine and then with possible separation anxiety when they return. Both children and educators will have a difficult time with the new rules coming back with the distancing measures, and cleaning protocols needed when returning until settling into a new normal. The learning that we are doing with the children will be affected because the stress of the health parameters that are put on us will always be on the forefront for all of us and it will change how we interact with the children. The educators will not be able to implement all the learning we have been taught and just started to use with flight (Alberta's Curriculum Framework) and may be somewhat of a setback on going forward. Funding will also be a big issue as we move forward. Working in a multi use building and working together with the ECS/Kindergarten program that are not returning this year in which our families use both types of programing. Also for September if schools/kindergarten will return or continue on-line learning. Some of the parents do not want to send their child to childcare until all restrictions are gone. If we get another wave of COVID and have to be shut down again it will have a big impact on our staff, families and the program.
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- 190 The increased expenses of PPE and additional staffing costs to ensure safe protocols for Covid-19 will be a strain in addition to the catch up from being out of business and moving into lines of credit. The timing of reopening into summer we may face families utilizing babysitters at home to reduce exposure. The cost per child has increased at this point and either families or daycares will take the hit. Families have recently (pre-covid) faced a fee increase and provincially we had another huge reduction in government grants (Benefit Contribution Grant) This is a severe strain on daycare operations and families who will most likely unable to meet the real costs per child and fees set out to operate effectively under the new Covid Conditions. It will be a long and creative climb out to ensure viability that is reasonable for all stakeholders.
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- 191 The law should state that employees cannot go to another employer during pandemic Top up should be given to centres according to their regular enrolment CERB needs to be paid for employees until full opening of centres
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- 192 The time and investment to adapt the premises to meet the requirements of COVID19, in addition to that associated with the personnel, protocols and materials required, how will all this be financed?
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- 193 The way that the temporary lay off works we are ineligible for extending our staff to 120 days so much rehire them all by the 14th
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- 194 There is a lack of coordinated effort between the ministries. I feel before the Government announces an opening date it should have the health standards/ labour standards/ child care standards in place and communicated. The Government announced the opening and no information. I am also concerned long term how to handle sick leaves, and what legislation around paid or unpaid or monies to support these absences will be provided. We cannot afford to increase our sick days available to educators but 10 days of isolation will be challenge to pay and back fill.
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- 195 There is the concern of meeting up with financial requirements, and also problems with funding, staffing and the unknown of what challenges a post COVID world would bring.
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- 196 There should be proper health and safety training for all educators prior to re-opening. All centres need time to prepare/set up the environment to ensure that proper guidelines are being followed. No staff must feel forced to come to work if they do not feel safe especially if their health is compromised and/or due to the fear that they would not be financially supported by the government. Health and safety training must be completed annually by all educators. Cleaning time should also be given to educators.
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- 197 This facility is owned by a municipality, the municipality is considering making 150 positions redundant in order to get through this financial trying times.
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- 198 Two concerns are that if me or anyone in my family shows symptoms and has to close for 2 weeks I will receive no wage. It would be great to see some type of compensation if this occurs or I fear providers will not be honest about sickness within their home. It would also be nice to be given a monthly spending allowance for cleaning products or ensure that we receive these items. It is increasingly difficult to Find the products we need to disinfect our homes daily.
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- 199 Uncertainty about the future. There's no measure to check the children if they are affected are not who's attending the child care
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- 200 Uncertainty about the future of my day home because of the effect of COVID situation. A lot of parents lost their jobs and unlikely they will put their children in a daycare or day home even after the COVID situation is gone. One more thing daycares will have fewer children therefore staffing is limited. As a day home provider I am not qualified to apply for employment insurance benefits and no children it means no income. Our future as a child care provider is uncertainties.
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- 201 Under the current guide lines of the COVID-19, I do not qualify for a any funding. Because my income was less than 5000 dollars after taxes.
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- 202 Very little income, great risk
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- 203 We are a brand new centre and as licensing offices are not handing out any new licenses we can not open. We have spoken to licensing but they do not have a date as to when they will be offering new licenses
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- 204 We are unable to assist families who struggle to meet the need of their children who have a diagnosis due to the removal of funding to support staffing for inclusion. Lack of funding is also affecting the quality of care we are able to provide with all the additional time committed to cleaning. Funding is often removed without a plan for sustainable future. Information is not shared from the government to the organizations.
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- 205 We are an approved day home agency. We have experienced a 30% loss in revenue because of Covid-19. Because of work closures, many families do not need child care. This has affected some day homes dramatically, reducing the number of children from 6 to as low as 0. Because the number of children reduced, health concerns etc., 20% of our educators have put their home on hold and collecting CERB. We are grateful the Alberta government kept day homes open. We hope the government recognizes the efforts and financial stress this has put on the field and offer support to help day home agencies and educators as we recover.
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- 206 We are busy fighting the landlords about rent. They cannot apply for the Commercial Rent relief yet so they cannot pass on the relief to us. It's coming so late that it will drain most of our savings on rent before it takes effect.
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- 207 We are concerned about the social distancing for staff and children, also the quality of care and meeting the ratios with the unknown guidelines that we must follow. We worry about the mental and physical health of both children, parents and staff. We are unsure of what revenues will come in to meet all expenses including rent, wages, food, equipment etc.
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- 208 We are in this together and I am sure we are going to win this battle. Human kind has seen worse than this. We are strong.
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- 209 We differed our rent from until September. The wage subsidy will cover our wages for Apr/ May/ Jun. We severely reduce costs (P.D., health benefits and hired cleaners gone) to stabilize our spending, but we will run out of money before the next casino (18months), especially with lower enrollment. We hope to rely on volunteers to help with increased cleaning needs. We are projecting running out of funds in the second quarter of 2021, should we open with lower enrollment and no casino monies.
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- 210 We do not have help from the Alberta Child Care, we reopen but the reduce the capacity is more the 50% and I can not operate with 16 kids. My regular capacity is 90 Kids. plus Alberta government do not help for child care
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- 211 We don't feel confident it is safe to re-open before the end of May. We feel very cautious and concerned.
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- 212 We feel contracted Day Home agencies have not received the assistance offered Day Care Centers. We have heard business as usual however it has been anything but. Providers have remained open for families despite their fear for their themselves and families. They appreciate still being able to work however some compensation for their lost attendance is necessary.
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- 213 We know that the shut down was one day, but anticipate it will take many, many months to recover from our loss of customers. There are also concerns of what regulatory restrictions will be put on size. We need 75% capacity to break even and are reasonably sure this will take some time to obtain. We will need to rebuild our business and we already have significant debt as we are a specialty childcare (Spanish bi-lingual) and opened the business 3 years ago.
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- 214 We re-opened for the month of April 2020 to support core essential services families. Our centre was well informed, we had inspections from both AB Licensing and Environmental Health which was very informative. Due to low registration we were unable to continue because of the high cost of operating due to COVID-19.
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- 215 We need more government funding as we are actually part of essential workers. Returning workers need good care for their children.
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- 216 We need more money to buy a lot more of disinfecting stuff. We need resources to get Lysol wipes act.
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- 217 We need the wage subsidy, rent support and funding for cleaning supplies for longer period because parents are scary to bring their children in the daycare's.
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- 218 We Need emergency funding for an extra cleaning staff, whether that be an float staff funding, or higher cleaning grant that allows centres to use this funding as a wage supplement not just for supplies
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- 219 We should also be able to get Financial help from the government since our income get also affected by this pandemic (Low number of kids being enrolled to the program )
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- 220 We should be provided with free sanitizers, bleach ,masks or other supplies to maintain the safety and to lower the risk of COVID 19.As all these supplies are hard to find in stores now and will cost us more.
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- 221 We were forced to close. Not only has it cratered our business this year but registrations for next year are 50% of what they normally are. We predict a terrible 2020-21. We are a privately owned preschool with no government assistance. The only benefit that we have really been able to access is the loan, which we will have to repay. The response that has occurred by the 2 levels of government has been inadequate at best. Not only that but preschools are still not allowed to open as we are lumped in with K-12. Not fair as K-12 is publicly funded. You are destroying our business that we have spent years building. We need to get back to business or we need substantial financial assistance.
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- 222 We were not eligible for any of the funding benefits due to the fact that we are under a Community League. I am still not sure if we will be able to reopen during relaunch as it is a city run building. Uncertainty has been the biggest hurdle during this crisis.
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- 223 We will be re-opening however the numbers are way down. At this point the fees collected will not be able to cover staff wages therefore I will have to apply for the 75% wage subsidy in hopes that I qualify. With parents not returning to work themselves then number will take some time to recover. It is hard to anticipate how long this will take. We have yet to receive information on the new procedures the government will be implementing on daycares so hard to comment on what that may look like. I want to be there for our families that need our service but they will be slow coming back until they are all back at work. I believe that child care staff are under paid for the work they do. The top up helps but with reduced numbers in registrations there will be no room for any kind of salary increases for the next few years. This will be a challenge until the world gets back to normal. Look forward to reopening and working with the government and child services to provide care.
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- 224 We will not be reopening until the new school year at the earliest due to the health measures and cost related to reopening.
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- 225 We're all concerned regrading this re-opening process as everything will be different. What will the new guidelines be like? How are we going to implement them adequately? How can we provide enough support for staff and ensure the children's wellbeing? Funding is also insufficient to cover all the required costs including salaries and monthly expenses.
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- 226 What temporary wage supports are in place for staff/directors if they are open for essential service workers but have to close due to being sick or have a confirmed case of COVID-19 and have to self isolate?
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- 227 What would be future of workers in this field. How do manage the ratio going forward?
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- 228 When kids see there friends they hug .... government should ask centres to not too
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- 229 When we reopen we are afraid the ratio requirements will not allow us to pay the staff needed to operate the centre, we need x amount of children to pay staff and utilities,
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- 230 When we reopen we have no money to pay staff- the little reserves we had are gone. We won't be full capacity so we won't be bringing in enough \$ to meet budget needs. Parent Subsidy money comes at end of the month after child's hours are calculated and submitted and parent portion of fees won't cover costs when we reopen. Extra costs associated with COVD.
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- 231 When we will receive modified regulations and health changes so we can adequately plan for the reopening
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- 232 while I am happy that we could re-open my concern is that we are still looked at solely for providing a place to "put" children and no real investment and authentic interaction or acknowledgement of our work is happening. even in Alberta it was announced publicly that we would reopen may 14 but as of today we still have yet to get any indicator of rules, supports etc. they don't seem to care and yet publicly the messages are we value you. so frustrating and disheartening to our team.
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- 233 While the choice to close during covid was at first based on parents keeping their children home and terminating care it also included lack of cleaning supplies and sanitizers available at the stores, lack of need from other client families and the immediate needs of my own family. Now, as a single mom of two school age kids I don't believe I could manage the home schooling, enhanced cleaning, and day home children's needs. Until schools reopen I do not think my day home could open. On another note I do not understand how its expected to practice physical distancing with young children. Even though day homes were allowed to remain open I can't understand the logic. Fewer children to pass on the virus? It seems like the government believes it is alright for my family to get sick from covid because we would only spread it to 6 other families. But my family is higher risk, and if I require hospitalization, or worse, what will happen to my kids??
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- 234 Will subsidy and wage enhancement be the same? Worry staff are comfortable receiving benefits and won't be willing to go back to work. Low numbers of families returning or feeling comfortable
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- 235 With zero income, I am not quite sure how long we will be able to survive. It would be lot harder to attract staff back to work when they are getting EI or CERB sitting at home. The real danger is the reduced enrollment at re-opening. The parents will be scared sending their children back to daycares unless daily cases turns to low.
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- 236 without even a temporary change to both the provincial and municipal requirements for permits, licensing and approvals of new centres we will be unable to pivot quickly enough in re-opening a new space and will be leaving approximately 70 families in an already under-served community without care come September.
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- 237 With the Covid-19 that's currently happening right now, I am very concern with my family's health when I re-open my day home. Since my husband and I are depending on the government support which is the CERB. I am planning on re-opening my day home because the support from the government is not enough to pay for our bills. It's stressing me so much now that I need to go back to work and home-school my child. I have so much paper works to do for day home which is required for us licensed day home providers to do and some works to home school my child since the school is closed. If only I can get more financial support from the government, my day home will remain closed until the pandemic is gone!
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- 238 With the government employees working from home many parents do not presently need child care and the government COVID 19 restrictions have not yet been published even though centres can open May 14, 2020 but I do not yet have masks, disinfectant and know what rules to start with. My board feels it wiser to wait till everything is in place. [City] has been steady but information regarding reopening has been scarce. Even television does not have Alberta on very often so it is hard to tell what rules we have to abide by.
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- 239 with the potential re-opening of childcare centers and out of school care centers, I am still quite concerned about all who would be put into a higher potential level of contracting the Covid-19 virus. I believe that it is too early to re-open and as a ECE and Parent I am not comfortable in using children and some adults as Guinea Pigs to see if this was a good idea to re-open. Children are not looked at as human's in some people's eyes, and deserve better then what our Government is doing right now. I hope that no parents choose to need care at this time as I said it before (It's too Early!)
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- 240 With the reduced amount of children it will be very difficult to cover the operating costs without the wage subsidy until the COVID-19 restrictions are removed
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- 241 With the limited amount of children we are allowed we will have great loss in our income and still having to meet all our expenses.
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- 242 wondering about the funding and grants giving out if they will have to be paid back after, why I'm second guessing getting grants and applying for support.
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- 243 Wondering of the impact this isolation and physical distancing will have when today's children become adults. As our provincial government has indicated it is better to save money for when centres reopen, will some centres open just so they can receive funding to not close permanently. Wishing the provincial government provided some supports to centres choosing to remain closed, such as a 25% of program's budget to allow them to cover fixed expenses and not defer, since that will increase fees once they do reopen. Staffing was an issue prior to COVID, can a workforce strategy be developed and implemented to train and retain educators in an already undervalued sector. Would the federal government consider universal childcare across the country, such as block funding for schools? Once parents return to work, they start paying taxes which could help fund that type of program. Not investing in child care, thus not making it affordable for families, hurts the community, families, educators, and ultimately, our future.
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- 244 Working with large groups of children everyday who are always sick will definitely be a risk factor for all staff. Our top up funding needs to be increased to attract and maintain employees to stay in the industry for the future. A "janitorial" subsidy would encourage businesses with better cleaning and maintaining the level of cleanliness. If purchasing cleaning products is a financial burden, it will compromise the health of children and employees.
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## British Columbia

- 1 It is very challenging not to have support from the Licencing Office (Fraser Health) during all this time. It is outrageous to know that those who are supposed to give us instructions are just being vague and leaving operators to fend for ourselves. Fraser Health Authorities do not support us! Instead, they have given us health and safety instructions that are impossible to follow in the child care setting! How long we will continue to pretend not to see the big elephant in our room: children cannot be physically distanced in child care settings! I'm working as an ECE for 40 years. Thank you for this opportunity to express my concern!

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- 2 The issue of staying home when staff are at all sick. Generally, we work unless fever, diarrhea or sick in bed since it is difficult to get replacement staff. Before covid, there just weren't people sitting there waiting for a sub call since there has been a shortage of child care workers and there have been lots of jobs in our community. By the time we pay and wait for the criminal record check for a potential sub, the person usually has a job. The school district is able to maintain a sub list of people able to earn a living with the amount of work they get; it would really help if an organization was funded to retain enough qualified subs for call out at days cares.

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- 3 1. There was no need to offer fee exemption to parents who did not lose their job and were working from home. 2. Parents who lost their job could have been offered subsidy. 3. It seems the Government forced the day care providers to forgo income of day care providers by asking parents not to pay if they were not sending their children to day care but directed the Day cares to keep their spots. 4. It appeared to be more of a political concern.

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- 4 A lack of direction to our sector from our regulating body/licensing has made it extremely difficult to provide information to the families in our care. Once again child care is perceived by the public as a patchwork quilt non-solution to the ongoing child care crisis. Our children and our families deserve better!

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- 5 After things get back to being so called normal we will have to rebuild or clientele and may have to find staff again. Funding will not be the same and we now are essential services but when things settle, we will go back to lack of funding and poor wages

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- 6 Again childcare is being noticed during an historical crisis. The question is will it as usual be quietly shuffled to the side behind caring for homelessness, senior care, and essential services workers. There has been and continues to be a crisis in childcare in BC. We are unable to retain staff, provide subs for illness, and the health and welfare of ECEs is unsustainable.

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- 7 Although I appreciate the emergency funding being offered for daycares that choose to stay open and take essential service worker's children as needed, it seems we are being forced to agree to take children into our home of families we have no previous relationship with and putting our own families and our own health at risk. It seems a little unfair, because if we don't agree to it, we don't qualify for the funding. I have chosen to stay open at this point for children that were previously enrolled in my program and need care, already having a trusted relationship with their families. I don't feel comfortable with increasing my numbers, especially with families I know nothing about. I am revisiting the thought of opening my doors to more but resent being forced into it to qualify for funding. Our child care is done from the safety of our homes and it seems a lot to ask.

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- 8 Applications are onerous. Trying to contact authorities for clarification or assistance is futile

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- 9 Although the ECE staff is still working but because the preschool is closed we can't apply for wage enhancement..... this is not right. We should still qualify because we are still working and suppling online activities for our children every day.
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- 10 As a center who employs 35+ over 3 licensed centers took the stance not to lay anyone off, but offer job secure leaves of absence so employees could apply for their own assistance based on their situations. This means we are not eligible for many of the supports, but also find the TEF won't be enough to continue for long. If staffing increases to support enrollment, if staff are ready to return, we would need to see how to adjust for that, if the TEF and the parent fees don't offset the cost of paying employees. It's a big unknown at this moment. We were able to stay open because we had staff interested and well enough to continue to offer child care at a much decreased enrollment to support the increased sanitization and distancing protocols. We would like to see any kind of specific protocols directives (from PHO or Licensing) or return to full capacity faqs or something to help us wrap our heads around potentially lowered staff and increased ratios and increased cleaning required.
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- 11 As a child care provider/professional, I am challenged by the idiosyncratic expectations of each family regarding suitable self distancing from one family to the next. I learn from their child or the parents themselves when sharing about their weekend and how they are/or not managing and maintaining their circles of isolation. I hear their excuses of 'It was only a random incident' or 'But that group is self distancing as we are' or 'but it was [family] birthday'. I do believe that the families value and are interested in their child's health when making these choices to relax their self isolating rules but I am living very strictly to the guidelines for fear of transferring the virus to them. They are not following my requests and are putting other families in my care in potential danger. I have found that none of the families are strictly self isolating and are critical of the other families at the daycare. This has been the hardest and most challenging aspect of the pandemic for me. I was actually told that because I am allowing one of our families to attend, who is [front line worker], then we are all exposed and there is no point self isolating at all. It makes all my efforts of strict self isolation and long hours of cleaning and supporting their child's anxiety successfully through all this a waste of time. Hearing about the families slips in quarantine I thought for sure I was going to be in the news for all the wrong reasons. My partner who [medical condition] survivor is just an added anxiety and stress. Luckily, it has been found that the virus transferring from a child to others is no an issue but no one knew that going into this and feel like I am an expendable casualty close to burnout.
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- 12 As a combined childcare centre and K - 8 Independent School, we are unsure if we will be eligible for the CEWS because of our dual status.
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- 13 As a long term care provider, with an excellent record, community and parent support, I would like to be able to take 2 or 3 more children, based on my own thoughts, who is enrolled, without licensing intervening. I have a parent with a child enrolled, and two children who need to come here, for ease of their family, and another with a sibling on the way. We need some flexibility in decision making in our own centres to meet needs of families if other centres are not reopening, or just as a point of common sense.
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- 14 As a non for profit center Covid-19 type events affect the attendance at the Center. The lack of attendance means no revenue, which accounts for 95% of the operating costs. So fear of safety, by parents, for their children could mean closure
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- 15 As a preschool only, the comment by the government “parents that can stay at home should” left us no other option than to close as all our families have at least 1 caregiver at home at all times. Centers that have Preschool ONLY licenses are always lumped in with daycare and quite frequently our needs are not met because of this.
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- 16 As a underappreciated essential service worker I feel we should have been compensated financially as other workers were. This would have made staff feel that we matter.
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- 17 As an Early Childhood Educator for almost 10 years I have always been concerned about the lack of funding for this age group. There have been so many studies that show that early intervention is so important and saves the province and its taxpayers millions. What I am worried about is that due to all the money that the government is spending to help its taxpayers, funding will be cut, and continue to be inadequate for such a vulnerable, and important age group of our society.
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- 18 As for our Society's two centre's we will be ok at the end of Covid-19. My concern is that we were already short on ECEs and centres before this pandemic. We can not afford to lose any ECEs or centres because of it! I sure hope everyone is able to resume service when this is over.
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- 19 As I am the only staff: no back up if I'm sick, enrollment will have to be limited to ensure social distancing, added workload for cleaning and sanitizing.
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- 20 As I have less call from parents for their kids after COVID-19, I need to upgrade my day care to get 7 kids spaces license (I'm licensed for 5 kids) and open before and after daycare as well. In the future I may have to work different hours and ages and as this is only our income for our family because my husband got sick and he can't earn money, I want to get the \$40,000 COVID-19 emergency loan. I've heard the emergency loan is for who have a company which I don't have it yet. In addition, I would like to have a sign for my daycare as well and put it outside of my house to make it easier for parents for contacting me, my question from you is, if I can open a company now!! Am I eligible for that loan or not and if I'm not can the funding program help me?
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- 21 As the director trying to make the staff feel safe and supported, along with the addressing the concerns of the families, I would like some guidance from Licencing or from the Health Officer. Trying to maintain social distancing with young children is not feasible especially while changing diapers or comforting an upset child.
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- 22 As the government has said that we have to hold the spaces for the children without charging fees until the pandemic is over, when are we allowed to charge regular fees again if the government says families are safe to return and they decide they are not ready or comfortable to return?
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- 23 As there is no plan for support of 7 x ccof beyond the first three months, we are concerned that lagging enrolment will not be covered by additional funding. We run with minimum margins, so this could cause us to have to close
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- 24 As we are a community social services non-profit our agency is still operating and receiving funding for all of our programs except our preschool. Due to this, we don't qualify for Federal funding for the lost income at our preschool.
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- 25 As usual the government lumps all child care programs into the same group and assumes that there is a one fix for all solution. Family child cares in this particular instance should not have had to deal with feeling pressured to have outsiders in their own home during a time when we were all requested to stay home and stay safe. The lack of consideration for the fact that we worked out of our homes and the VERY low funding offered to us if we were to choose to close of our own volition to keep our own families safe (a right afforded to all others at this time) pressured many care providers to remain open, therefore putting their own families at unnecessary risk. It is time for the government to realize that there really is no way to support all childcare operations with one plan. I truly feel that the once again rushed out response will make what was already a crisis in Childcare even worse than it was pre COVID-19. Since it was quite bad before, this misstep has the potential to have caused an even more extreme situation. I am truly saddened that once again our government has chosen money over the future of our province and that children are so unimportant to them.
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- 26 Because I'm not opening right away as I said before due to concerns for my own health I am worried about when the funding for Serb is ended and if there's going to be anything else to help financially until I can be sure that I'm safe in my center safe and the kids are safe because if that ends and I can't get any funding then I have to make the decision whether to close my daycare permanently or what I'm going to do the unknown is really difficult right now
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- 27 Because public school is out my staff that have young children at home who should be in school, are unable to work
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- 28 Because we are deemed a preschool we are not considered childcare for the purposes of receiving the fee reduction initiative and this is going to (and already has) created extreme inequity, requiring parents to go to 1/2 day childcare centre versus our 1/2 day (4 hr) outdoor preschool. As a licensed preschool we receive the CHILDCARE operating grant and we receive the WE and our parents can apply for the Affordable CHILDCARE Benefit yet we aren't childcare for the FRI.
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- 29 Being a 1 person operation, I anticipate difficulty in hiring/finding a substitute teacher for relief work. I am concerned about the enrollment & thus the funding that will cover the expenses & having no saved up resources.
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- 30 Being a Diabetic patient, my concern is how safe it is to keep open my child care ? if I am close then how I will survive ?
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- 31 Can we just follow school board for every public health pandemic, we need clear guideline for clean, closure, reopen date.
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- 32 CCOF base funding and CCOFFRI funding and TEF are all inadequate and offers no income security in any event of sickness from children or the caregiver nor any income security to cover a minimum of two weeks or respectably one months notice from withdrawing families due to Covid19
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- 33 Child care needs more direction on safely reopening, possible ratio adjustments, assistance to employ extra ECE to help manage the health checks, cleaning, supervision - helping children with distancing as much as possible.
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- 34 CEBA is based on business number. I own and operate 2 separate child care centres which remained open for essential service workers and existing families. Each of the 2 schools qualify for TEF but I only qualify for 1 CEBA even though each school has its own set of staff, families, expenses and financial institution. But with the CEBA criteria of based on business number, I'm in eligible for CEBA for 1 of my schools when both could truly benefit from this loan. At this time, child care centres are not required to social distance like other businesses as child care workers must work within close proximity of the children for health and safety reasons. I truly hope that our current license for how many children we can have each day does not get impacted. If it does, then I would imagine most group child care centres may face closing as there wouldn't be an opportunity to collect enough fees to pay rent and program costs. As well, if to remain open, then there would be many permanent layoffs due to the lower ratio and requirement of less staff. The doctor with Vancouver Coastal Health stated that child care centres are low risks given the young age of the students and the protocols put in place and shouldn't impact licensed numbers. I hope this remains true. In addition, because I am currently receiving TEF which is to be intended to cover fixed costs such as rent, that funding will cease in June. If families do not return by June and there is no longer any funding, then I will not be able to make rent and will the commercial rental assistance be available then?
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- 35 Centers have received conflicting information regarding health and safety and no direction from community Care facilities licencing. directors and board have made decisions that many staff and families do not agree with. This has caused many feeling of frustration, fear and distrust. I think it will take a long time to overcome this.
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- 36 Challenges we face when the School district and childcare centres offering programs for school age children are not abiding by the same guidelines regarding group sizes and staffing. We are also anticipating challenges with additional staffing costs related to staff being sick with a regular flu/cold and required stay at home for a longer time. Staff will not be able financially to stay home without pay, and childcare centres can't afford to pay regular wages for extended times. Additional cleaning and smaller groups will also tax on our budget for the future, as well as dealing with an already very long waitlist for spaces. Our staff will not be willing to work with large groups of children for some time.
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- 37 Child care operating funds are 2.82\$/ child in family daycares x7 is less than 1/2 of full fees, the gov advertised we would receive 75% of our operating funds , which immediately made us look like we were going to be ok , I take very little profit and this will sink my 30 yr old business if it doesn't turn around quickly
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- 38 Child Care was in crisis in British Columbia pre-Covid 19. There are not enough qualified educators. The few programs from provincial schools do not graduate nearly enough educators to meet the demand. The "diploma mills" must be more carefully monitored. I have grave concerns about the calibre of the educators they graduate.. The province is making promises to open thousands of new child care spaces. Who will work there? Educators routinely work when ill, go without holidays or work when we should be taking care of ourselves. For example, I was caring for a dying family member, was with him when he died late Monday night, and was at work to open the program on Tuesday morning. This should not happen. There is no pool of substitute educators. Educators constantly work extra hours at short notice to cover for their absent coworkers. We are fed up and burnt out, it is no surprise that ECEs are leaving the profession in droves. I have been teaching for almost 21 years. I am tired of subsidizing a broken system.
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- 39 Child cares are essential workers, therefore should be allowed into stores early as other front line workers. Hand sanitizer should be provided as hard to find or very expensive. We will also have to keep our reduced hours for the amount of cleaning we need to do at the end of each day. Parents may find this challenging when they go back to work. However, I am not working 10 hour day, then cleaning for an hour afterwards. Hopefully childcare will be seen and treated as an essential service and given the respect we deserve. It is impossible to keep young children apart, so when the full class arrives back and the babies start putting things into their mouths I worry that Covid could be brought into my house and the risk will be doubled. I also worry about providing a fun, learning, experience for the children. Most toys have been put away, we are not allowed more than 5 books out at a time, no sand or water play, or many arts and crafts. This will cause a development gap into the early years.
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- 40 Childcare needs to be identified as an essential service across Canada and pay equity needs to align with teachers or there will be an ongoing shortage of qualified staff. As long as Covid-19 practices are required government subsidy will be required to sustain accessible childcare with qualified staff.
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- 41 Childcare workers have always been overlooked and this experience is shining light into the shadows here. I charge more than anyone else in my community but can't afford to go on vacation or buy a house. The level of responsibility and necessity in this profession has always been grossly underpaid. I'm now working the same hours for almost half the money. It's a good thing I love what I do and will continue to offer a safe and loving space for these children.
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- 42 Children should be fully protected until there is a vaccine. Can we actually do that in a childcare/preschool setting? I don't think we can. Only if all of the adults in their lives are cautious and responsible; I see many not being either.
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- 43 Clearer COVID-19 guidelines for licensed facilities would of been helpful in assessing policies and procedures for re-opening. Lots on hand washing, flu symptoms, etc but not a lot on ratios, etc.
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- 44 Concern about when funding is ceased or no funding available for childcare while this pandemic is still active.
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- 45 Concerned about how to ensure or support social distancing in a child care centre. Also, safety precautions will be a real challenge when supporting children newborn to 3 years old.
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- 46 Concerned about staff sickness and replacement costs - staff usually come in with a cold, as do children, under new regulations - staff/children not permitted. Concerned re sick time and cost of sub or lack of subs
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- 47 Concerned about staffing specifically staff with school aged children. Also concerned with mental health of staff
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- 48 Concerns about retaining staff and staff asking for increased wages when asked to return to work. A lot of uncertainty. Ensuring children and staff are healthy and follow through with Health protocols, it is a team effort. Maintaining the moral of staff during this difficult times (mental health)
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- 49 Concerns with the number of children we will be able to enroll in our centres. Will the space requirements change permanently? Not sure that without government assistance we can continue to operate with less children and less parent fees. Other option would be to increase parent fees to cover program costs which is not feasible for most parents.
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- 50 Conflicting advise has created uncertainty, the government has said don't worry about catching covid 19 at the park, our local government closed all parks. The increased anxiety about touch when working with children is very damaging, children need cuddles and reassurance Some staff have returned to work and others remain accessing the benefits, the impact may be that our core staff get burned out when other refuse to work and receive funds
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- 51 Cost of cleaning supplies and access to them is getting difficult. Increase cost of staff due to the decrease number of kids and increasing the number of staff to child/adult ratio
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- 52 Crazy time! Unfortunate events for me. I hope that we all can move forward soon and return to work ASAP.
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- 53 Daily screening for children, parents and staff - how to best manage daily intake; centres will open but how can you provide social distancing with infants and toddlers; low enrolment will lead to staff layoffs
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- 54 Daycare is a small daycare with 1 staff member, rent is very high, we can't afford to get a loan because we won't have the funds to pay it off. May not be able to re-open may have to claim bankruptcy
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- 55 Daycare is now open as of May 4 2020. Part staffing in place at this time. Program numbers for children are reduced for social distancing.
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- 56 Daycare should follow elementary school schedule.
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- 57 Don't think it's possible to social distance young children from each other, so I'm not sure I'll be able to re-open to my past capacity. After talking with my daycare families they also are echoing this.
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- 58 Due to being 52 with asthma, it is unlikely I will reopen. We will need to sell current home due to not meeting mortgage payments from loss of income. My father who is frequently in my home has had heart transplant, has diabetes and is on [medications]. My husband is [aged] and our daughter has special needs. Losing either one of us, my partner and I would struggle to meet needs of our child alone. Sadly, in home childcare is too risky moving forward. We have our home listed to sell when covid closures started. Seeing we have to put our family first. Not sure going forward if its safe for me to go back until immunizations are avail.
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- 59 Due to not being able to access federal funding programmes, I was forced to stay open during the pandemic even though I have a compromised immune system. Our pre-Covid funding is not enough if teacher/child ratio will need to be lower to maintain a healthy environment for the children and staff. On a national level childcare should receive operational funding so that staff can be well paid, have benefits and well skilled.
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- 60 During COVID-19 I am continuing to be open to Essential workers children only on a drop in basis. Once my current families are able to attend I will have to give notice to my Essential workers families to accommodate my current families children back into [name of family child care]. I look forward to earning my regular income once my families can return back to my daycare. I love this field, it is difficult to take a reduced pay while I am an essential worker. Thank you, from [name]
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- 61 During the COVID-19 I have had to temporarily suspend our Licensed Pre-School classes. I do not foresee them opening back up before the of this school term, the end of June. With each month that this is closed I am losing over \$10,000.00 of revenue for our not-for-profit Centre. As we are only open for our Out of School Care Program for school age children whose parents are front line workers, this too has caused a severe drop in our revenue. We are averaging between 3 to 5 children daily. This does not pay any bills really. I am working from 7:00am until 5:30pm every day with no real breaks, except to occasionally sit at my desk to try and stay on top of the paperwork. With all of the different grants and funding sites to visit and try to figure out, I feel a bit like a juggler trying to keep my head above the water. Our Centre has been open since [year] we are the [identifying characteristic] I really don't want to close our doors, but every week that we remain open, pushes on our financial burden. We truly are non-profit to the nth degree. We have always tried our best to keep our fees as low as possible for so that all families can afford to have quality care for their children. We have not raised our fees since July 2017, and right now, we have no intention to do so. We are proud to have been able to provide care for our frontline workers during this time, and would not change that decision for anything. Please forward this information to whoever needs to hear it. We are professionals and would not change what we do for children for anything!
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- 62 During the Covid-19 pandemic, BC should have declared a provincial-wide closure of child care centres/daycares to ensure that everybody stays home for the safety of staff, children, families and the community in general. They will just operate a child care centre that will provide care for children of frontliners and essential service workers. General closure of child care centres will eliminate confusion with funding.
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- 63 During the pandemic, I found that the government hasn't helped the licensed family daycares. Especially since the government knows how important daycares are for working families. Furthermore, there's a shortage of licensed daycares in Vancouver. And long waiting lists. I didn't opt into the Temporary Emergency funding program, because I couldn't survive with what I would be getting from the funding. My daycare enrolment has been cut by more than half and I'm making less than 50% of what I used to. I'm trying to stay afloat and not get into too much debt during this difficult time. I don't qualify for the CERB or any of the other funding. There needs to be more done, so we don't fall through the cracks!
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- 64 Employee safety and especially in childcare, providing TIER 1 families with support, our employees should deserve a WAGE TOPUP due to risks associated with the job. In fact, we did provide extra bonus respecting their contributions...in future, would it be necessary, would do the same.
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- 65 Enrollment and staffing will be a challenge
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- 66 Financial implications and future operations may use all reserve funding in the first year to maintain lower numbers and qualified staff. Obtaining more subs to cover staff as we need to modify sickness policy and allow more flexibility with staff, meaning more subs.
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- 67 Even though I have an auto-immune disease I was willing to stay open to help families enrolled in my Daycare. I trust that they were all taking great care as was I. My parent's all had the option to and understandably chose to keep their children safely at home. The Government had asked that we hold children's space at no charge as well as not charge parents who choose to keep a child home due to COVID. I have contacted parents about reopening but they are still wanting to stay home and self isolate. I respect that. Most of my Parents are teachers who will not be returning to the classroom until September. At what point do I consider their children absent as a child-care cost saving measure rather than a COVID concern? Odd position to be in.
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- 68 Families fees should be covered IN FULL by the government during this child care crisis in order to secure their established/planned RARE care spaces, ensuring families aren't left scrambling to find new spaces as theirs may have been given to a tier 1 ESW and will not actually be promised to them. This current funding program is creating further stress on an already broken system. Every child DOES NOT have access to quality care at this time nor will they after the restrictions have been lifted. Our health is being put at risk, my families health is being put at risk, and my CHILDCARE CENTRE'S FUTURE IS AT RISK, after 12 years in operation. I am saddened and disheartened that our government cannot seem to agree on the measures being taken (Dr Daly stated on a recorded conference call that she does not agree with Dr Henrys direction to operate centres at a lower capacity)and continuously directly contradicting what the public is being told and this is all leaving me with little faith that anything is truly being done in the best interest of children and families anymore. Not to mention the care providers who are not clearly unhappy. Best of luck coming out of this pandemic without a complete childcare provision collapse. I am now working my way out of the field.
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- 69 Fewer kids due to social distancing and reduced government funding will lead to closure of the daycares
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- 70 For a smaller Licensed Family based practice, I may have to hire someone for more support which will be challenging
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- 71 For financial reasons I will probably close prior to Sept 2020 due to the loss on money from covid-19. It will be a sad day as I have operated an outstanding program for over 20 years.
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- 72 For sure we can't cover all our costs when we don't have previous income, not enough kids no income.
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- 73 Found a lack of guidance around operating procedures and health protocols. We did our own research and came up with choosing to register less families to help with social distancing.
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- 74 From May, BC offers \$1000 beside federal cerb \$2000. Which is more than a lot of daycare teachers" regular net pay when they are working. So I am afraid some of the teachers do not want to go back to work when the daycare reopen
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- 75 Given the nature of the 3-5 year old I am curious as to how one could possibly initiate social distancing, particularly because the utmost value of an early learning center is learning the skills of socializing. Everything that is provided is of a shared hands-on nature.
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- 76 Frustration with licencing had my annual inspection. My LO was going to come in to my center with her shoes on. She refused to remove them when I asked. She offered to go to her car to get booties to cover her shoes. I insisted and she should have arrived with them. This was after she went in my bathroom already in her shoes and washed her hands. When discussing a child I had in care with a respiratory illness here. I told her I self isolated after. She said we should have talked that probably was not necessary as there have been no confirmed cases of children transmitting covid to care givers! Really? Is that why a few weeks ago you said you will just leave information in my mailbox instead of coming to my door after I mentioned my concerns regarding the child I had in care with illness? I feel like its self immolation doing this job right now. I am grateful for the funding at this time and glad to only have one child to care for so not too hazardous. Very worried about fall 2020 and a second wave.
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- 77 Funding and meeting the challenges of a post-Covid world.
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- 78 Funding for programs once TEF is discontinued if parents are not ready or do not need to put their children back into child care, creating low enrolment and lower funding.
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- 79 Funding is what makes the business run and not receiving information about the future is very stressful. I don't know if I will be receiving funding for June from the Provincial Government. I don't know if either my CEWS or CEBA applications have been approved. I read 7 days for CEBA until a deposit is done and today is day seven and no deposit. So, I don't know if there is a problem with application or if it is just taking a bit longer. The unknown is very stressful. I have staff that want to be off because they are making about the same amount of money being off than working so that is why my other staff are working more hours than normal and that is why owner is also working more hours than normal.
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- 80 Funding- both provincial and federal post COVID-19 will be critical in order for us to
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- 81 Government funding needs to stay in place until full enrollment is reached again. Also, this has been a backhanded way to eliminate family daycares, they're closing down for good left and right, I feel terrible for them.
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- 82 Have closed temporarily due to COVID-19 - although childcares in BC have not been directed to close by Health authorities, parents who can are also encouraged by Health to keep their children at home. I will be guided by changes to this encouragement, and the timing of when parents in the currently enrolled families need to shift away from working at home, in scheduling our reopening. My decision to close temporarily, in consultation with those families, was that this seemed the best way to contribute as much as possible to the curve-flattening measures, and to protect vulnerable elderly members of my own and my clients' extended families. My income, taking into account the temporary supports from both provincial and federal governments has gone down by half during the closure but we do not anticipate big financial challenges upon reopening as our family is in the fortunate position of having a spouse still employed (independently of the home childcare) full time, although mostly now working from home. However, many of the other family childcare providers I know in our neighbourhood [name of neighbourhood] are single people with high rents who are facing much more difficult situations.
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- 83 Having access to supplies needed
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- 84 Having to hold the spots for the previous families not giving up the space and trying to fill with essential workers has been a challenge. A lot of families want permanent care and with the indecisive people saying they are returning then don't I am out hundreds to thousands. I am a single mother trying to provide for my 3 children. With no childcare out there to watch my children how am I supposed to find other work to support them. I am trying to apply for ccof. But it has been a long process trying to get any kind of support. I apply for 2000 in emergency funding due to having 5 children pulling out of care March 13. I just found replacements May and June. March and April I struggled to pay bills and debating closing the dayhome indefinitely.
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- 85 Higher cost and lower attendance will be the big challenge for me.
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- 86 Hope that the Government will continue to support Day Cares when we re-open as numbers will be low due to parents comfort level exposing their children to groups as well their work situation and income has been effected.
- 
- 87 Hope the Temporary Emergency fund will last a bit longer to help the business goes normal as before COVID-19.
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- 88 Hours with children are reduced due to much higher cleaning time.....so time spent daily is greater because of cleaning. I have concerns about taking on new children for families with essential workers with an undefined requirement of when the other families can return .... the other families I normally care for are concerned I won't be available when they need their children to return to care.
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- 89 How completely unrealistic to think that germs can be prevented from spreading in a day-care with preschoolers. The greatest transferrers of microbes are young children. It is how they develop their immune systems and navigate their world.
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- 90 How to keep social distancing and all the hygiene practices
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- 91 how to maintain healthy for both children and providers when the re-opening phase keeps going
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- 92 How to secure the health and safe for children and staffs after reopen? What is the support about financial issue about the rent and lower enrollment? How to keep staffs if reduce their work hours as the ratio or lower enrollment?
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- 93 Human resource/mental health and administrative burnout. We have little to know support for H/R handling the needs and stress of our educators falls on owners and administrators who have little training on how to address employee's needs. Help in this area could go a long way to preventing burnout across all individuals working in the childcare sector.
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- 94 I am a home daycare and a foster parent of 5 kids. I cannot resume my family home 6 child enrollment while my foster children are present. I will not be compensated even though their daycare is closed. I have a ratio of 1 caregiver to 7 children max.
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- 95 I am a licensed preschool. We are closed but need to open soon to be able to continue to pay the bills. I am planning on opening up June 1. Here in [name of town] we are doing very well with isolation, and I believe we will safely be able to open up then, with extra sanitizing measures.
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- 96 I am a new family child care center (as of February 2020) and have had several expenses to become licenced. I have had many difficulties receiving funding as well as clients to help make my business viable. I have had a hard time financially as well as emotionally trying to stay open for the one essential service client I have. I am not sure if I can continue without financial help or more clients. At this time I will do my best for my client and her child because I know how important her job is to our community.
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- 97 I am concerned about how to transition from closed to open, that there is no protocol in place, that we won't be able to run at full capacity, that we will lose clients. I am concerned about staff not wanting to return because its too risky. There is no way to social distance with preschoolers.
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- 98 I am concerned about maintaining enough qualified staff to work do to the new COVID illness protocol. It will be very difficult to remain running if we have more then two staff present with any symptoms.
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- 99 I am concerned about minimizing the virus spread in childcare's and am not sure how it is possible to maintain social distance and keep toys clean between children. I appreciate this survey and understand it is more about the fiscal side of operations.
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- 100 I am concerned about the children returning to the centre and how we will manage gradual re-entry if funding is cut suddenly. I am concerned about child:staff ratios rising to fast to maintain the level of precautions needed for success in preventing the spread of COVID-19
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- 101 I am concerned about the TEF government funding ending when summer comes as I have VERY few families that will attend AND I'm expected to keep my numbers low. Low numbers mean low pay and it affects my ability to provide properly for my family.
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- 102 I am concerned on the logistics of trying to maintain social distancing with young children. It is impossible.
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- 103 I am concerned that funding will run out before my families and myself feel comfortable sending children back to preschool. My center is not a daycare, therefore parents are sending their children voluntarily, for educational purposes. If it's not required care, parents will not want to send children and I will not be able to afford to operate on lower numbers without funding.
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- 104 I am concerned that the enrolments will be low when we open in September and will continue to remain low and that the support received will be based on enrolments. The centre needs to run at maximum enrolments, in my case 40, in order to make ends meet. I am also concerned that there will not be qualified staff available to replace any of my sick staff in order to maintain the staff to child ratio's required by licensing. I live in a small town and it is very difficult to have enough qualified staff under normal circumstances let alone replacement staff/substitutes. I am also concerned that I will not have the funding to pay staff for sick days plus pay for a replacement/substitute staff. In our little town there are two large childcare centres and not enough qualified staff to meet these requirements. It is almost impossible to find qualified substitute staffing when regular staff are sick.
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- 105 I am concerned that the Preschool with not be able to reopen and if it does we will not be able to operate due to reduced enrollment as preschool is not an essential service for families. Parents will also choose to keep their children at home if they are not allowed to attend if they have a cold or cough which is pretty much 50% of the time for most preschoolers.
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- 106 I am currently receiving 7 times my base CCOF funding, but it's not enough. 5 out of 7 of my children are not attending because the parents are working from home, and they are not required to pay the monthly fee. What I receive from the government is about 15% of my normal income. I will likely have to close and move if this continues as we cannot afford to live in our current house with this income.
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- 107 I am extremely concerned about struggling through low enrollment once the province cuts their temporary emergency funding. I have already had 2 children, due to parents work, completely pull out. Filling 3-5 year old spaces in [name of town] BC is a struggle for "licensed in home centers". We grow our centers throughout the years.
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- 108 I am extremely concerned that staff, especially those 50 years and over could be jeopardizing their own lives to come back to work.
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- 109 I am grateful that the province has stepped up to help childcare workers and owners! It has been especially challenging to find cleaning supplies and I'm grateful that my adult children have helped me out! I'm concerned about what is going to happen in the future....especially in the fall when we have a regular flu season arrives....how will we tell what each child has....I know that testing will be available but will enough be available for children in daycares....or will doctors and other health care facilities be overwhelmed with tests for children (and of course school age children and other adults!). If there is a major resurgence will the government be able to help out Daycares financially or will we be on our own. (And of course other people) I don't believe that there will be a post COVID world for a long long long time and how are we going to deal with not only the health but the mental and financial constraints everyone will be feeling. I'm so concerned about not only my children and my grandchildren to be ...but other children not just in my daycare but around the world!
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- 110 I am high risk due to my health. I am terrified to go back to work any time soon, Children do not know how to social distance themselves and I don't know where their families have been outside of the daycare centre.
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- 111 I am hoping that the 7 x base average operating grant will stay in effect when I open at the end of the month. It will really help.
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- 112 I am immunocompromised and almost 50 years old and worry about reopening after the CERB runs out. I am afraid of getting sick by children not able to social distance. I have financial anxiety and know that I will have no option but to reopen when the CERB expires. I would be grateful if CERB was extended for immunocompromised daycare owners until Covid-19 is no longer a threat.
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- 113 I am in fear of losing all income as most of my clients are teachers & teaching staff & have chosen not to send their children to daycare. Also, since provincial government has opened FREE childcare at various schools with teaching staff looking after the children, specifically Education Assistants, these spaces & jobs have now been taken away from the little hope small daycares had of remaining open. ECE jobs have been given to Education Assistants & teachers, which is highly disturbing for our sector. Imagine if a teachers job was given to an Early Childhood Educator....it would never happen, because their union would never allow it, however, ECE's don't have the Ministry or any organization having their back in the same way. This sector in my opinion has been treated extremely unfairly & because of this, many small community daycares who have provided excellent care for almost 2 decades like mine, may have to close its doors permanently unless the Ministry comes through for us.
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- 114 I am not aware of all that is available and I find it all very difficult to apply for as I am not computer literate so I miss out on so much. If it all came from one area and was easier to understand would be great but it's just so confusing
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- 115 I am not interested in applying for a loan or borrowing money COVID-19 shut down the business. I do not want debt because of this crisis.
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- 116 I am surprised that not more essential workers needed our care for their children. I have kept most staff employed and do not charge any parents fees as the funding I receive is enough and I do not plan to apply for any other funds as I can maintain my centre with the amount given and therefore no need to be excessive in applying for more funds. Our government is being very generous but I feel some people will apply for everything even if they don't need it and down the road our country will have a huge deficit.
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- 117 I am unsure if I would be able to apply for the 10% or 75% wage subsidy due to the fact that I am being given an operating fund by the Provincial government. Also unsure, if I would have to pay the above money back, how it will help me in the long run. Unanswered questions make me nervous about applying at all.
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- 118 I am very concerned about opening up to everyone in my daycare at this time. I don't feel daycares should be a part of phase one. They should only be available to people that really need it. If I get sick or my daycare I have to close for 13 days and my doctors and nurses will not have coverage to help people in need. I feel having the families I have working front lines is stressful enough on my family.
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- 119 I am very concerned with obtaining and retaining qualified educators as we have been in a staffing crisis for the last few years in this sector. Wages are a concern as well as all qualified educators deserve to make a very competitive hourly wage, maintaining current room capacities and ratios regulations Very concerned with compromised ratio due to employees calling in sick (not that they should come to work sick but in the past you have dedicated staff that will work with a cold mild flu in order to maintain ratios and compliance) updating / amending regulations in sick section communicable disease immunization screening
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- 120 I am worried about reopening since my daycare is in my home and my family is high risk. Half of my daycare kids are toddlers and it is impossible for them to practice social distancing and proper coughing/sneezing etiquette. Up to now, there is really no clear evidence if children can or cannot pass the virus to us.
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- 121 I am worried how we will operate in Sept without TEF.
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- 122 I am worried that parents completely withdraw and do not come back, and we cannot fill the spot.
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- 123 I am worried the gradual changes will be too soon and we end up with a mutated strain that's affects children's lives in that case I would financially devastated.
- 
- 124 I answered for one of the programs in our multi-site non-profit. Of 6 centres - 2 remained open, 4 closed and 42 staff were laid off - 20 re-hired under CEWS.
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- 125 I believe proper and frequent hand washing as well as keeping everyone in the environment safe is the key to fighting any type of illness. Follow the regulations and focus more on personal hygiene of the adult and children in care.
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- 126 I believe that the COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated the child care crisis we face. While the government has provided funding at this time, if things will go back to normal, we will end up with even greater issues because we have lost facilities and educators during this crisis.
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- 127 I believe the centers that stay open and get open in the futures need the required products to clean and sanitize. As well as having the ability to pay for the products and have the products available to them. It is hard to find the necessary cleaning and health necessary products in the local stores, as everyone is also looking and it becomes a shortage.
- 
- 128 I believe the Government is doing the best it can to support everyone at these unusual times. I am nervous that we will run out of funds, especially while running with small groups of children, due to health and safety of children/ staff, and families nervous to return. When we cannot run at full compacity, and not receiving the fees to obtain our budget, but we still need the same staff for coverage for the day. Will TEF continue and for how long? will the cews continue and for how long? With out those funding's we will be in a financial hole.
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- 129 I can't keep up with cleaning and disinfecting and providing a good program for children I need to hire a help. I don't know if I can work in full capacity to pay for myself and helper.
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- 130 I chose to close my center dew to not wanting to have the possibility of having infected people come through my home and put my child and myself at risk.
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- 131 I currently have 2 children enrolled and my own two children both my kids enrolled are under two social distancing doesn't work and because the daycare is directly in my hole I worry about constant germs being brought in keeping my own family safe and the families of my daycare children. What happens if myself or one of my kids falls ill I'm self-employed how will I deal with constant closures financially
- 
- 132 I currently receive the temporary emergency funding which is 7X my usually grant, but this amount plus parent fees for the child that still attends is less than CERB. And I don't qualify for any other government funding. Doesn't seem fair that I've stayed open and am working for less than people who are not working.
- 
- 133 I did not understand questions 16 & 17. This strange time really effect on my daycare because of lower enrollment children however I know this problem is for most of workers!
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- 134 I do believe it would be beneficial for Family and Multi-Family Licensed facilities to receive more funding. CCOF in particular. Just because we are a family run business we have less funding from the government but still need to upkeep our centers. Which is very expensive. Even doubling the current CCOF funding for Family/Multi Licensed Facilities as it would help to maintain our facilities.
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- 135 I do find the overall messaging about the use of non-medical masks for some children (eg school age), but then not others, confusing. If it is a helpful preventative measure for a 5 year old, then why not a 3 or 4 year old? People of all ages are touching their faces; would be nice to have consistent guidelines. I am very worried about re-opening and keeping the children and myself virus free.
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- 136 I do not feel that we as child care providers are given clear information in a timely manner. Much of the information changes depending who is asked at MCFD and Licensing. I feel that the safety of myself, my family and the young children in my care is not valued and my concerns are dismissed by those in charge.
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- 137 I don't know how the government expects in home daycare to open and still keep everyone safe. Multiple children in a home is impossible to safe distance. We should have the option to stay closed. Treat your underpaid childcare workers with care. There was a childcare crisis before covid and now it will be even worse with closures. My job is not worth intentionally putting myself and family at risk by opening at this time. September will be even worse. If the government does continue to financially support me, I will have to permanently close my doors.
- 
- 138 I don't know how many our children they gonna back because Day care is open and how long government could help us ?
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- 139 I feel going back will be stressful, as the recommendations of keeping children and staff apart and sanitizing triple now!! Children need to be in a nurturing environment, not an environment where staff are stressed and always on guard. This is going to change my program in a negative way. I think of how it will be once we go back. It won't be a comfortable atmosphere like it was before☐ No dress up clothes for the time being and smaller groups. It's just very sad for us.
- 
- 140 I feel like child care providers have been basically ignored by everyone in this situation. It is a "given" apparently that to get the economy going again kids need to go to daycare without any real thought to what that means to the safety of the children and the provider AND the rest of the people in the family daycare homes. There are unrealistic expectations of providers. I can't support my family and pay my mortgage by having The same amount of kids in my house and keep everyone safe and if I say this I get shamed for not "caring" more about children enough to just deal with it. I have my elderly immunocompromised parents living with me and an asthmatic child and I have to choose between work and family but can't have one without the other or have one AND the other.
- 
- 141 I feel strongly that the B.C. government has taken care of childcare at this time (April and May) very well. Going forward I fear that we will be back to the original problem of not enough staff to cover the clientele who need care. My conversations with staff staying home have let me know that fear of getting sick is a very big issue and we did not have enough staff before COVID-19.
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- 142 I feel that having the daycare open, yet turning enrolled parents away if their child has a cold, runny nose, that it will cause stress between the parents and myself's relationship. It is going to be stressful to have to disinfect all day long while caring for the children, as well as keeping them apart and taking toys etc. away if they put them in their mouths, trying to not let them touch their faces, having them constantly washing their hands or using hand sanitizer EVERY time they touch their face, and the children are going to be stressed and not as understanding, if this takes up a large part of their day.
- 
- 143 I feel that it will be difficult to provide care to children in reduced numbers and lower fees and still pay my staff a living wage. I am concerned about the spread of COVID because preschool aged children and the nature of early care is social and keeping a distance will be next to impossible if I am wanting to provide quality, developmentally appropriate care.
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- 144 I feel that our Province is lifting restriction too soon. Having a class full of children in a few weeks is way too soon, when we still have Covid-19 cases and deaths being reported in our Province each day. I fear for the safety of the families I serve, children I care for and myself.
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- 145 I feel that the only way we can truly protect our ECE's / providers and the children and families, is to have child care be a federally funded ministry - equal to the ministry of education. No lack of workers, safety of children and sustainability for the future.
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- 146 I feel very grateful for the additional CCOF funding I have received. It has allowed me to let parents temporarily withdraw without charging them fees (which had taken some stress off them) and has helped me financially so I am not too financially affected by the loss of enrollment fees. Thank you.
- 
- 147 I feel we are currently doing okay financially. I am concerned about what childcare will look like once restrictions are gradually lifted and we may not be able to enroll to full capacity and government funding may be reduced or eliminated.
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- 148 I feel we have no direction. People are scared. Out of 32 children registered in my program only three need care. Most of my families are too scared to return as so are my teachers. How can I keep my private business a live. I am a separated from my husband, I have the weight of my personal bills and rent as well as the high lease of my business and bills. I have a strong feeling I will lose my business.
- 
- 149 I find it a challenge to sort out all of the information presented about expectations of social distancing with 3-5 yr old children. There are many mixed messages. It makes it difficult to assure parents of their child's safety
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- 150 I found that the trickle out of information to be frustrating as a manager. It seemed every day there was new information which made you second guess what you were doing and if you were taking the right precautions. We chose to stay open as we have a lot of essential workers as clients. The whole start back up- lay out that has been provided is also confusing to not only parents but to myself as the provider. As soon as it was announced that daycares were to be open and families could go back, the phone started ringing. I think it should have been laid out more plainly to families. May 11- these families, May 18- these families etc. Because without clear concise plans Directors are to make the choice for families and that is totally unfair as it puts the responsibility on us. I am not a Doctor but I do have common sense. This dictates that not all families should return after the 15th and some families should be off until probably the end of June. In saying that, we would not have enough "normal" day to day funding to sustain us with out the TEF.
- 
- 151 I have a family who is currently receiving EI but also working within limit. Since their child care fees are mostly covered by ACCB, they drop off their child in my program 8 hours a day. How about cancel ACCB for families who receive EI? so that they would keep their child home.
- 
- 152 I have kept the same families in my home daycare only ; so we can minimize outside contamination from people we do not know. WE are like one Big Family we all stay in our own homes and only one adult in each family is designated to get groceries including mine I do not go out into the public at all.
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- 153 I have been asked to accept school age children to my program, when I normally service age 0-5. My home is not set up for school age and it has taken a fair bit of work to adapt to school age children, it also creates a difficult dynamic with the younger children, and I am stretched thin trying to homeschool and carry out normal activities such as preschool lessons. In addition, I am having to spend more money on resources that I would normally be able to access for free. \$150/month on books for preschool lessons instead of using the library, \$30/month on online music lessons instead of field trips (normally funded by parents), as well as additional yard toys and equipment as the park we normally go to for major motor development is closed.
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- 154 I have been surprised and deeply concerned about the absolute lack of contact from my licensing office. I have had no contact other than a poster saying how to wash hands, that was sent in March. I felt confident to make decisions on how to keep my daycare open and reduce the threat of Covid-19 but I am sure there are many daycares that would have been able to stay open had they been given direction and support from the licensing officers. I doubt my licensing officer even knows I am open.
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- 155 I have concerns about safety of children and staff with the discovery of the Kawasaki type look of covid19 in children.
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- 156 I HAVE LOST ALL MY NONE FUNDED PARENTS WHO RECEIVE 0 SUBSIDY OR GOV. FUNDING DUE TO AGES OR INCOME. I AM OPEN DAYS FROM 5:00AM AND EVENINGS UNTIL 11:59PM I AM OPEN WEEKEND DAYS AND EVENINGS AS WELL. MY EVENING AND WEEKEND FAMILIES ARE SELF ISSOLATING. AS WELL AS SOME OTHERS WHO DID GET FUNDING. IT IS OVER \$4600.00 I AM OUT PER MONTH FROM BEFORE COVID. BUT SINCE COVID I HAVE BEEN GIVEN 7 TIMES MY FUNDING TO UP KEEP MY DAYCARE, THIS STILL DOSNT COVER MY LOST INCOME. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TAKE IN COVID OR FAMILIES WHOS DAYCARES SHUT DOWN. MOST OF THESE FAMILIES WILL BE GONE AFTER COVID, BUT MOST OF MY ORIGINAL FAMILIES WHO RECEIVE SUBSIDY AND FUNDING WILL BE RETURNING AFTER COVID. I'M NOT SURE THE IMPACT ON MY FAMILY DAYCARE AFTER THIS IS OVER. BUT I DO SEE THERE WILL BE AN ALL NEW NEED FOR CHILDCARE AS PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO RETURN TO THERE JOBS. THE AGE RESTRICTIONS ARE A REAL PROBLEM. AND THE FACT WE CAN NOT BE OPEN THROUGH THE NIGHT. I HAVE TURNED DOWN DOZENS OF SHIFT WORKERS BECAUSE OF THESE TIME RESTRICTIONS. OTHER DAYCARE JUST DO IT AND HOPE THEY DONT GET CAUGHT TO HELP THESE PEOPLE OUT THROUGH COVID. I'm TOLD WE COULD LOSE OUR LICENSE TO HELP COVID FAMILIES IN NEED FOR SHIFT WORKERS. SO I LOSE OUT ON EVENING AND WEEKEND FAMILIES. THANK YOU
- 
- 157 I have no idea how it's going to look, if ratios will change or what the government will mandate. This is daycare and we have tried to keep as normal as possible.
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- 158 I need the TEF to continue until my registrations are back to normal (full) many families have told me they won't come back right away or some are asking for part time this leaves me in a HUGE financial distress if I have all my overhead low numbers an staff wages to pay.. I have no reserve to draw on and I don't qualify for any other funding...We need the support of TEF to continue. Please
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- 159 I have not applied for the Temporary Emergency Funding as I believe they are rather harsh for a licensed family daycare such as mine. I know other facilities just like mine, that have refused to apply as well. I don't agree with the stipulations of that funding and how you could remove children from my facility that are not of a front line health care worker. I already have one and the other family are essential workers. It should be our decision without making a family daycare be named with the "centres". I am one person ensuring the children in my facility are healthy and safe. I have been disinfecting on a daily basis and just changed to once per week with the slowing of virus in the community I live in. I have a range of two full time 15 month olds, 3, 4 and one drop in that is 6 years old for the past few weeks but things could change anytime. It is a most stressful time for everyone. Worrying about getting funds from each of my families that receives Affordable Child Care has been extremely stressful when five expired in April. They cannot afford daycare at the best of times let alone during a pandemic. I think all subsidies for those families should automatically be renewed for the parent and the child care facilities. Thank you for all you are doing to help with this going forward. It is greatly appreciated!
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- 160 I hear how communities might relax the restrictions for getting together. I wonder if Daycare providers will also be allowed to do this or if by doing so, they are putting the children at risk. I would like to know what is expected of providers going forward.
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- 161 I just don't know how we will make it work. Keeping 3 staff and 16 preschoolers socially distanced, in a small classroom space, while running a quality and educational group centre is an enormous challenge. Our numbers will be reduced, and even then, we are still experiencing cross contamination from everyone's family, work, and outside preschool interactions. Additionally, I have been communicating with my currently enrolled families, (we have been temporarily closed for care since mid March, but keeping in regular contact via text, email and video chat) and out of my 27 current families, only 2 are interested in resuming classroom care, IF we head back before July. Even if we do head back, my numbers won't be high enough to sustain my two staff, plus my own wage, or pay rent. Additionally, there are user groups in our classroom space outside of school day hours, so we will be dealing with added insecurity due to cleaning protocols... I don't know how this situation will work itself out... but "Normal" will not be able to resume in my classroom for a long time. :(
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- 162 I just get 7 times funding My concern is low registration Parents are too scared to come back Staff are afraid to come back Staff are asking for more pay when they are back Although I am open less kids are coming New register kids just withdrew
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- 163 I like to plan ahead. When it's Christmas I'm starting to think of summer programs. And vice versa. Right now, it is one day at a time. Also, up until Friday, May 8 2020, when a technical document was finally released for BC I was relying on a pharmacist parent for direction for the Centre in terms of health and safety. I've been extremely disappointed at the role our local licensing branch has held during this time - weekly phone calls wanting to know how many numbers we have....if we have any needs for health and safety supplies---but ZERO direction in how to operate safely or where to find supplies. We're not even able to tell me if the disinfectant we use was effective against the virus.
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- 164 I think that the government should have continued to pay normal subsidy fees and government grants to closed child care centres. This would have ensured the survival of the facility after covid since we know there is going to be a high demand in this sector once parents are to return to work.
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- 165 I own and operate a small multiage daycare centre. I work alone, for 12-14 hours per day, this includes my cleaning ( which I do alone, and taking dishes and laundry home to do there, because I do not have a laundry facility in my daycare room nor a dishwasher or kitchen to readily do dishes as needed. My licence is for 8 children and I am full each day. I have owned and operated my own centre for 20 years and have been in the field for 24 years. I have been trying to get a staff person for a couple years, but staff want \$25-\$30 dollars per hour and benefits. which being so small is near impossible when I also need to support myself. I live in a very small town and I have found that qualified staff is hard to come by unless the pay is very high. I am fearful of this COVID 19 and will need to have a ready supply of safety items, plexiglass cubicles built and an onsite cleaner. It seems insurmountable at this stage to even know what to do next.
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- 166 I should be receiving a temporary emergency funding in order to stay open. It is not the percentage that they say and no one is coming or needing care so I have NO income
- 
- 167 I think that the ease of restrictions coming right up against summer means my daycare will remain half empty until at least September which is financially hard to recover from
- 
- 168 I think the situation is not well be some.
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- 169 I think this pandemic has just highlighted what we all knew already. ECE's are under paid and necessary. The wage needs to be addressed in a more realistic and sustainable way by the government.
- 
- 170 I truly appreciate the TEF funding. The govt telling the public that parents no longer need to pay to hold their space made all of my contracts null. I have huge concerns that parents will not honour their contracts after this is over. Future viability of my business worries me.
- 
- 171 I understand that larger childcare centers were given sanitizer bottles and were supposed to share, however, I found that only if the smaller centers called them they would share 1 bottle out of 20. I think the Ministry should look into that next time when sending cleaning supplies considering that during this time I don't think all large centers are full and would be in the next few months. Very disappointed.
- 
- 172 I want to reopen as usual in September but what if another wave of the virus comes? Are parents going to want to send their children to preschool? Staff is already hard to find and I believe this will make it harder. Preschool children cannot maintain a social distance. If I can't reopen by September I may have to look at closing as I still have to pay rent and utilities. I really feel like I need more guidance like the school system is getting on what reopening would look like.
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- 173 I was one of the lucky ones that when I closed I didn't get charged for my rent.
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- 174 I was sad to have had to close due to covid. I have underlining medical conditions that would make it very dangerous if I contacted covid. It would most likely kill me. That was one of the reasons I closed.
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- 175 I work by myself, 11 hours a day but how come I am not deserved to apply for CEBA. We cannot find any supply like disposable gloves, hand sanitizer, hand soap etc. And lastly, how can we meet social distancing... impossible!
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- 176 I will be fine with hiring back staff in June if BC keeps it's TEF funding in place. This would help me restart my business as many families are not coming back. But if they don't I will need to apply for the 75% wage subsidy. I also am wondering if I will need to increase staff to child ration with the children and do not know how to pay for this increase. I also hear lots of recommendations to play outside which we are happy to hear as that is a big focus for us but it means it would help to have parks reopen as we do not have an outdoor play yard but visit nearby parks and nature spaces.
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- 177 I will likely need to hire help but with lower enrollment and higher maintenance, I am concerned that I will not be able to afford to.
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- 178 I wish ECE professionals acted like adults instead of ignorant, whining entitled morons!
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- 179 I wish we had written documentation on what is safe and what is not (ie the BC province had a teleconference saying that sand and water play a go, but play dough and slime a no go). I wish that ratios were cut in half and max capacities cut in half.
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- 180 I would have applied for CERB nut I'm disqualified because my income is much lower but steady for 3wks through the month. To qualify for CERB you have to be without income for 14 days in a row.
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- 181 I would like to return to a safe work place, according to our coordinator we the staff don't need to wear a mask or face shield while working with children. I think this is not acceptable, the organization should provide us with all the accessories necessary to go back to work. This is my concern.
- 
- 182 I would only have to say that when the government tells parents that they can withdrawal and not have to pay any fees and then expect a childcare that is self employed that they have to hold that spot till parent returns is a complete joke. to expect people to come to your daycare with the knowledge up front that I can tell them they can not stay because someone else has decided to comeback after being away for months is ridiculous. if you want to hold your spot they should be paying for it!
- 
- 183 I would to say why we didn't pay for each child that left temporary due the pandemic. Why the centre get all their income even government help them for their rent. Is not fear. Also One of the parents remove their child permanently and she didn't respect the policy to pay for her penalty. The Government always helps parents and not any support for childcare providers.
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- 184 I'm so worried if we'd have enough enrolment after this pandemic, and if eventually our life would go back to normal ever again!
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- 185 I'm wondering if the CCOF funding will still be available in September when we have to potentially reduce the amount of children in our care. We will then not be able to charge full fees. Will different policies be put in place for September?
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- 186 I'm concerned about how to social distance in my small space and managing to keep toys sanitized between children especially working alone, even having an extra staff, I just don't have enough space for social distancing
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- 187 I'm concerned with temporary funding ending and not all clients able to return to daycare/ work therefore leaving daycares in an unacceptable situation
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- 188 I'm grateful for BC's government and way they handled the childcare industry.
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- 189 I'm not sure I could pay any Money I borrow back. So I can't risk borrowing it If I can't guarantee opening and being successful
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- 190 I'm thankful for the help I receive from ccoff my little daycare would be closed with no help could not make it without the help thank you so much
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- 191 I'm unsure of what a family daycare will look like post-coved!? I'm quite nervous about any type of scheduled re-opening!
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- 192 I'm worried that I will lose clients during my closure. I have lost employees and don't know if I can replace them. I'm worried that I'll have to operate at decreased capacity when I do open. I don't know what the capacity and cleaning rules will be. I'm worried the schools will offer free child care which will take away business from me, as I'm an after school program located in a school. I'm worried how my business will operate if schools reopen before the end of June and only allow a small portion of kids to attend at a time - or if they reopen in September that same way.
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- 193 If a family child care provider keeps the daycare open , receives 7x TEF, has no children coming, so no income from families, is this provider able to qualify for CERB ? The loss of the regular business income is big !□
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- 194 If front line workers are working with higher risk clients (essential workers-families) would be nice to offer a hazard pay increase and insurance for childcare companies so they will not be held reliable for damages if COVID19 is contracted and spread to centre families, this should be indefinite.
- 
- 195 If I have to reduce my capacity, this will dramatically affect my monthly income. The government is going go have to top-up in order to combat the lower ratio.
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- 196 If it wasn't for the CEBA we would have had to close our doors permanently. But it will be a financial strain going forward because we will have additional loans (CEBA) which we did not have previously have , along with reduced income due to reduced enrollment. Reduced enrollment is expected, and will continue as long as the risk of the virus is present. Parents with reduced income, no jobs, increased fear etc will not enroll and will not be able to provide an important early start to their children's education nor will they need child care. With reduced enrollment we will not be able to pay our expenses and may have to close our doors. Then when the economy picks up it will be one more child care center/ preschool closed. We have been here since 1991, providing excellent Montessori education and care for all our preschool children. Many of our students are new immigrants, low income etc . who especially benefit from preschool to prepare them for their future. I am also concerned about staffing. My permanent staff will be still here, but with the threat of the virus we have no back up if one of us were to become ill. If we show any cold/flu symptoms we will need to stay home. What do we do then, shut down our center? Our substitutes have said they are unwilling to take the risk for a few days work. Perhaps if we could access funding to hire an extra/new staff member, who would be an extra teacher, so if one of us were to become ill we would still have the correct student to teacher ratio.
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- 197 If it were not for our Provincial government providing us with 7x our childcare operating funding we would not be able to stay open. At present our fees do not cover all of the staff wages. We are looking at the Federal funding and at present we have qualified for the 10% tax reduction. Every little bit helps and is much appreciated.
- 
- 198 If parents don't want to come back when I open, do I have to hold their spot until they want to?? How are we supposed to safely distance 1 and 2 year old children in small spaces? Or the nap room?
- 
- 199 If the government ends the temporary funding too early and/or they lower the ratios and so less revenue coming in and then there will be staff layoffs but in order to keep up with the extra cleaning protocols required you need that extra staff...
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- 200 I'm wondering how we are supposed to practice social distancing with toddlers. It won't work at all...I have to be hands on and so are the children. As well as making sure the families are following my protocol policy to keep everyone safe?
- 
- 201 In order to make a liveable wage we need the numbers, reduced numbers means reduced wages and it is not possible to socially distance small children.
- 
- 202 In our community, most non-profit childcare closed during covid. As a private business we stayed open to support both our families and staff. However, we are not eligible for many government grants (pre-covid) to support our childcare centre, yet we pay same wages as non-profit, our fees if not the same are even lower. I think this crisis shows that private business should be put on a level ground for eligibility for future grants that support childcare.
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- 203 In regards to the stats showing low among young children getting the illness; so needs more positive information to all the families from doctors and media so that they will feel at ease in bringing their children to care. TOO MUCH FEAR in our media We had a Chief Doctor from the Vancouver Health Authority talk on a teleconference with over 1000 us caregivers; and her positive message on children very low numbers in getting the illness was what we needed to hear but also the parents need to know. You need to check out the recorded call from the teleconference. Which was dated Wednesday, April 29th. I closed because I know one who needed care because the whole province was shut down; and I had a sick staff.
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- 204 In reopening with a talk of a second wave in the fall we will most likely see a large drop in enrolled children which will effect covering staffing, rent, supplies, insurance and all other monthly costs .
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- 205 In the conversations regarding the "need for childcare for essential workers" or "children under 9 are not greatly affected or typically only have mild symptoms of COVID-19" actual Early Childhood Educators (the people who everyday engage closely with children and families) are rarely mentioned. The "services" are mentioned regularly but not consideration of the educators seems to be lacking.
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- 206 Increased stress levels as we continue to receive conflicting health and safety information from different government health authorities making it difficult to ascertain how it is best to proceed to ensure the health and safety of the children and staff.
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- 207 Is the normal capacity is remain the same ,which social distancing is impossible to do so .
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- 208 Is there any information that can be provided about these benefits?
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- 209 Island health should be supplying even if we have to pay a portion to masks, gloves and sanitizers and or disinfects just like other island health facilities.
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- 210 It has been confusing and unnerving receiving mixed messages as to protocols, severity of the pandemic and what types of funding are eligible. It definitely feels that there are too many agencies involved and it felt awful that the province did not mandate a closure. Instead people were left to make that decision for themselves and put operators in an awkward position with families.
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- 211 It is a concern for families as to how to gently ease into slowly socializing and remain safe. It has/will be very helpful to have more question & answer talks with Dr. P Daly as 1000 of us listened in on April 29th and there was lots of great info. Info is so appreciated as it becomes available
- 
- 212 It is challenging as a child care centre to plan accordingly, when the changes occur so quickly. In some instances, we were learning about changes with the general population, which made keeping families informed difficult.
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- 213 It is challenging living with the uncertainties of enrolment etc. As my husband is over 70 and has a heart condition I plan to hire an ECE to work in my centre for the 2020/21 school year. As it is extremely difficult to find a sub, I think I would be unable to provide the care parents need if I was by myself. I will continue to do enrolment and admin, plus sub when ECE is ill. I expect to have a greatly reduced income next year, and I hope to be able to go back to working full time the following year, but that will depend on a vaccine being available. My business will definitely take a huge hit next year, but I expect to be able to weather it if government grants continue and I am able to pay an employee as well as make my running expenses.
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- 214 It is frustrating that we are forced to hold spaces but the government isn't willing to allow us to at least claim the affordable child care benefit. Secondly that this information is not clear even within the staff. I have been told multiple differ things by multiple different people.
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- 215 It is obviously impossible to maintain social distancing between young children. It is also nearly impossible to keep their hands away from their faces and out of their mouths. The measures that I see being effective are teaching and practicing proper hygiene, regular cleaning of common touch points and toys etc. Additionally, any child that is sick must not come to daycare.
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- 216 It is rather challenging for BC government to have different ideas on what can be done than the federal. We don't know what we should do!! We are unsure of how to go about and do certain things. Two different ways and it's confusing and hard to know what to do!!
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- 217 It is scary about the chance to spread the virus.
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- 218 It was brought to my attention from other staff here that is working, that it seems like with an extra \$1000.00 being giving to people off in May for CERF, would be making more money staying home, than for the ones that are here in the front lines serving community for essential workers. They felt that it seemed unfair, but know they were doing something good to help out this cause. They don't get an incentive to be coming to work, unlike nurses or doctors that get lunches and other perks. When we caregivers are the ones watching their children so they can work. I am only reflecting on their experience as an ECE teacher. (Early Childhood Educators do not get recognized in any political announcements, or MLA's when thanks is given to all the essential workers, all other areas but childcare)
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- 219 It would be appreciated to share information that no daycares have been linked with the spread of covid19.
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- 220 It would be easier to comment on available funding as the centres reopen.
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- 221 It would be nice if registered daycares got the funding licensed daycares received during these closures.
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- 222 It would be nice to be in the know when the government introduces some other funding before parents.
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- 223 It would be nice to get some funding for the staff that have worked through the COVID
- 
- 224 It would be nice to put more details and clear information on the website for everyone including managers and all of other staff.
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- 225 It's already an incredibly demanding job as a single employ operation pre covid. To add all the new health safety requirements and large limitations on approved play materials it begins to feel impossible to comply and continue on providing care. No to mention the risk in opening my home and family up to so many other circles of people. I feel the risk and work by far outweigh the financial pay of the job.
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- 226 It's confusing that the BC government refers child care providers as essential workers. Now that BC is reopening industry, we still await proper guidelines from the government.
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- 227 It's going to be a bit stressful coping with all the challenging of social distancing little ones and the other things that come up with the health and safety protocol.
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- 228 It's hard to get adequate cleaning and sanitizing supplies the further north you operate.
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- 229 It's still a concern that I could easily get this virus , u cannot really do any social distancing when it comes to work with infants and toddlers
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- 230 It's very hard to determine when the right it's the right time to open when there's social distancing in place since toddlers do not know how to cover their face when sneezing etc... so very high risk population to work within.
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- 231 Its difficult having unknown enrolment month to month as parents are playing it by ear, some parents are only bringing their children when they have to. My income is half of what it was so things are tight but I remain open so that the kids have a fun and engaging place to be while the world is upside down. The extra cleaning and sanitising has added to my already long and busy day.
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- 232 Just concerned about starting back too early and if there is a covid outbreak in my centre, the costs associated with a 14 day shutdown. Also, if a child is showing any signs, they need to stay home and what that means for the rest of the children in my care. Do I send everyone home with cold like symptoms and jeopardize my income? And for how long do we live under these circumstances? It makes my financial future tedious. Those are my main worries. As well as the fact that there can simply be no distancing given the young ages of the children. Daycares are a breeding ground for germ transfer between small children and their families.
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- 233 Just to clarify... I have had no attendance since mid March... and would only charge a parent if the dropped off a child at the daycare. No parent pays a fee if they are not attending
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- 234 Keeping children apart for social distance is my concern. Cleaning as we don't have a cleaner we are not for profit Ensure staff they are safe
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- 235 Keeping children at a distance from each other..., social distancing is extremely difficult. Children are so oral that they are always touching or putting toys in their mouths etc. You can clean and sanitize all day and it's never enough!
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- 236 Keeping my staff employed as full time employee is really costly and wage subsidy doesn't cover the whole amount of her salary.
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- 237 La charge de travail accrue due au travail supplémentaire de nettoyage-désinfection. Et c'est impossible de demander à de très jeunes enfants une distance sociale.
- 
- 238 Lack of leadership from government to protect us.
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- 239 Lack of, straightforward facts and guidelines, as well as hesitations and concerns of safety in a child care centre may negatively impact future enrollment, staff's knowledge of acceptable measures, as well as investigation reports to licensing. Enrollment and ACCB funding decreases as many parents continue to work from home, balancing their family life and work needs. Sole proprietor funding and income negatively impacted by reduced funding and enrollment I have had challenges in the past hiring new staff, I can only imagine covid-19's negative impact on the field now.
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- 240 Last year we purchased 3 badly needed portables to provide care in. From the time we submitted our proposal to the time we got our funding it was over two years. The cost of construction increased over 30% during that time and our project went over by 173,000.00 and is not finished. The buildings are there but no air conditioning, no roofs over entrances. Without air, buildings will be too hot to operate for the summer. Metal doors get so hot they'd burn hands. Making less money from COVID means we will never get out of debt. We've been 20 years in business and this is the first time we're in debt because of the buildings and now reduced income because of COVID. Really difficult to find staff because no one wants to risk getting sick themselves.
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- 241 Le manque de direction du gouvernement de la Colombie-Britannique est un stress immense. Nous recevons un fond d'urgence et n'avons aucune idée s'il sera la même en juin.
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- 242 Locating and securing proper cleaning supplies is still a huge concern.
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- 243 Loss of income if myself as a childcare provider get sick and have to isolate and refund parent fees. Providing care while also homeschooling my own children.
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- 244 Loss of wage. Then when reopen not to increase fees or reduce hours but the amount of cleaning that will be needed and the cost associated with it will be difficult.
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- 245 Main concerns: -TEF funding cut immediately. - Low enrollment - Higher living expenses results in increase in rent/lease/staff wages etc. - Finding staff again.
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- 246 Maintaining physical and social distances in a childcare setting will be impossible. The children are not developmentally able to understand the need for distancing... it will not promote a quality childcare program as it will change the program style immensely - group activities, dress up, sensory activities such as water play or play dough. The amount of extra cleaning and expectations on staff will be stressful and I believe lead to greater staff burn out as well as increasing costs of cleaning products and items, that are very challenging to find in the Okanagan.
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- 247 Meeting the challenges of quality care and cleaning after covid. What will that look like. How can we keep staff and children safe?
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- 248 Meeting the unknown challenges of a post COVID world is of huge concern because we are constantly discovering new aspects of the virus. I hope that regulators will err on the side of extreme caution and perhaps look to countries like Taiwan for guidance. I understand from a colleague working there that masks are worn by staff and children, the temperature of each child is taken upon arrival, vigilant hand washing is in place and ultra violet lights are turned on at night to help eradicate any virus. I hope that there will be funding to help purchase supplies that may be required (hand sanitizers, masks.) Or that CCFL will have standard supplies available to childcare centres that could be picked up from a centralized location.
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- 249 More direction from Government/local health authority is crucial regarding lower max capacities and safety protocol. Both needed in order to retain ECEs.
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- 250 More information for childcare workers via Island Health would have been beneficial rather than having childcare operators having to make all the decisions bases on information from the government. I found there was and has been a lack of helpfulness from Island Health and licencing officers. Also I found it extremely difficult for childcare operators to make the decision to close based on the fact that younger children even older children just can't social distance. Once the government closed the school why then allow childcares to stay open? I feel this was wrong and childcare operators should have had more guidance form licencing.
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- 251 More support and Gov't funding for childcare, no assurance of getting full time enrollment. Not all parents can go back to work, on full time basis.
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- 252 More than ever, I feel that we need a publicly funded system for child care and preschool settings in this country. Pre - COVID 19, we had a fragmented child care system. Now, it is more fragmented than ever and centres are closing. Like education, we need and deserve a publicly funded system.
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- 253 Most important is safety and health
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- 254 Most of my families have been laid off and will not require care when the pandemic is over.
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- 255 Mostly it is about the unknown and as our province opens up with unclear guidelines and regulations. It is similar to when the province was shutting down, we were left to figure out a lot on our own regarding group sizes and ratios, best practices. Now with schools starting to plan to open, we seem to be the last ones considered as how it affects us and our services, we just have to adapt to everything being done to us - which is part of being a nimble not for profit, but sometimes it would be nice to be included in the decision making prior to. On one hand the Government said you have to prioritize essential service workers, but you also have to reserve space for the families not attending, now we have our centre full with essential service worker children and our regular families are now calling expecting to go back to work. We're the last to know and now we have to accommodate more families with limited space due to physical distancing.
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- 256 My biggest concerns is the follow up increased requirements for continuing safe childcare practices and possible costs that will be associated with such requirements.
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- 257 My biggest worry is that I can provide a safe and healthy environment, I worry that a child or employee was to contract the COVID-19 while attending our Center. Clear guidelines as to how to avoid this scary situation happening at our daycare will be greatly appreciated.
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- 258 My centre is home based, this means in my home! I have a set and small number and families I work with. We all trust each other and i found it wrong that we were told to stay home. Small centres are the way to go! If one gets infected not the whole complex gets sick. I am not taking kids where siblings that go to big group centres as that's where the disease spreads quickly. I choose my parents and children carefully, always have through the way I run my program
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- 259 My centre licensed for 16 is in the basement of my home. I don't think there is funding to help this business as I pay a mortgage on the whole house. I must try to keep the house or lose my business.
- 
- 260 My childcare is open and those parents who are overdue of their subsidy will apply again but I don't know if they will be approved. If not then that will affect my income which I cant apply to any benefits given by the government during COVID-19 cause I'm still working but less income. So that's my worry and fear that it will lower down my income. My bills remain.
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- 261 My concern is for when the TEF funding ends and if families choose to return to child care or not - our income will be affected, which will in turn affect the staffing and the quality of the program. For the moment the funding received is adequate for the basic monthly expenses - nothing more.
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- 262 My concern is that distancing measures may mean licencing could further restrict the number of children I can accommodate. This would affect my community and staff.
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- 263 My concern is that I don't know for how long the Ministry\Government is going to provide financial help to keep the business running. If the TEF gets cut and If there are not enough children to keep the teachers and pay for the basis expenses of running the business like salaries, rent, utilities, taxes, insurance, etc, I will be forced to close.
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- 264 My concern is that the time will be too consuming for me between providing care and sanitizing. I already work 10 hours per day plus all the work that it means to own and manage home childcare.
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- 265 my concern is the govt 7xfunding will be pulled too soon. Just because sectors of business are opening does not mean my previous daycare children will immediately be coming back. Funding should be in place until each individual center has confirmed they are back to pre covid enrollment.
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- 266 My concerns are they 3 year olds especially but also 4 year olds do not understand social distancing and in some cases it could be cruel to make them. Like if they need comfort. Also we can't wear things like masks as ece's because children need to be able to see your facial expressions it's part of learning. How do you have children socially distance while playing together ? That's part of what early learning is social interactions learning how to play together.
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- 267 my concerns are whether Canada will make it mandatory for vaccinations as the Covid-19 will have mutated and there were never any vaccinations for other covid.....
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- 268 My daycare's financial situation will be touch and go in the coming months. My colleagues and I are SURE we will never get back to NORMAL in regards to daycare operations. If no improvements happen within 6 months to 1 year, I MIGHT CLOSE for good.
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- 269 My largest concern is what family child care will look like upon reopening and if with lower ratios and additional health and safety measures it will even be feasible to reopen or whether I will need to look for work elsewhere. My other concern is if my own children continue to learn from home with schools closed then I cannot run my family child care program. I do not have the time to do both their education and my program with additional cleaning and safety measures so I would be unable to return to operations until my children return to school or until home learning is finished for the school year (summer). Daycare and school would need to be on the same page in terms of when to reopen. Lastly, I do not want my children to return to school or to reopen my family child care until I am certain it is safe to do so. It is a scary time right now and I fear there is a risk that child care needs for the sake of the economy may be put before health and safety. Family child care is in my personal home and I can't put my family at risk.
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- 270 My main concern is maintaining a safe work environment when physical distancing is not consistently possible with little children
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- 271 My staff is concerned about the social distancing with regard to working with small children.
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- 272 My worry is that government funding will cease once daycares are told it is safe to reopen. I need to take into consideration that I have to provide care to my parents, one of which is immunosuppressive due to an organ transplant. I have to be 100% certain that they will not be at risk before I reopen.
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- 273 Need access to disinfectants...locally none available
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- 274 Need more clarity on who is eligible for certain benefits.
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- 275 NEED TO MAKE SURE TEF is their till phase 4 as lots my kids parents won't let them return till it's absolutely safe. So if funding not there I will have to close permanently.
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- 276 Need to make things easier to apply, especially wage Subsidy
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- 277 No concerns, we are all trying our best and it will be okay eventually.
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278	No federal benefit for a sole proprietor
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279	No wage subsidy for owner of childcare centers.
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280	None of my families want to attend I did not want to close. I had to say I was closed to get funding. I did not want to take on temporary families as My mom 80 years old lives with me.
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281	Not able to get gloves/masks/hand sanitizer
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282	Not my daycare personally but I have heard from many other providers, about the worry of not having many children returning to care until after September, and the financial difficulties that may bring.
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283	Not sure how any of this will play out. Getting back to normal is going to be hard with parents fears and my fears for safety.
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284	Not sure how it's going to look for enrollment, who can attend, what to charge, what restrictions should I put on families such as how many can attend at one time. Enrollment will also affect reinstating staff, etc.
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285	Now parents work from home, they keep us stand by and don't send their children to the daycare. So there's no income for us except the emergency funding from government for open daycares. How should we survive? It's devastating.
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286	Offering out of school care is only financially viable as a not-for-profit model in BC. However property prices, and property rental prices, are extremely high and greatly truncate available premises near schools; School Districts reflect the local rental rates with their rental prices and have been reluctant, so far, to waive or reduce rental rates. Many of us are now looking at having rental outgoings of \$2500 per month, with very little coming in from govt assistance to help with that. The other impact will be limited staff deciding to return to the workplace because of their concerns (and that of their families) of infection; we are already very impacted by low wages and a declining work force; I can foresee many childcare spaces closing or limiting numbers as an effect of the pandemic, it has bought a crisis situation to the forefront.
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287	Ongoing concerns are recruiting and retaining ECE and Infant Toddler certified educators due to the shortage of certified ECEs. To meet this challenge and further support early learning would future consideration ever be given to Provincially certified elementary school teachers receiving ECE certification without formal ECE training and practicums?
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288	Our centre gave staff the option to continue working or get laid off. The staff that continued to work are working a 4 hour day instead of a 7 hour day and are receiving their full pay. This decision was made to retain the awesome staff we have and to reduce their worry about how they are going to pay their bills. We are also very grateful to the Provincial government for financially supporting us during this difficult time because without their funding we would have definitely gone out of business due to the high cost of operations. Thank you :)
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289	Our concerns is with all of the money coming from the government we are concerned come tax time if we will be able to afford them...financial planning for the unknown is very difficult... we think we will be able to remain open but won't know for sure until we are back in session
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- 290 Our current full time enrollment is 30 children for main daycare, included is I/T, 3-5 and Kinder care program. not sure if we can have all the children in our care when we are ready to open for business as before Pre-C19. We have 6 full time employees, 3 part time and 2 responsible adult throughout the day. For A/S school care we have 24 children plus 2 teachers, this center is separate from the main daycare and it's one big room that is licensed for the capacity. Not sure how we can follow the physical distancing. Do we need to reduce the enrollment in order to operate? Thank you for this survey.
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- 291 Our funding was guaranteed throughout the crisis, and under our sponsor organization we have remained open via virtual services as an essential service. Only one staff requested a lay-off to be able to help educate her 3 school-aged children who now remain at home because of school closures.
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- 292 Our operations are a little different and it was a bit challenging to answer some of the questions the way that they are worded. Our Community Association hosts a licensed preschool out of a City Facility. The Supervisor of the facility works for the City, but the instructors/teachers work for the Community Association. We do not have rent costs as we work in partnership.
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- 293 Our organization is having a lot of staffing difficulties and staff seem to think that employers rights have gone out the window. Childcare in BC has remained open but with little to no oversight or guidance. Our provincial licensing officers have not offered much support and we are being asked what our covid numbers and ratios are rather than being provided with some guidance.
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- 294 Our province did have a temporary emergency fund for child care providers, but I found the stipulations required to receive it would cause undue stress, hardship and undermine the current contract I already had in place with families. For this reason I opted out of the emergency funding and continued to charge parents fees. A holding fee was charged to families to hold their spots while I was closed. I will be reopening May11th.
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- 295 Parents are now wanting to return but are not essential - there is no clear direction as to how to lower ratio and how long TEF funding will be available so we can make financial decisions on how we limit children and lower ration and still can afford to pay the staff and survive financially. Many lower educated positions such as RA and ECA are making more on CERB and do not want to return to work, right now they are not needed but they will likely not return if there is work until cerb runs out. We are concerned staff will not return to their jobs when covid is over. also we do not qualify for the 75% wage subsidy because we have to count the TEF as income if we are private centers which does not allow us to bring back extra staff to help with ratio. TEF was to cover operating expenses not specifically staffing. NON Profit can get both TEF and Wage subsidy they can choose to claim TEF as income or not \_ private centers have to claim it as income as far as we know - there are no clear answers for TEF and wage subsidy
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- 296 Parents being told one thing from the gov and child cares being told differently. A slow faze out of in home family childcares to large center based care, which will impact families immensely. As well as the providers who offer care.
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- 297 Parents will still have problems getting and or paying for childcare. ECEs will still be underpaid for their work. the difficulty of running a program while expecting social distancing from children and staff. the increase of sanitizing time will take away from being with children...it feels like there would need to be extra staff whose sole job is sanitizing throughout the day. extra staff means extra money available for this.
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- 298 Please advise where one can find the links to access any or all of these available funds.
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- 299 Please continue our TEF funding or at least give us notice when it will be ending so we can apply for the federal supports
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- 300 Please continue to support small childcare facilities with Temporary Emergency Funding until Sept 2020 where parents may feel more secure to have children return back to childcare. Please do not abruptly stop the funding as many centers are open and still not getting the enrollment due to fear. TEF helps pay for expenses.
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- 301 Please make the landlords offer the rent subsidy as mine is not. Please keep the TEF until the vaccine is made or we might not make it through this. Please increase the payroll amount for the emergency loan to 3,000,000 as I pay my employees well and have 46 to 50 employees as we are regulated by health and need a certain amount for the amount of children. Please allow us to access PPE and hand sanitizer through medical mart etc. by allowing us to order these items and not just the medical profession. We are paying premium prices for sanitizer right now 14 dollars for 250 ml. Children are unable to stay 6 feet from others but please make more literature regarding young children not being as susceptible as parents don't understand. We are teaching school age children the 6 foot rule but it is hard for them too. Please allow my staff a bonus from the government for each day they worked. Please allow this bonus to all not just to low paid staff. Please continue to support us through this until we have the vaccine. Thank you for your efforts.
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- 302 Policies and procedures are not clear and has been little to know support from our License officers or MCFD to help guide us through covid19. I am actually a Licensed ECE/IT/SN, in my home. Family home care has people not licensed with ECE and some are and should be recognized as being totally different. Do I reopen with less than 8? Do I make the children social distance Is it mandatory to do Temp checks keep parents out of the centre wash hands? Cleaning 2x a day is going to be a lot as I am in my house and use most of it.
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- 303 Providing good salaries is primordial. Here in BC , you have to be part of the reduction fee program in order to benefit from the wage enhancement program. Why? The reduction fee program is not a good fit for my centre. The teachers still deserve to be paid accordingly, in a province with such high real estate market and expensive living.
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- 304 Re-opening I need more children. Most parents still will not be bringing their child back! Not worth re-opening at this time
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- 305 Restart fund
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- 306 Right now I do hope that the head of the state decision should be balanced regarding the safety of the caregiver and the children and also consider that our job is not easy they should give us a very good funding and rest assured we will get compensated fairly at the same time not also too much burden to the parents regarding fees.
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- 307 Right now I have stayed open for essential services workers...some of my clients have opted to stay home and take care of their children while they work from home. The funding I receive helps with the money I lost from those clients. When everything seemingly improves post-COVID I hope the families won't lose their fee reduction initiative and or I won't lose the COFF funding I originally received pre-COVID
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- 308 Shortage of cleaning supplies. Some daycares may have received some supplies, we haven't. It's additional expense for us whether we have just 1 or 7 kids. We have to do the same extensive cleaning especially during Covid.
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- 309 Shortage of staff may be a problem because students are choosing to not work.
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- 310 Since Covid-19 I have lost 3 families as they are following the recommendations to keep their children at home. I also now have my own 3 school aged children that need to be supervised with schools being closed. With the increased need for cleaning and sanitizing and the expectation of becoming the primary educator for my own children there simply aren't enough hours in the day to be effective in all the areas I need to be. I have been forced to choose between these things and the result is that my own children's education is on the back burner. I am a single parent and sole financial provider for my family, the need to continue to have income for our basic needs means I have little choice but to remain in operation even if it is risky to do so.
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- 311 So far I have only needed to apply for the TEF which replaced the CCOFP. I am not the type of person to apply for everything available only what is needed to keep the daycare operational
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- 312 So much more cleaning and less time I am the parent of a special needs child and all his supports have been cut off so now I homeschool 3 children and have a special needs boy and 2 infants so I am way busier than normal.
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- 313 Sole proprietor of small Family Daycare business should be qualified for the CEBA to cover cost of loss and re-opening of daycare.
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- 314 Some of the parents prefer to keep the kids at home, specially teachers. They plan to bring the kids back to the daycare in September, and they don't want to pay till September.
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- 315 Staff anxiety will be challenging. This has been an area I support daily. Illness policy for families/children - Intense, but the habit of families of sending an ill child to daycare will need to be curtailed.
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- 316 Staff are fearful of being exposed to the virus because media has stated that children do not show the same symptoms as adult may experience. Not having the funding to support staff who do get sick afterwards and not being eligible for EI
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- 317 Staff are refusing to work.
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- 318 Staff in our area is extremely difficult to find. Carrying out the recommended post COVID requirements is all but impossible in an infant/toddler centre.
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- 319 Staff that are working are getting burnt out and feeling a negative impact from the community
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- 320 So parents will not return to their spots until they have their fulltime job back. Then you have the parents who were scared and still are and won't bring their kids back. then you have a wait list full of people that don't need childcare now because they have no job. then you have the people abusing the CERB and won't return as long as they are getting free money to sit at home then childcare centers are now left with no income coming in and no one to fill their empty spots and no gov't funding coming in so now what we can't make ends meets and now have to close our doors. because without our spots being full with paid fees we can't operate. So what happens when the government funding ends? And our parents and kids don't return and we can't fill those spots? The daycare funding needs to still help those whose enrollment has not gone back to normal otherwise we will be done. During this time although we would of loved too could not offer essential workers a deal or free because it was our only income coming in. Also the money took so long to arrive. Parents also had a hard time renewing their subsidy. Also the subsidy office was not made aware of the COVID 19 rules. And now if the child has recovered from say the common cold they have to stay away for 14 days so a parent cannot go to work for 10 days? but children often recover after 3-5 days? So are they going to lose their job ? and now here goes another empty spot? I feel that subsidy should also be risen for the 3-5 year olds as \$550 is not enough when fees are 1100 plus. I think either temporary or for could that subsidy be raised to support parents financially while they are returning to work perhaps not fulltime but part but at no fault of their own. What happens in September if school doesn't go back fulltime? How can parents or childcare worker with kids work? What happens in September when all graduating kindergartens leave centers to go to school but then leave again so many empty not fillable spots because of peoples financial situation? and 7x the operating grant was not enough to cover things . It was barely half of a parents fees.
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- 321 Staffing Risk for safety of children Economic hardship Transition for staff and families after COVID-19. Time will need to be taken to address the state of mental health, team building, working face to face etc.
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- 322 Staffing - lower children - lower tuition demand
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- 323 Staffing and increase salary to satisfy increased work load for day to day operating.
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- 324 Staffing as some people are unsure/anxious/just not comfortable working.....
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- 325 Staffing childcare centres in small rural communities is very difficult, and I am worried about the process of rehiring our staff when they are currently receiving government benefits.
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- 326 Staffing is a huge factor. We were in a crisis and shortage before Covid and I only see it getting worse. At this time I can afford to pay those staff that continue to work; but have a number that have refused work that are not sick nor unable to work, but that have refused due to Covid. The system has really put employer against employee and that is very sad.
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- 327 Staffing to cover sick time seems impossible. Shortage of ece and poor wage in the field does not promote retention. The financial implications for running at lower than capacity will cripple us over time. Parent participation schools operate with parents helping...we need to switch to consistent staff to reduce contact and provide adequate safety for families which means cost to hire more staff. To accomplish this we need to raise our fees significantly resulting in lower enrolment.
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- 328 Staffing was already a challenge before COVID
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- 329 Staffing. / ratios / health and safety ... illness and staff relief for small centres with only one staff
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- 330 Students are choosing not to work this summer and getting funding instead. 1st AID training needs to reopen or we won't have certified staff. Class four tests need to reopen or we won't have drivers we need to run our programs. need extra funding for in-room handwashing stations and vehicles that are better equipped for COVID.
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- 331 Subsidy is very concerning having to pay money back ? Not enough children to do social distancing for staff wages Staffing cost So much unknown
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- 332 Support for the sector needs to be sustained- not just emergency funding. Staffing is and will continue to be our greatest challenge. Staffing shortages leads to many other challenges.
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- 333 Survey covers it all.
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- 334 TEF should be continue until parents feel safe to return to childcare facility
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- 335 Temporary funding is helping alot
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- 336 Temporary Closure of the Child Care Facility- TEF for closed facilities (2 x CCOF Base Funding): It shall suggest to increase more funding in order to cover the fee of rental or mortgage that can help the facility re-open.
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- 337 Temporary Emergency Funding is good enough to maintain the center to run continuously.
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- 338 Thank you for all that you have done so far, a right step in the right direction
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- 339 Thank you for asking. As a manager/director I am worried about: staffing, funding, health and safety, licensing, and prioritizing registrations. Each of these categories has reams of information to read and wrap my brain around. I'm overwhelmed! Our Centre will survive, no problem! Local and provincial funding, as well as a waiving of the rent is certainly helping with that.
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- 340 Thank you for your help
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- 341 Thank you so much, I am so blessed to have you as our voice. I know your team is working so hard to make sure we have one. I'm honored to be part of this team and I promise to work as hard as you do to hold the line. We have extended our hours, squashed all of our extended community based programming and redesigned our in-house program. Moreover we have made the most of the slower moments and given the spaces a face lift preparing for a stay-at-home program. Thank you for the basic top up of the grants we do qualify for, although it barely manages the basic bills, it most definitely helps and we will get thru this ok. Without the grants we would have had to close indefinitely.
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- 342 Thank you to the Minister of Child Care for the increased operating funds. Without it, our parents in the emergency sectors would be without child care, our staff would be without jobs and the business would have to close down
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- 343 Thank you!
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- 344 The adjusting to COVID, time involved each day cleaning, adjusting to how we deal with 'any' sickness going forward with either myself or children and loss of wage over that time. How to restrict parents time contact during pick up and drop off but make the daycare family friendly.
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- 345 The answers from the government have been inconsistent. we are still waiting for our contribution agreement to be approved.
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- 346 The Band is very concerned about the health of the Elders in the community. We have Elders who work in the child care centre and many of the children and staff have extended family, including Elders, residing with them.
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- 347 The biggest concern is for the safety of the children and staff. Social distancing is impossible and we won't be able to keep up enhanced or lower ratios because we can't afford it. I am afraid we will be forced to operate at full capacity without being able to maintain a safe environment. We are also having trouble getting cleaning supplies. None of this is developmentally appropriate for children and I feel we are forced to meet economic needs as opposed to what is best for the children and staff without proper support and funding.
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- 348 The biggest concern right now is maintaining the lower ratio and therefore lower number of parents paying fees and if the Government reduces the funding, we will not be able to maintain for long term. Also, providing extra health and safety measures with increased number of children and staff in the program
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- 349 The centre is currently full of school age children as school has been postponed. How will centres accommodate these families if school does not resume at the same time that non-essential worker parents are returning to work as the province opens up again. Please keep them in mind.
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- 350 the cerb requirements of 5000 income previous year has disqualified some of my newer employee who took the leave, did not qualify for cerb or ei. I am not sure how they are surviving financially.
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- 351 The challenges are the mixed messages parents are receiving. I will not open until it is safe to do so. Sick children with symptoms will be sent home. Parents don't understand why? for 10 days and are not preparing to find alternate care. They believe what they read and hear re: media. I believe our situation is different. You cannot get an infant or toddler to understand distancing/ not playing with each other. Parents just want to go back to work. If this lasts for more than 4 months I will close permanently.
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- 352 The challenges facing the daycare centre will be staffing in such a way that meets ratios and also does not cause financial loss to the centre.
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- 353 The funding for COVID has actually saved our preschool site temporarily. However we deal with some of the most vulnerable children as a special needs preschool. Our children are more vulnerable than most during this time.
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- 354 The general mental health issues caused by such radical changes in our daily routine
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- 355 The Childcare industry in BC has received very little guidance and direction during this pandemic. In an industry that is run with strict regulations and policies, this has been unacceptable, leaving owners and workers in the dark. It has left already underpaid, overworked and underappreciated people jaded and burnt out. We are still waiting for guidelines on how to operate, now and moving forward. While the expectations of operating with smaller ratios with higher cleaning and operational responsibilities will protect and prevent illness spread, it is not financially feasible for many operators. Please remember, childcare owners and workers do not enter this field for money. We enter this field for the passion and love for children and child development. Please keep this in mind while making your decisions, don't extinguish the flame.
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- 356 The children number will be decreased until Sep this year. More than half children will not back until Sep. (I asked their parents)
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- 357 The conference call where they are going on about how we are such low risk in child care the same day as news breaking about a second outbreak in a daycare with multiple staff and children testing positive and telling us not to worry about families that are blatantly disregarding distancing because the risk that they have anything while bringing their children to daycare is low - right after telling us that people can infect others for 2 days before showing symptoms but that the need for childcare outweighs the risk to providers and their families... lies about how no parent would be told to isolate away from their child - when I was stuck in my bedroom for 5 weeks sick and not allowed to even hug my daughter. I have almost no faith or trust in the government officials and their interpretation of what is going on. As an in-home daycare I am not allowed any regular staff so I can't hire anyone to come in and work even a day every other week to try to do the extra cleaning or paperwork or have a brain break with everything going on - I am concerned about burn out. A lot more than before just working 80 hours a week.
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- 358 The government says we are to "reopen" soon. I didn't close... but have been required to run at half capacity. There is no direction about going back to full numbers, no direction about how to transition from essential service workers to regular attendance, and since I am not allowed to charge parents (TEF agreement) my contracts are all null. I have to hold space for all the families, but they are not obligated to return at any time. I have no recourse. One of my staff went on EI/CERB and refused to come back unless I signed a contract at a much higher wage. I have had to pay her severance pay and hire someone else in her place. If TEF funding ends before my parents all come back I am afraid the business will fail. There is so much uncertainty
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- 359 The government should recognize child care providers as essential workers and give extra money/pay to support childcare providers to keep their business open, for example top-up for facilities that open neither they are in the government program or not.
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- 360 The greatest concern will be whether or not families will consider returning to a preschool early learning environment. Will social distancing implications reduce enrollment numbers and what impact will this have on a centres ability to remain open and servicing our community?
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- 361 The lack of guidelines and information from governing body on how to proceed. There is no difference with information between home based family childcare centres versus out of home centre group cares. My home should be my "safe" place and very difficult to do with multiple families coming into it on a daily basis.
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- 362 The greatest reason for not sending their children to my daycare was fear. All around us are constant fear messages. All day long I am calming fears. It's mentally exhausting. Some essential workers are taking advantage that other regular daycare children are not attending and they send their kids for 'socializing' not that they have to work. Some of them are not as vigilant with social distancing and then "contaminate" my daycare. This puts my daycare and the children I look after at risk for infection and also causes some of my regular parents to withdraw their children even though they need care.
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- 363 The guidelines and information from our province on teleconferences with providers and by email have been very unclear, and at times in direct conflict with our PHO and information about health and safety has been very slow in being disseminated out to providers. Every health authority has been making different decisions, the province has been changing funding rules constantly and sending out many emails. The lack of clear information has been overwhelming and exhausting leaving many providers feeling very discouraged and frustrated. I think many will leave the field all together.
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- 364 The lack of directive for childcare in BC has been a big challenge for all providers
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- 365 The lack of qualified ECE front line staff will be increasingly challenging to find in an already challenging time pre COVID-19. This will make it difficult to offer care to more families that need it.
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- 366 The lack of qualified staff to hire to meet licensing regulation standards and ratios continues to be a major problem
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- 367 The lack of the unknown has caused a lot of stress for Educators and especially for the Management team at our Centre. As an ED I shoulder the full responsibility of making the decisions and recommendations to our Board of Director. Some level of funding for additional pay and for professional development would be helpful. Also a real lack of support by our Licensing Authority is sad. As a 30+ year ECE I am hoping that Governments will learn from this experience and recognise ECE as a Profession and designate as an Essential Service moving forward.
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- 368 The long term impact of covid-19 on not for profit's to meet emergent needs of community. The move to Ministry of Education delivering childcare will have an impact on childcare centres as school age care often offsets the higher costs of infant toddler care. If this moves forward more broadly multi service orgs will need support to continue delivering the higher ratio programs.
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- 369 The media makes it sound like we have support from the provincial or municipal government when we don't. Also, we don't qualify for federal assistance. We are an essential service that gets forgotten.
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- 370 The most challenging thing in child care is finding adequate trained staff. I think the on-going need for social distancing will probably lessen the child/supervisor ratio causing more challenges in finding adequate amount of trained staff. I think the government should be subsidizing the wages of Early Childhood Educators at a much higher amount plus they need to offer more free training to get more people into the field.
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- 371 The new symptoms regarding children that might be associated with Covid-19
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- 372 The operating funding is so much less for family daycares. We may not have our ece but we still do the same or more teaching / crafting and outings with the children Our operating costs are just as high
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- 373 The pandemic has proven that we need a better system of childcare both at the Provincial and Federal level. Funding, staffing and meeting the challenges of a post-Covid world need to be addressed at all levels and guidance should be given to ensure the safety and well being of our little people who cannot speak up for themselves.
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- 374 The situation is untenable. Open centers can maintain staff and pay overhead, but closed centers like ours did not get enough support to stay on hold long enough to cope with ongoing expenses and reopening, when we don't even know if we will have families. BUT! We are supposed to hold spaces for families, but don't have any guarantees that they will return to take the space!!!!!!!!!!!! Maybe they are out of work now, or have reduced hours, salaries and cannot afford the space! Centers must need to fill the empty space, but that takes time to match.... empty spaces every day cost money in labour and overhead. The future is untenable and BLEAK. NO HELP for small businesses like ours and the criteria did not include us at all. :( Likely we will have to close so I do not lose more money than I already have.
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- 375 the staff that were laid off are receiving 75% of their wage, rather than going on ei, because we are able to because of the ccof grant.
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- 376 The TEF group daycares receive is enough to help keep our daycare going. If it is cut off too soon we may have to close as majority of parents are not comfortable bringing their children back to care.
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- 377 The temporary emergency funding is very helpful
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- 378 The time to apply and understand all this is overwhelming
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- 379 The uncertainty of the situation is the worst part of it. We do not know when we are going to reopen, what specific measures we will need to take for safety, whether or not schools will be reopening prior to the end of the school year, how we will enforce social distancing with small children, or really anything about what our operations are going to look like when all of this is over.
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- 380 The way that funding is set up does not work for centres that have other community programs attached. We do not meet the requirements for the funding.
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- 381 The world has been told to continue social distancing well into the future. Please TELL the daycare providers exactly how that is to be done with children 0-5 years of age. Please TELL the daycare providers of FAMILY DAYCARES how exactly we are to keep the germs of each family out of our houses ? The group centers can be cleaned by staff during the day on a regular basis and at night by janitors. HOW can family daycares be expected to bring all these families into their home on a daily basis ? I feel NO THOUGHT or safety concerns have been addressed here at all .
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- 382 There has been no help from our licensing officers in regards to COVID-19. We are finding it difficult to find supplies that we would regularly use such as gloves for diaper changing.
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- 383 There has been some confusion for me, concerning Preschools. Especially with re-opening when school starts. There has been a lot of information for Day cares. If there is still social distancing in schools, how does that effect preschool? I have a full enrollment for September. I also have appreciated the CERB Benefit. It has been very helpful for me and for the staff I had to lay off. This lay off effected 7 of us.
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- 384 There hasn't been enough adequate direction in regards to best health and safety practices, specifically for in home childcare centres. It's a major mental load trying to determine exactly what in home centres should or shouldn't be doing in terms of cleaning, physical distancing measures and ratios/capacity etc.
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- 385 There is a great deal of concern regarding our yearly gaming grant. We rely heavily on these funds and are concerned that they may be diminished or non-existent in the future.
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- 386 There is concern with keeping social distancing and operating at max or close to max numbers it would be difficult and possible for a reduction in numbers. This could decrease income and effect costs to run the child care facility.
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- 387 There should be more clear policies/guidelines provided by local health authorities for daycares to implement/follow (some sort of template) so we are all not trying to figure out what the hell to do, and cleaning/protective equipment supplies provided, like proper thermometers for screening staff & children. I'm feeling so confused with all the conflicting information, frustrated with the jack of help/directions and stressed/anxious as I don't want to put my family/myself at risk. Be more strict with community social distancing—and be clear, so many people aren't filling it but I'm supposed to let all these children in my home and I have no idea where they've been or how many people they've been in contact with?? There should be financial support for suck days as I can forsee having to shut down many times during the future now. Parents bring there kids sick to centers no matter what—even with strict illness policies.
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- 388 There was a shortage of childcare in my city before Covid, now with having my 3 children at home I have a couple of spots and will have to turn away a lot of my families.
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- 389 There was no provisions or considerations for all the essential workers who now had to pay for full day fees due to the schools being closed. For some Nurses etc they are paying an additional \$50 a day out of their own pocket so they can go to work. I didn't charge my families that due to the hardship it would have placed but the affordable child care benefit or another service should have been set up to provide funds to parents having to pay large amounts of money to go to work that they normally wouldn't have had to pay had the schools been opened. It was as if they got forgotten. Full Time School age child care fees like summer programs etc were not considered during this pandemic.
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- 390 There would probably be a lot of complain about fees if anyone has to stay home due to a cold symptoms since most of our daycare children are still young and tend to have running nose or cough for a long period of time.
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- 391 Thinking about if the neighbourhood playgrounds are clean, whether I should bring bleach every time and clean it... It feels a bit hard on mental health of people(clean, clean, clean, do not cough...)
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- 392 This centre is a Prototype site of a universal childcare model in BC, so it has continued to receive it's full prototype funding. This is a unique situation.
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- 393 This is a good time to expand the \$10.00 day daycare with so many families with lost income. I know our centre would welcome the opportunity in a heart beat as we did apply for the initial launch. NOW is a good time to add some facilities to the program!!
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- 394 This is gonna make it hard for daycare to stay open because we don't make enough money before this
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- 395 This pandemic has really highlighted, for me, the need to be properly funded by the government. The amount of information and work I had to go through while opening for essential families, while also making video's and supporting our other families that couldn't attend the centre during this time. I also had to help my only staff member figure out government aid so she could be home with her children and return to work once we re-opened for all families. I also have 3 children but could not stay home, if I had closed, I would have never reopened - the financial hit would have been too hard and I needed to receive the 7x base funding to survive this. I have asthma and struggled with it through this. I cannot work and physically distance from children so my fear was heightened and my work load increased with no staff or subs available. Early Childhood Educators need more care, recognition and support - this really stood out during this time. We have a lot of overhead fee's to pay each month and most centres could not financially afford to close.
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- 396 Those children that parents can't take the subsidy, they don't pay ,we should keep their space then we loss full money for each of them also I got two hundred deduct for under3 and 57 for over 3 when children didn't come cause covid the government doesn't Pay to us, I have 4 children the stop to pay one cent but i have to keep their space.
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- 397 Though we were not mandated to close we were if we were covid suspected. In fact we were mandated to remain open to offer care to essential workers. What does reopening look like to essential workers vs. My usual and loyal families
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- 398 To date as FCC we have received no set guidelines to follow re COVID19 so much of this survey is pointless. I have a big enough space and set policies in place to feel comfortable continuing care for families but many are too scared to even think of opening. Guidelines instead of RECCOMENDATIONS or suggestions could be helpful
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- 399 To date we feel supported by govt funding. Support lacks in policies and mis information/ timely info. Very concerned if TEF gets removed too soon with low numbers as then many childcare facilities will be forced to put money over safety or parents will be forced to pay and won't be able to afford it and that isn't right.
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- 400 Too much administration work to file the claims
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- 401 Total lack of information from the Board that runs the non-profit society caused added stress to workers. Not having concrete information regarding reopening from any provincial/city adds to worker stress. Teleconference held 29 April by MCFD, Ministry of Health and Safety directly aimed at childcare workers helped give information as to how to keep safe when/ if reopening. Clearer guidelines needed as we come under both Ministry of Education and Vancouver Coastal Health. Total lack of care/concern/information from employer shows that staff are not valued, that it is all about money. A parent-run Board has many challenges. This proves that image and finances are more important than staff and staff retention.
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- 402 Transitioning out of Gov COVID funding back to family funded could be a hardship as not all families will be ready to return at the same time reducing enrollment in-turn reducing income for the business or placing families in a financially challenging position of paying for a space when they are not yet ready to return to work.
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- 403 Transmission by children has not been fully proved either way and social distancing is difficult to promote amongst younger children. With children aged 5 -12 years in a centre are the risks greater depending on the child's age?
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- 404 Trying to keep part-time staff due to covid safety rulings and having the funding to pay them
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- 405 Two things come to mind: Covid happened at the worst possible time for our field - it happened when most daycare centres are re-registering for the next school year. It happened when we were marketing and advertising....so because of this unexpected pandemic, our potential customers were not interested in looking at enrolling their children for the future months ahead; and also they were not able to view our facility and meet with the teachers; hence, we could not acquire any new business and now have an extremely low-enrollment for September. We may have to close if we cannot bounce back from that. The second issue is that in order to keep safe and continue to distance the children, we will have to take less children per class or higher extra staff in order to keep up with the cleaning/distancing, etc...therefore, it does not make my business a profitable venture anymore - no matter how much I love teaching and caring for children - I simply cannot make less money - our field is not a high-paying field to begin with, even if you are an owner - as owners work an abundance of hours behind the scenes making our hourly rate almost to minimum wage for the amount of hours spent apart from the front-lines. So it extremely likely that I will shut down if I cannot get enough students enrolled in September and although that is not a "funding" issue up front - it becomes a direct result of the pandemic; with less kids enrolled, I cannot be profitable. I do not see a way out of this, as we will end up like the restaurants - less customers means less profit which means a less viable business model. I will contemplate shutting my doors.
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- 406 Unfortunately as I just reopened in October 2019 after closing in July 2018 because of lease ending , My total employment income paid in the 2019 calendar year was under the Cdn.\$20,000 for CEBA . That \$40k would really help me . Any-other year for that last 18 years my total employment income was between 50 and 100k :(
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- 407 Unfortunately because I run a one man show, it will be very difficult for me to maintain appropriate sanitizing measures and not over work myself. It will also be extremely difficult to maintain social distancing with my age group and space
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- 408 Unhindered ability to purchase PPE and cleaning supplies (including hand sanitizer) should be guaranteed for open Child Care facilities.
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- 409 Unless things return to normal by Sept, meaning no lower amount of children allowed to attend or lower attendance by families, we will be forced to close our doors to the 28 school age children and 20 preschool children who attend each week.
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- 410 Vancouver Coastal Health has sent a guiding document for assessing health on a daily basis. The form looks user friendly but am not sure how this will be received on a daily basis when families are eager to have some support and children are eager to return during this time.
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- 411 Very appreciative towards the government both provincially and federally for assisting day-cares the way they have. My hope is that things will return to normal and my employees will return. This field is very difficult to retain staff and find staff that genuinely want to work. It really caters to younger people and with that I find most challenging those that feel a sense of entitlement and take every opportunity to not work.
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- 412 Wage subsidies need to be hire. We are limited to the number of children we can have therefore we are capped. Raising my tuition is hard on families when cost of living is so high so raising my tuition therefore reduces my enrollment. Our ECE workers are essential to our community and we are not recognized for that. We are seen and paid as glorified babysitters and after all this, it is clear that our worth has not been noticed. I am concerned with the ratio or limits licensing might put on post covid. If I have to reduce the number of kids I have in my centre, that will hugely impact me financial if there is no support from the government to make up for the lost revenue
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- 413 Want to be able to provide a program that is safe for children, families and staff.
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- 414 We accepted an offer on our house back in January, with the closing date April 22. The plan was to hire contractors to quickly get the new location ready for home daycare, but due to covid 19 those plans were quickly postponed. Before moving to the new location I was eligible for the Temporary Emergency Funding (which provided 2x my base rate funding through the CCOF). After moving I was no longer eligible. That funding helped to keep the bills paid so I could focus on reopening my home daycare, without the funding I am considering going back to work and possibly not reopening my doors until we are financially stable again.
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- 415 we are a fully funded not for profit Aboriginal Headstart Daycare, we have not had a decrease in funding
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- 416 We are a not for profit preschool who are not claiming any funding from the government because our owner has suspended rent and our other outgoings are minimal. I do not feel that we, as a centre, should make money from this crisis. However the loss of fees for the months that we are closed, the loss of enrolment for the new school year and the potential cost of returning with Covid 19 measures in place could impact our spending ability in the program for the coming years. Yet the benefits offered, as far as I understand them are aimed at those who are losing money due to continued expenses and not projected losses.
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- 417 We are a preschool located in an elementary school and have not been able to run as the school has been closed to all students.
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- 418 We are also struggling with finding cleaning and sanitization supplies. We are willing to pay for it but it is very hard to find them during this pandemic. We are concerned that the extra funding might stop once the pandemic is over and we might not be able to cover our costs then with reduced enrolment.
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- 419 We are concerned that our enrollment will not immediately return to pre-COVID levels and the Provincial government funding will cease to supplement.
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- 420 We are currently in a situation where we have front line essential service workers that are looking for daycare, but we do not have enough staff willing to come back to work, in order to accommodate the demand.
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- 421 We are currently open. We have concerns about staff health and safety, impossible to maintain social distancing with children under 5 years old and the additional teachers required to clean only makes our space more full and less room to keep apart from each other. There is conflicting information from the health officers about how regular businesses should operate safely versus how child care facilities should operate...worried about the next wave of cases and how i would operate if any staff were to become ill.
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- 422 We are just so uncertain that families will come back or decide to join us again in September as Preschool is not necessary for families and is not usually used by full time working families.
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- 423 We are lucky to be part of a larger organization that is subsidizing the wages for the ECE staff.
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- 424 We are mostly concerned that if the TEF funding from the government is removed and we have lower numbers of children due to COVID 19, we won't make enough money to sustain staff wages etc.
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- 425 We are not part of group centres to revive food fund from government nor small business to revive \$40000 loan. We are desperate
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- 426 We are not sure if we are able to have adequate enrollment to continue to operate. If we have low enrollment, staff's hours will be reduced.
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- 427 We are planning on reopening but it will have to be decreased enrollment if social distancing is required as the building is too small to accommodate our children with this in place.
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- 428 We are presently installing outside sink and outdoor sinks for hand washing . We built personal cubbies so children's items do not touch anyone else's belongings . We are working on arrival and pick up procedures . Multi age daycare is in my home and my own children are present ( no school in session) .I will not be able to have full capacity <must count my children in my numbers . If parents do not return can we afford to open with only half capacity ? What happens if we have to close again ? Financial concerns are very uncertain and cause concern for the future . What happens if school children go back to school and still need after school care .Are they exposing daycare children to germs and covid ? Will I be able to provide care for them ? We have mixed age groups babies to after school , limiting outside exposure may be a requirement to attend daycare? This will be more loss in revenue. Will I be able to employ my Assistant again with lower attendance ? Many unanswered questions?
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- 429 We are receiving the temporary emergency funding which is helping a lot, and allowing us to stay afloat. Thank you for that!
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- 430 We are taking much risks but I understand the need for us to keep open because parents really need daycares. My facility meets all the government standard and always rated above average, yet I charge very low fees compared with others. I was planning to raise fees before this covid thing but now it is a problem. My current rates are: \$850 ages 0-3, \$700 ages 3-5, usually paid only \$610 because I do not charge parents anymore who are subsidized by the government.
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- 431 We feel fortunate to be a prototype centre in a good financial standing. I have a high concern regarding staff illness as we must meet child staff ratios
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- 432 We are very concerned as to how it will look if and when we reopen? Will we have enough children? Will parents still send their children? Will we be able to have all 20 children present in a class? How will we manage to monitor sick children? What will happen if a staff member is sick? What if the pandemic heats up again and have to close again? How do we structure fee payments?
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- 433 We are working in cooperation with the school district and there has been a breakdown of communication between school and daycare staff. Children have shown up at the center without the staff having any prior knowledge which has created extra stress for staff.
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- 434 We feel we are managing things adequately at this time. Going day by day and hoping for the best, and will need to make adjustments for physical distancing with the daycare parents as more children return.
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- 435 We had a hard time to attract staff before this pandemic and I am worried that with the extra stress people will not want to return to work and we won't be able to offer the same service we provided before this started
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- 436 We have a few further concerns about how we can instill confidence in families to return to the center. During the pandemic we have been called up and pointed out as Essential Service workers, we would like to see better monetary compensation to our child care workers to equate to the responsibilities and risks involved in working through a health crisis. Having to navigate through this pandemic with little to no direction at all from our governing bodies on how to keep our staffing teams as well as children in our care safe, was challenging as we were largely left on our own to make the best decisions we could. We hope that in future health crisis' we have learned from this outbreak that faster communication is key.
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- 437 We have already lost fall registrations and do not anticipate a full return of all children. Income will be significantly reduced.
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- 438 We have just opened and would like guidance around how best to provide care during the crisis. WE are inventing our own practices with working with half of our licensed capacity. Keeping staff working with only 4 children instead of 8 is where the financial burden will become great in the long run. Right now we are receiving the 75 % wage which is helping for sure but with half of our parent fees we will run at a loss. As child care is always struggling this is going to kill the work we have done to move the Child Care sector forward. I hope the funding which has been put in place will remain for the long term and for the Government to see that child care when funded properly can be great for our country.
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- 439 We have not been directed as to who we should be proving care for specifically. I am just doing EW, however others are open to parents who aren't even working. Makes me look like the bad guy! I would have loved a directive! No grey. Just black and white
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- 440 We have two centres. One operates out of the recreation centre and it is closed because the centre is closed. We have lost everything and laid off all staff except me. The other one is foundation and not for profit. there we are down to 5 kids out of 20.
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- 441 We hope all government levels will continue to support the Child Care sector in the post-COVID operating environment
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- 442 Worried about the possibility of having to close for a second time if There is a second wave in the fall.
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- 443 We hope that the safety of our staffs families, communities and elders will be thought of as much as the “work force” other than ECE. Our staff also have compromised family members , personal health and concerns- just like front line workers... so what are the NEW regulations going to lol like? Are our community health officers going support us and provide clear information? What do we have staff who become unwell during a day? Do we operate out of ratio? ( we highly disagree with this) or do we send the over limit children home? We are VERY concerned
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- 444 We know kids are not effected by covid. So there are few reasons to not return back to school and back to regular childcare activities.
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- 445 We need more guidance. We need new requirements for ratios. We need new requirements for square footage for each child, current requirements are not adequate for dealing with covid 19.
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- 446 We need some guidance as how to operate our centre as safely as possible. Not only to ensure the health and safety of the children and their families, but also the staff and their families as well. If we run at full capacity, we are concerned with the amount of connections and how big our "chain" is. We would appreciate some sort of guidance.
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- 447 We need to know how long the TEF funding will be in place for or at least one full months notice of it ending. We also need to know specifically what “lower enrolment “ means in actual numbers. Like “no group shall be larger than 15 kids in 3-5yr old programs and 18 kids in grade 1-5 programs until the TEF funding ends” for instance
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- 448 We remain concerned about the financial impact associated with requirements for physical distancing
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- 449 We reopened for May 1, 2020; We are having a hard time staffing as most of the teachers are not wanting to risk coming back with all the uncertainty. I also feel that the teachers are getting more on EI then working so they have chosen to stay home for May 2020. Government should be more diligent in not making it so lucrative for staff to stay home. Also ECE ASSISTANTS SHOULD RECEIVE WAGE ENHANCEMENT FOR WORKING DURING THE PANDEMIC PERIOD. They are getting lower pay then ECE but are more willing to work as they need the income. They should get more recognition.
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- 450 We should applied all the rules to keep everybody safe.
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- 451 We will be closing permanently at the end of June.
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- 452 We would appreciate for any support. But there’s a big problem. Application is taking too long time for every benefit. Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity.
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- 453 We would like more guidance around covid safety for families and staff specific to daycare and the supplies to carry us forward such as hand sanitizer stations, signage, visors and to know that the prov and fed funding will carry us forward until we can be up and running fully.
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- 454 We wanted to bring base funding like group day care .
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- 455 We were able to obtain some grant money from a local organization that is helping offset costs
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456 We should be provided with time to prepare and organize. We have to put together new policies, re-arrange our environments. Staff should be supported when they are stressed out or burnt out. This isn't just difficult work now, it always has been challenging. The government should include us when they make decisions and stop making public announcements about us without having the courtesy of telling us first and or including us in decisions that affect us 100%. When parents find out information before we do it sends a very negative message and makes us look incompetent and unprofessional. Subsidies only cover 20 days in a month( this is not a full month, they don't cover stats(everyone is paid for stats.) I don't pay staff based on attendance. We are not respected or supported to be involved in professional development. We have to pay out of our own pockets to keep programs going and children stimulated and to meet their needs. What we do and the fact that we are essential workers goes unnoticed. People le that clean earn more than Early Childhood Educators. I've been in this field for 35 years, have taught Early Childhood Education in Adult Education and there has been no change in the way that we are treated. Parents must be supported and Early Childhood Educators must be supported in delivering high quality programs. We can't afford to hire cleaners (who earn more than we do) so we always have to do all the maintenance and cleaning, on top of everything else.

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457 We were wondering how long the TEF funding would last. If it will continue to support the parents who are still laid off and cannot return to work. How will they pay to hold their spots if the TEF funding is no longer available.

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458 What are your concerns and what are you fearful of ? •How to maintain social distance within a child care setting •How to provide the emotional needs of a child while maintaining distance •How to protect staff, children and their families as we widen their social circles •How to continue to maintain ratios when staff are sick and away for 14 days with a lack of qualified staff in the hiring market • All the adjusted policies and procedures that need to be in place and communicated before re-opening • Unpaid sick leave – most employees live from paycheck to paycheck and can't afford to take unpaid sick leave. What do you need to help you get back to/remain in business? Need a checklist of things that need to be in place before we open. A baseline of the standard of care expected during this time, including adult to child ratios – more specific guidelines. Examples and strategies on how to run a centre while maintaining social distancing.

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459 When we reopen we will need to consider additional safety measures to ensure children in our care are safe (and to reduce the spread of covid). Some of the things we are considering include separating children in different parts of the facility so they are in smaller groups, reducing contact amongst staff and children. We have a facility that would allow us to separate into groups of 4 (instead of a large group of 8), however, we would then need to increase our staff hours substantially and this simply is not possible for us with our current financial situation. If we must maintain some level of social distancing then we will be required to remain closed until restrictions lift. Increasing operating funding seems like the most logical way for the province to support childcare facilities to reduce capacity, so that interpersonal contact is reduced. This would enable us to resume services fully and bring our staff back to work.

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460 When working with infants & toddlers, keeping distance is impossible, I am worried about it and the COVID related illnesses with kids is still a concerned issue with no much information yet.

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461 Worried about bringing children into my home because of vivid 19. I have children of my own I need to keep safe

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- 462 While in BC we were not mandated to close, many families, especially those in the medical field, started to withdraw their children or simply stopped attending. Instead of about 20 of our 24 filled spaces being attended each day, only about 6 on average were used each day during our last week of operation. We have not yet made firm plans to reopen and have had only one family inquire about our plans to reopen. In our community, the two largest child care organizations have offered care for Tier One workers, and reportedly have not had a lot of attendance, although it is on the upswing. One of my concerns is that there is very little guidance from the Ministry of Health about protocols to put in place to help ensure the health and safety of the children and staff, other than to say that children are at low risk to get or transmit COVID-19 and that our usual ratios and cleaning routines are fine...while at the same time, children being cared for in schools are in smaller groups and expected to maintain social distancing. I am also concerned about staffing when we do reopen, as if schools are not open to all families, many of my staff will have school aged children at home and consequently may not be able to come to work. Building the confidence of staff and families is crucial to resuming any kind of normal operations. I fully expect that our numbers will be lower than usual for quite some time...hopefully, the demand for child care services and the availability of staff will offset each other! Staffing is an ongoing issue...while we have a wonderful core of ECEs and ITEs, it is always a challenge to hire and retain part time and casual staff. I did have hope for the future as our province and local college have increased training opportunities, and combined with the Wage Enhancement program, I could see a bit of light at the end of the tunnel...how the entry of new ECEs into the field will be impacted by COVID-19 is yet to be seen.
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- 463 While we can support ourselves at this time, I am concerned that transitioning back to full enrollment may create staffing and enrollment issues that will be very challenging and create financial losses. It would be good to have some type of top up funding (if needed) to assist during the transition time.
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- 464 Will be a lot of responsibility and hard work keeping: The distance, more cleaning, no cleaning supplies. Will created a lot of stress. Finding an assistant was hard and will be HARDER post-COVID
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- 465 Will government 75% funding continue to be available as more centres open? Will we actually be considered along with every other industry and the education sector instead of just treating us like glorified babysitters?
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- 466 Will parents want to use this service? Will staff feel safe? What if staff get sick and need to be off for 10 days? What will coverage look like? Will I have coverage? Will our funder feel the service is viable if we reduce number of children? Will our childminding close?
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- 467 with BC reopening the business starting Mid May, I am worried that more parent will need to send their child to daycare and put our educators and myself who can not practice social distancing, wear glove or mask at higher risk of getting infected by Covid 19, also, bleach and hand sanitizing product are hard to obtain due to long line up or out of stock.
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- 468 With getting the x7 ccof. There is little to no information on what other programs we can apply for in conjunction with our x7 ccof.
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- 469 Without the TEF we would be in a very different situation
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- 470 wondering how do we make parents are feeling safely to sending their children into daycare
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471 With the current new social distancing rules for daycares I am unable to keep my daycare open as advised by licensing this week. It makes me very sad after over 30 years, regardless of my good standing and very low hazard ratings. This means that even though the parents whom want to and were told that they could return to daycare once their work opened and promised that their child's spot would be there for them even though not paying to keep the spot by the government will not be. I am now moving into nonoperational because of covid-19. I had chosen to stay open throughout the covid-19 and am looking after essential worker's children in order to help during these trying times. Licensing has informed me that they feel I do not have the kind of space now required for social distancing. Regardless of the cleaning and hand washing and the precautions taken to limit exposures there is no way that I can maintain 6 feet apart in our house or stop interactions that are now required of all daycares as family daycare still falls under the same as group regulations. Unless family daycares are made some exemptions from group daycares whom are dealing with a much larger group of families and germs it will be hard for family daycares to reopen as promised. Family daycares are just that Family, and that is why families made the choice to send their kids to us. We consider the few other families involved in our care an extension of our own so exposures are already limited more than in the group daycare settings where you have numerous families involved and what they have all been exposed to is multiplied. When it comes to having separate stations set up for the kids and having them rotate many of us do not have that kind of space as we are also sharing our homes space with our regular family life. Family daycares are a much smaller, more intimate type of care, which means less exposure chances in general as there are less families involved. Kids are going to interact whether with one, two or 15 kids through out the day. Stations are not going to stop this. They will be exposed to germs once they are in the daycare setting whether they are going from station to station in small groups or not. Only way to avoid totally would be to stay at home or the kids are playing by themselves in a daycare. Once you put a couple of 2/3 year olds together things are being shared from hand to mouth and a station won't stop that they will already be exposed. Younger kids drool, cough without covering etc.. only continuous wiping of toys/ surfaces, hands will help which family daycares are still able to do. Yes taking precautions such as cleaning, wiping, sanitizing, throughout the day and continuous washing hands makes total sense for all daycares .. but the social distancing required in daycares as set up now does not work well for so many of our younger kids and that is not what many parents want to choose for various reasons. The 1 to 3 year olds need that free time to interact physically with other children in order to grow and learn the social cues. I have been open for over 30 years and it does not look like I will be able to continue care for my families if we are required to follow the same regulations as the larger groups. It makes sense that with less families involved in our daycare that there already is less chances of exposures happening there and I don't think that is taken into consideration. So many regulations already are aimed at the group setting forgetting that we are different and don't take into consideration that we are a much smaller intimate family setting. I feel bad for what is to happen with my current families and children if some considerations are not taken for the family daycares. Honestly, I don't see how any daycares can be open if we are expected to keep kids apart as kids will and should be able to interact within reason of course. They need to for their physical and mental health, otherwise they may as well be kept at home to be guaranteed of no germs. [more >]

[*continued*] It is not possible, realistic or healthy for them to be in such controlled areas through out their day at these very young ages. With the older kids it makes a bit more sense and is more plausible however even with these I can not envision them not interacting physically at times. No matter the regulations kids even in larger centres are not going to be safe even with having the space of setting up different stations as they will be around other kids unless they are playing by themselves all day, all we can honestly do is clean. Let's hope this is not for long as we and kids especially need social interactions. Precautions always will be necessary especially in this new world but kids still need to be kids within reason. I know my families will be wanting and expecting to come back to my care when their jobs return as that is what the government committed to and we know that there was already a daycare shortage which will now be even worse if we have to stay closed . Family daycares once the emergency funding and other financial aides are closed will not be able to stay closed or in limbo much longer as we have already been working at losses in income so they will move on to find other incomes, jobs, which will be a loss for parents in need causing even more shortages in care

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## Nunavut

- 1 This had caused an anxiousness and an emotional let down! The children not being able to come and socialize together! The opportunities lost or having to put on hold saddens me! Even though we are in contact often! It is hard to not be open and operating as we once did. I miss my work. My involvement with the children and being productive! Such a change!
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- 1 Comme je l'ai mentionné à mon inspecteur au Child Care Services le financement reçu durant cette crise pourrait être plus favorable aux garderies. ils nous ont augmenté un peu pour notre niveau de formation acquis, ils paient 100 pour cent les frais de garde à la place des parents mais ils nous ont enlevé la partie subvention pour la section enfant ce qui résulte à une perte pour moi. Il aurait été plus simple de nous laisser la partie enfant dans le direct operating grant que les enfants soient présent ou non et que les parents touchés directement par la situation présente une demande d'aide pour les frais de garde auprès de Child Care Services. L'augmentation que j'ai reçu pour mon niveau de formation je croyais l'avoir reçu pour m'aider dans cette période parce que je dois travailler 10h avec les enfants et 2 h de plus pour tout désinfecter et préparer mes activités. Mais ce n'était pas le cas. C'est ma seule déception mais je suis satisfaite du déroulement en générale du Child Care Services avant et pendant cette crise sanitaire.

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- 2 I am very grateful that our local government stepped in to assist with parent fees and increase of direct operation grant. I am thankful that child care workers were taken into consideration.

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- 3 I'm very concerned about the funding Yukon government has provided because it is based on a new formula that removes much of our original funding, and we are not allowed to charge parent fees so we are unable to cover our costs or take part in federal wage subsidy programs

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- 4 Messaging has been inconsistent and often not followed operationally.

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- 5 My concern is the health and safety of the young children who are vulnerable and the staff of daycares that are currently open. How to practice physical distancing with the younger children is impossible. Staff need to change toddler diapers and help feed them, comfort/hug them when the parent leaves or if child injures themselves.

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- 6 Nous sommes privilégié que le gouvernement territorial ait bonifié son fonds d'opérations. Cela nous permet de garder le cap. Nous avons dû fermer notre installation au centre-ville et le gouvernement paye 100% des dépenses du bâtiment. tout de même nous aurons une année financière déficitaire et nous sommes inquiets de pouvoir ouvrir à pleine capacité car la moitié de nos éducatrices proviennent de l'extérieur du Canada. Le défis est amplifié pour nous car nos services sont offerts en français seulement. Merci d'avoir créer ce sondage.

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- 7 psychological issues will be significant, in both parents and children. if some stores, restaurants, etc dont reopen I wont have clients, compliance with regulations to prevent covid spread will be nearly impossible, xpensive not realistic and ineffective.

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- 8 Since COVID 19 the staff have been experiencing higher levels of stress. Stress have been the main reason for sick days in last 2 months.

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- 9 The greatest difficulty I see is resuming "normal" operations. Presently all our staffing and building costs are covered, and we do not charge fees. However, if numbers are reduced due to covid, our overhead costs will remain, and great government funding will be required to continue.

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- 10 We are being made to police new regulations, yes they made new regulations overnight, and we are unable to compensate our staff for it. They want us working with up to four different families with no PPE, no wage increase and no sick pay whatsoever. As a small business we used to provide these things for our key staff but since we are banned from accepting parent fees we are completely at their mercy for all possible sources of income. They say they will cover 100% of our building costs and wages but we haven't been able to get a clear picture of how that will work. We feel like we are the dirt beneath their shoes. No rights except to close, so that's what we did. The new regulations have asked us to separate children for social distancing and to not allow them to share toys. This is against our developmentally appropriate practices, and we feel like the effects on the children will be long lasting. We are worried about our centre re-opening, we are extra worried about having staff after this is done, but most of all we are worried that by staying open centres are damaging the years of groundwork we have put in to be recognized as professionals in a special field. It's only in the last month that we have seen Early Childhood Educators classified as essential workers, and even then, it's only so more important people can do their jobs. It's demeaning.
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- 11 Yes, we don't know how we will be able to go back to Normal How can we tell our parents to come to our centers without the fear How can we be able to support our business if we have to return payments from previous subsidy payments, I don't know how can I count with some money for extra things that I need to pay for my business
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