



## Talking Points concerning Early Learning and Child Care, October 2021

Do use a personal story if you have one

What we would like to see:

- Affordable, accessible, quality early learning and child care (ELCC) delivered by Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) who are compensated according to their qualifications.

Why:

- Benefits to children:
  - The child is more school ready through the early learning provided by a curriculum from a trained educator
  - High-quality ELCC is truly the first stage of a child's education, giving children both numeracy and literacy skills along with social and behavioral skills
- Benefits to parents, in particular mothers,
  - Allowing for higher labour force participation, thus raising family incomes.
  - Allowing women to continue earning and working, thus counteracting part of the penalty mothers pay with their life-long earnings
- Benefits to the economy
  - The economy needs educated, well-trained women in order to rebound and to deal with the upcoming generational changes in the work force
  - In March 2021, Quebec had the country's highest level of [labour force participation](#) among women aged 25 to 54. In Quebec, the male-female gap in labour force participation was 4.7 percentage points, nationally gap is 7.5 percentage points. ([The Globe and Mail, April 22, 2021](#))
- Benefits to society in the promotion of equality

Some interesting resources:

- Craig Alexander, [Let's get investment in early learning and childcare right](#)
- Gordon Cleveland, [FAQ: What's wrong with for-profit child care June 21, 2021](#)
- Laurence Martin, Louis Blouin, ['It's not enough': Money at the heart of child-care disagreement between Ontario and Ottawa, sources say](#), October 12, 2021
- Petr Varmuza, Linda A. White, and Michal Perlman, [Home child care should be affordable, high-quality — and licensed](#)