

The background is a solid orange color with a pattern of various leaf shapes in a slightly darker shade of orange. A large, faint white circle is centered in the background, framing the text.

# Universal Child Care Benefit

# Cost of Raising a Child

Age	Food	Clothing	Health Care	Personal Care	Rec, Reading, Gifts, School Needs	Trans- portation	Child Care	Shelter, Furnishings, Household Operations	TOTAL
TTL	\$33,399	\$16,524	\$5,042	\$4,100	\$19,117	\$4,837	\$64,347	\$49,919	\$197,285
Inf	\$1,783	\$2,035	\$167	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,403	\$2,552	\$11,940
1	\$951	\$525	\$167	\$132	\$675	\$0	\$7,334	\$2,714	\$12,498
2	\$1,024	\$546	\$167	\$132	\$675	\$0	\$6,151	\$2,669	\$11,364
3	\$1,024	\$546	\$265	\$132	\$675	\$0	\$6,151	\$2,624	\$11,417
4	\$1,367	\$558	\$265	\$132	\$675	\$0	\$6,151	\$2,624	\$11,772
5	\$1,367	\$558	\$265	\$132	\$767	\$89	\$6,151	\$2,624	\$11,953
6	\$1,367	\$605	\$265	\$131	\$862	\$89	\$4,501	\$2,624	\$10,444
7	\$1,641	\$583	\$265	\$129	\$1,158	\$89	\$4,501	\$2,624	\$10,990
8	\$1,641	\$583	\$265	\$129	\$1,158	\$89	\$4,501	\$2,624	\$10,990
9	\$1,641	\$611	\$265	\$129	\$1,158	\$89	\$4,501	\$2,624	\$11,018
10	\$1,958	\$611	\$265	\$129	\$1,158	\$89	\$4,501	\$2,624	\$11,335
11	\$1,958	\$611	\$265	\$129	\$1,158	\$89	\$4,501	\$2,624	\$11,335
12	\$1,958	\$1,168	\$308	\$320	\$1,124	\$602	\$0	\$2,624	\$8,104
13	\$2,210	\$1,168	\$308	\$320	\$1,124	\$602	\$0	\$2,624	\$8,356
14	\$2,210	\$1,168	\$308	\$320	\$1,138	\$602	\$0	\$2,624	\$8,370
15	\$2,210	\$1,162	\$308	\$426	\$1,339	\$602	\$0	\$2,624	\$8,671
16	\$2,363	\$1,162	\$308	\$426	\$1,339	\$602	\$0	\$2,624	\$8,824
17	\$2,363	\$1,162	\$308	\$426	\$1,339	\$602	\$0	\$2,624	\$8,824
18	\$2,363	\$1,162	\$308	\$426	\$1,595	\$602	\$0	\$2,624	\$9,080

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# Universal Child Care Benefit

- The UCCB is designed to help Canadian families, as they try to balance work and family life, by supporting their child care choices through direct financial support. The UCCB is for children under the age of 6 years and is paid in instalments of \$100 per month per child. (CRA website)
- The Universal Child Care Benefit went into effect in July 2006.

# Additional Child Care Spaces

- To help Canadian families better balance child care and work responsibilities, the Government of Canada will continue supporting the creation of new child care spaces throughout the country.
- New child care spaces are being created by transferring \$250 million each year to provinces and territories, which are responsible for the delivery of child care programs and services. This funding will help provinces and territories to meet the needs of families within their respective jurisdictions.
- A 25 percent investment tax credit is available to businesses that create new child care spaces in the workplace, to a maximum of \$10,000 per space created. This will allow employers to respond to their business needs and the needs of their employees.

# Cost of the Program

- The total cost of UCCB benefit payments delivered in 2008-2009 (17.97 million) and the administrative costs (\$17.2M).

# All Day Kindergarten

- This school year, full-day kindergarten is available in nearly 1,700 schools in Ontario. By September 2014, all elementary schools will offer full-day kindergarten.
- **How were schools selected for the first years of the program?**  
School boards work with their municipalities to recommend schools based on several criteria.  
For 2010-11 schools, they were asked to consider:
  - Available space
  - Impact on local child care programs
  - Local needs.
- For schools in 2011-12 and 2012-13, boards were asked to consider:
  - Schools in communities that did not already have a full-day kindergarten school
  - Available space, prioritizing schools that required fewer renovations.
- By September 2014, full-day kindergarten will be offered in all elementary schools

# Commission on the Reform of Ontario's Public Services

- **Recommendation 6-11:** Given the difficulties with such an approach, and the prohibitive cost of the program overall at this time, the Commission recommends cancellation of the full-day kindergarten (FDK) program, without prejudice to schools that already had FDK before the introduction of this government strategy.
- The Ministry of Education should carefully develop phase-out provisions so that a child who had a full day in junior kindergarten would not move to a half day in senior kindergarten, and so that purpose-built spaces are appropriately utilized for child care.
- **Recommendation 6-12:** If the government decides to continue the implementation of the full-day kindergarten program, then the Commission recommends delaying full implementation from 2014-15 to 2017-18 and reducing program costs by adopting a more affordable staffing model, involving one teacher for about 20 students, rather than a teacher and an early childhood educator for 26 students, to help moderate salary expenditures for the program by about \$200 million. The government should not confirm full implementation of the program without assurances from school boards, teacher federations and support-staff unions that negotiated annual wage increases by 2017-18 will not be higher than the current trends in the broader public sector, and that the class-size increases and reductions in non-teaching staff contemplated by the Commission by 2017-18 will be achieved.
- This approach would also help ease the oversupply of teachers in the labour market and reduce costs associated with correcting the current undersupply of ECEs.



# Universal Child Care Benefit

- The UCCB should be redirected from the federal government to the province of Ontario when the child reaches age 5.
- This would help to cover the cost of educational assistants
- This would also help to reduce the overhead costs involved in delivering the UCCB