



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29th, 2024

Coming soon: **West Vancouver Schools Early Childhood Education Centre**

West Vancouver Schools is proudly creating 116 new child care spaces for our community!

Thanks to the generous support from the provincial and federal governments through the ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund, West Vancouver Schools will soon break ground on a state-of-the-art child care centre. This facility will reflect our ongoing commitment to educational excellence and our mission to create a 'world of opportunity' for all students. We are excited to extend this mission to our youngest learners ages 0-5 years in our new child care centre.

Owned and operated by the West Vancouver School District, this new centre will increase opportunities for families seeking high quality educational care for young children aligning with our community's [Child Care Action Plan](#). In addition to becoming a centre of excellence for child care and early learning, this new community space will provide outreach services for families including parent learning opportunities, family connections and supports.

The **West Vancouver Schools Early Childhood Education Centre** will create 116 child care spaces:

- 36 spaces for infant-toddlers,
- 50 spaces for 30 months to kindergarten,
- 30 spaces for school-age care on school grounds.

The centre will be located on school district property on 22nd Street, next to École Pauline Johnson. This location was selected carefully due to its central location to community amenities, public transportation and ease of access for the families of West Vancouver.

We are proud to be working with a team of esteemed professional consultants – namely, Iredale Architecture and NUQO Modular to bring this vision to life.

Registration details will be available in early 2025; please visit westvancouver.schools.ca for more information.

The ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund is jointly supported by provincial investments and federal funding under the [2021–2022 to 2025–2026 Canada-British Columbia Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement](#).

Quotes:

Mitzi Dean, B.C.’s Minister of State for Child Care –

“Through this project, busy families will be able to access the child care they need which is conveniently located on school grounds. We know that having access to high-quality, affordable and inclusive child care spaces supports children, families and strengthens communities.”

Jenna Sudds, federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development –

"These new spots will make a real difference for families in West Vancouver, providing the support they need and ensuring their children receive the best possible start in life. We will keep working hard to create more spots to get kids off waitlists and into high-quality, affordable child care close to home and public transportation, making drop offs and pick ups that much easier for moms and dads on the go."

Carolyn Broady, Board Chair of West Vancouver Schools

“West Vancouver Schools is deeply committed to supporting our community by expanding access to exceptional child care. This new facility will not only provide much-needed child care spaces but will also serve as a hub for family engagement and learning. We are thrilled to see this vision come to life and to offer a strong foundation for our youngest learners.”

Mark Sager, Mayor of the District of West Vancouver

“This announcement is a significant step forward in aligning with our District’s Child Care Action Plan, ensuring that families in West Vancouver have access to top early learning opportunities. The new child care centre not only meets a critical need in our community but also reinforces our commitment to supporting young families with convenient and high-quality services close to home.”

For more information:

Canada-British Columbia Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement – 2021 to 2026: <https://www.canada.ca/en/early-learning-child-care-agreement/agreements-provinces-territories/british-columbia-canada-wide-2021.html>

ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/childcarebc-programs/childcare-new-spaces-fund>

British Columbia Ministry of Education and Child Care Press Release:
<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024ECC0099-001271>

Government of Canada Press Release:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/08/building-more-child-care-spots-for-families-in-british-columbia.html>