

Child Care Information Action Project Update: Greater Victoria

From March 2007 the Child Care Information Action Project started complying statistics from the VIHA Licensing public pink sheets. The collection dates for this data has been - March 30 2007, July 18 2007, January 23 2008, July 1 2008, January 31 2009 and August 31 2009. The reason for collecting this data is to track the number of child care spaces in the Greater Victoria Area.

During this period, our region has witnessed:

- an increase of 25 spaces for group child for children birth to 36 months
- an increase of 106 group care spaces from 30 months to school age
- a decrease of 216 spaces for family licensed child care
- a decrease of 135 spaces for children school age to 12 years
- an increase of 40 preschool spaces,
- the total of management turnover is 19 (of this number: 11 is in Out of School Care; 0 in Group Child Care (under 36 months); 5 GDC (30 months - school age); 2 in Preschool; 1 programs that holds three licenses [Group Child (under 36 months), preschool, Group Child Care School age to 12 years] and 1 program that holds both a group child care (30 months - school age) and preschool license

Type of Care (Category)	30-Mar-07 # of Spaces	18-Jul-07 # of Spaces	23-Jan-08 # of Spaces	1-Jul-08 # of Spaces	31-Jan-09 # of Spaces	31-Aug-09	Change from March 2007 to Jan 2009 net loss / net gain
Group Child Care (Under 36 Months)	436	424	404	452	445	461	25
Group Child Care (30 Months to School Age)	1824	1803	1801	1915	1949	1930	106
Preschool	1234	1259	1297	1282	1279	1274	40
Family	1640	1635	1574	1503	1403	1424	-216
Group Child Care (school age to 12 years)	4252	4198	4187	4159	4107	4117	-135
In Home Multi-Age	0	0	15	48	64	96	96
Group Multi-Age	0	0	0	0	20	16	16
License Not Required	88	88	80	100	84	78	-10
Grand Total	9474	9407	9358	9459	9351	9396	-78
Total Spaces excluding school age and LNR	5134	5121	5091	5200	5160	5201	67

Municipal Child Care Spaces										
	Group Day Care (Under 36 mos.)	Group Day Care (30 Months to 36 mos.)	Group Multi Age Child Care	Preschool	Family	Out of School Care	In Home Multi-Age	Child Minding	Registered - LNR	Total (excluding OOS only)
Central Saanich	16	84	0	60	49	150	0	0	02	209
Colwood	12	124	0	125	126	270	8	10		441
Esquimalt	84	144	0	29	77	207	16	8	6	364
Highlands	0	21	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	27
Juan de Fuca EA	0	0	0	0		16	0	0	0	0
Langford	48	104	4	50	166	300	16	0	12	400
Metchosin	0	8	0	20	7	0	0	0	0	35
North Saanich	12	77	0	18	7	134	0	0	0	114
Oak Bay	0	101	0	80	28	197	0	16	0	225
Pender Island	0	8	0	0	0	20	0	20	0	28
Saanich	117	524	8	475	616	1134	16	0	24	1752
Salt Spring Island	4	55	0	16	21	10	0	0	0	96
Sidney	12	56	0	45	42	170	0	0	0	151
Sooke	8	59	0	74	77	155	16	0	10	244
Victoria	116	521	0	232	175	1289	24	0	16	1084
View Royal	32	44	0	50	33	65	0	0	2	161

The collection of child care statistics began in February 2007 for the purposes of establishing baseline information for not only child care, but important early childhood information to support planning and monitoring for our region. All baseline data was used for the development of *The Early Years Report Series for BC's Capital Region*, a product of the work of the Understanding the Early Years initiative.

With child care a priority area for PLAY's coalition work in early childhood, additional research was undertaken during 2007 which culminated into the second report PLAY has produced on child care, *Child Care Information Action Project: 2007 Report on Child Care in the Capital Region*. Data provided in this February 2008 update is a follow through on the commitment the project made to monitoring available indicator data.

The Child Care public list produced by the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) Community Care Licensing branch has provided the main source of data for monitoring of statistics of child care spaces. While child care spaces is not the only indicator for monitoring child care provisioning, it is the only available data that is accessible and importantly, regularly updated.

The research team has thoroughly reviewed and edited our initial March 2007 baseline data from VIHA. The July 2007 and January 2008 databases have also been reviewed and cross-checked using VIHA Community Care Licensing monthly reports of closures and openings. All final calculations and formulas have been cross-checked by researchers.

The next update will be produced in January 2010.