## **Dear Child Care Providers:**

Alberta's government is committed to a high-quality, accessible, affordable and inclusive child care system that meets the needs of Alberta families. To support this vision and remove barriers in child care settings, we are pleased to re-open the Inclusive Spaces Program Grant. Funded through the Canada-Alberta Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, this program can help you improve your existing spaces and facilities or purchase equipment to create more inclusive environments for children with diverse needs.

The Inclusive Spaces Program Grant offers financial support for projects that enhance accessibility and inclusion within your child care program. Eligible projects include:

- Accessible Renovations: Completing small-scale construction projects to improve accessibility, such as ramps, accessible doors and inclusive play areas; and
- Equipment and Materials: supporting children's participation by purchasing equipment or materials, including adaptive toys, assistive communication technologies and cultural learning resources.

## **Funding and Timeline**

Grant amounts will vary based on project size and complexity. Successful applicants will receive funds in installments, with half provided upfront to initiate projects.

Applications for this \$5-million intake period will be assessed on merit. Applications are open until June 13 at 4:30 p.m. MST. As the program is competitive with limited funding, not all eligible applicants may be approved for funding.

## **Eligibility and Application Process**

To be eligible for the Inclusive Spaces Program Grant, you must operate a licensed non-profit, public, or private daycare or preschool program, or a family day home agency. Out-of-school care programs are <u>not eligible</u> for this funding, because the Canada-Alberta Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement is focused on children kindergarten age and younger.

You can find the application form and detailed guidelines <u>here</u>. For more information about this grant program, please contact us at <u>JET.inclusivespaces@gov.ab.ca</u>.

Thank you for working with us to make child care more accessible and inclusive for Alberta families.

Sincerely,

Wendy Doyle

Executive Director, Child Care Policy Child Care Strategy & Policy Division Ministry of Jobs, Economy and Trade