

What we know, what we don't

Carol yn Ferns, Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care,
Presented to the Atkinson Centre Taskforce, October 12, 2018

Best selection
Landscape
Min of Ed.

Minister of Education, Lisa Thompson, 3 term MP Represents
rural riding of Huron-Bruce.

Departure of previous deputy minister, Bruce Rodrigues. ~~DM~~
is Nancy Aylor.

Mandate letters not released.

Change in government's approach

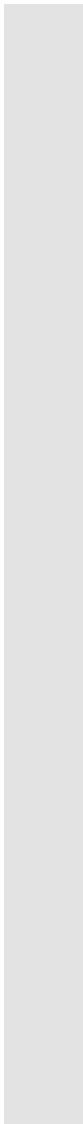
More centralized power in the Premier's office

Less consultation, more unpredictable

Funding cuts expected, especially in first 18 months.

August memos

Removal of the For-Profit Maximum Percentage Threshold;
Portion of Year 2 Expansion Funding;
Changes to wage enhancement grant and fee stabilization;
Aim to



Potential impact of Threshold's removal

Expansion of large for-profit chains

Already looking to expand in Ontario.

Potential of accessing public funds makes expansion far more attractive.

Lessons for Australia

Corporate expansion can be rapid;

Didn't expand where families were in most need, rather preferred thick markets;

Predatory expansion – buying competitors or shutting them down;

As they increase in size, they wield ever greater influence – lobbied for decreased regulation, against parental leave.

Used increased public funds and still raised parent fees, decreased wages.

Other past
Ministry
commitments

recommendations

Workforce strategy: Continuation of wage enhancement until
implementation of wage grid by April 2020



government
priorités

Efficiencies, cost saving and deficit reduction

Implementing rebate

\$6,750 per child under the age of 15

(older) estimated cost of \$389 million

Discussion

Challenges
Opportunities