ABOUT THE BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION

In 2015, Vermont's Legislature and Governor Shumlin created The Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing High Quality, Affordable Child Care. The Commission is charged with determining the elements inherent in quality child care programs and with making recommendations about the most effective use of existing public funding and additional opportunities to achieve high quality affordable child care. The commission includes the Secretaries of Education and Human Services (or their designees) along with a cross-section of Vermont policymakers, childcare providers, parents, and business representatives. Since September 2015, the Commission has convened on a monthly basis. In May 2016, we contracted with Boston-based Public Consulting Group. We expect to issue a report by November 1, 2016.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

STATUTORY MEMBERS

Reeva Murphy

Deputy Commissioner, Vermont Department for Children and Families. Child Development Division Representative.

Paul Dragon

Deputy Secretary, Agency of Human Services. Secretary of Human Services Appointee.

Rebecca Holcombe or Melissa Riegel-Garrett

Secretary, Agency of Education, or her Designee.

Jessica Gingras

Director of Appointments to Boards and Commissions for the Governor's Office. Secretary of Administration Appointee.

Jessica Blackman

Administrator, Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing High Quality Affordable Child Care.

GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTEES

Charlotte Ancel

Vice President, Power Supply & General Counsel at Green Mountain Power. Business Representative.

Frank Cioffi

President, Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation. Business Representative.

Michelle Fay

Associate Director, Voices for Vermont's Children. Child Advocacy Representative.

David Rubel

Commercial Lending Portfolio Manager, Community National Bank. Financial Services Representative.

Donna Bailey

Co-Director, Addison County Parent/Child Center. Parent/Child Center Representative.

Sarah Squirrell

Executive Director, Building Bright Futures. Building Bright Futures Representative.

Paul Behrman

Director, Champlain Valley Head Start. Head Start Representative.

Chloe Learey

Executive Director, Winston Prouty Center for Child Development. Licensed Center-Based Child Care Program Representative.

Rachel Hunter

Child Care Provider/Pre-K Teacher, Mentor at an in-home child care. Licensed and Registered Home-Based Child Care Program Representative.

Laurel Bongiorno

Dean, Champlain College Division of Education and Human Studies. Higher Education Representative.

Steven Lambrecht

Military Parent Representative.

Lauren Norford

Coordinator of Early Childhood Services, Rutland Mental Health. Business Representative.

More Commission Information

Our monthly meetings are open to the public and occur on the third Thursday of every month in Montpelier. For security purposes, please email jessica.blackman@vermont.gov if you plan to attend. Agendas, materials and minutes for past and upcoming meetings can be found on our website. There you can also find community testimony and a form to contact us. Thank you for your time and your input.

http://buildingbrightfutures.org/blue-ribbon-commission/