

Hello to all it may concern,

I am writing to express my frustration and describe the problems it is causing my family that there is little to no day care available for children 0-2.5 in Whistler BC.

I am a pharmacist and currently Whistler is around 2 full time pharmacists short to ensure adequate rest and much needed vacation for the current full timers.

My situation is currently: my husband works 5 days and I work his 2 days off. We have no family days together unless he books a day off. I sometimes work a third day to help out by utilising a full time nanny (\$23 per hour, leaving me with the same take home). But cannot do a proper full day as cannot leave with nanny 8.30am until 7pm and my husband also works long hours. He has tried to drop a day but his company is also short staffed and to be honest our rent is very high and we are trying to save for the future so we need the money.

I recently got offered one day per week at a day care starting in October because we got very lucky and my baby will not turn 2 until Feb 2024 and there was a space one day in the littlest classroom. However I have been told this does not guarantee there will be space for him when he turns 2 as the wait list is very long. So I am now in the position of having a day of care, but unable to take a regular position as I could lose the day in February and I don't want to let the pharmacy down so soon after committing to an extra regular day.

Ideally for us, 3-4 full days of care including some weekend days would be ideal. This is Whistler and 9-5 m-f is not the go for most parents!

Many thanks for reading our email.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Ward and Graham Winslet  
8305 Rainbow Drive, Whistler

[REDACTED]