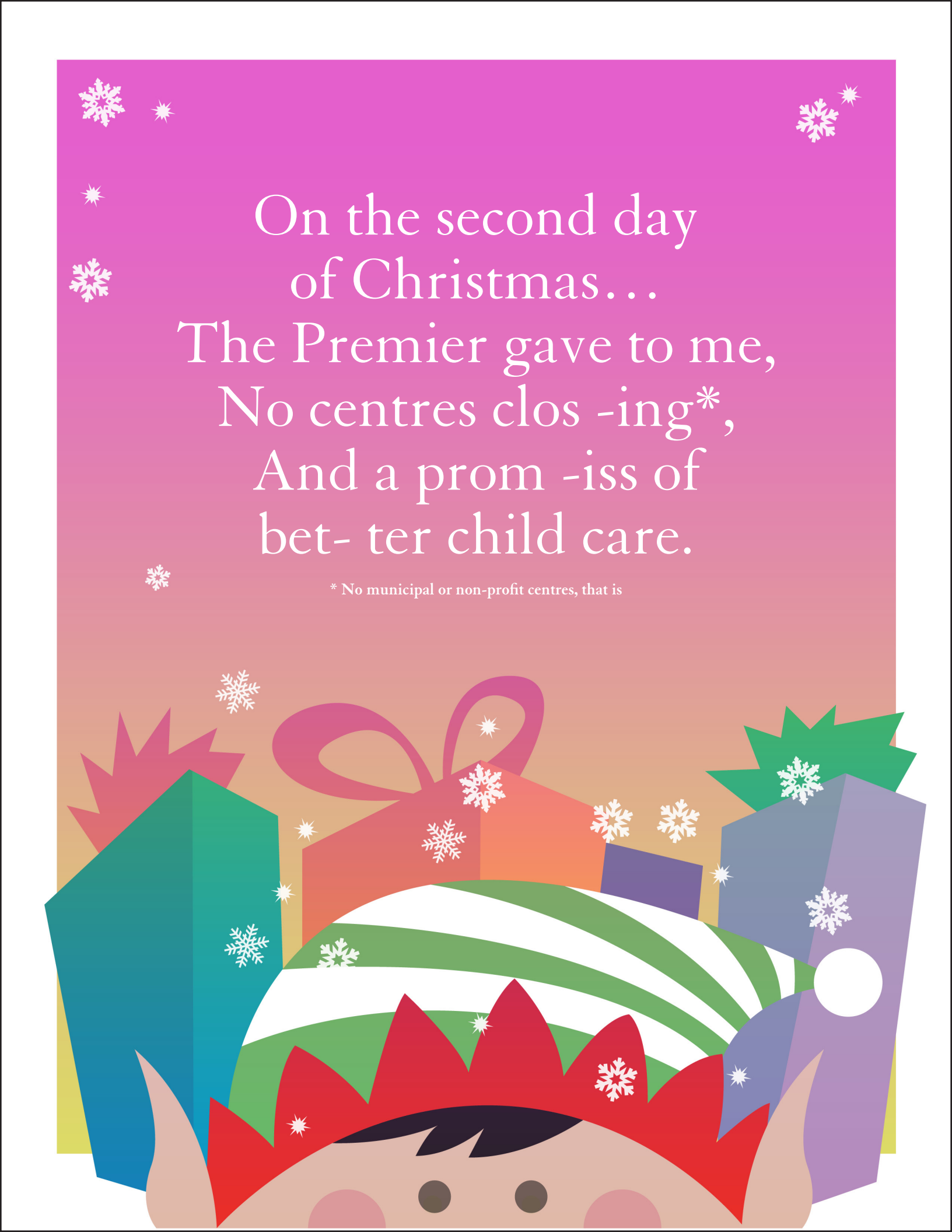


On the first day  
of Christmas...  
The Premier gave to me,  
A prom –iss of  
bet-ter\* child care.

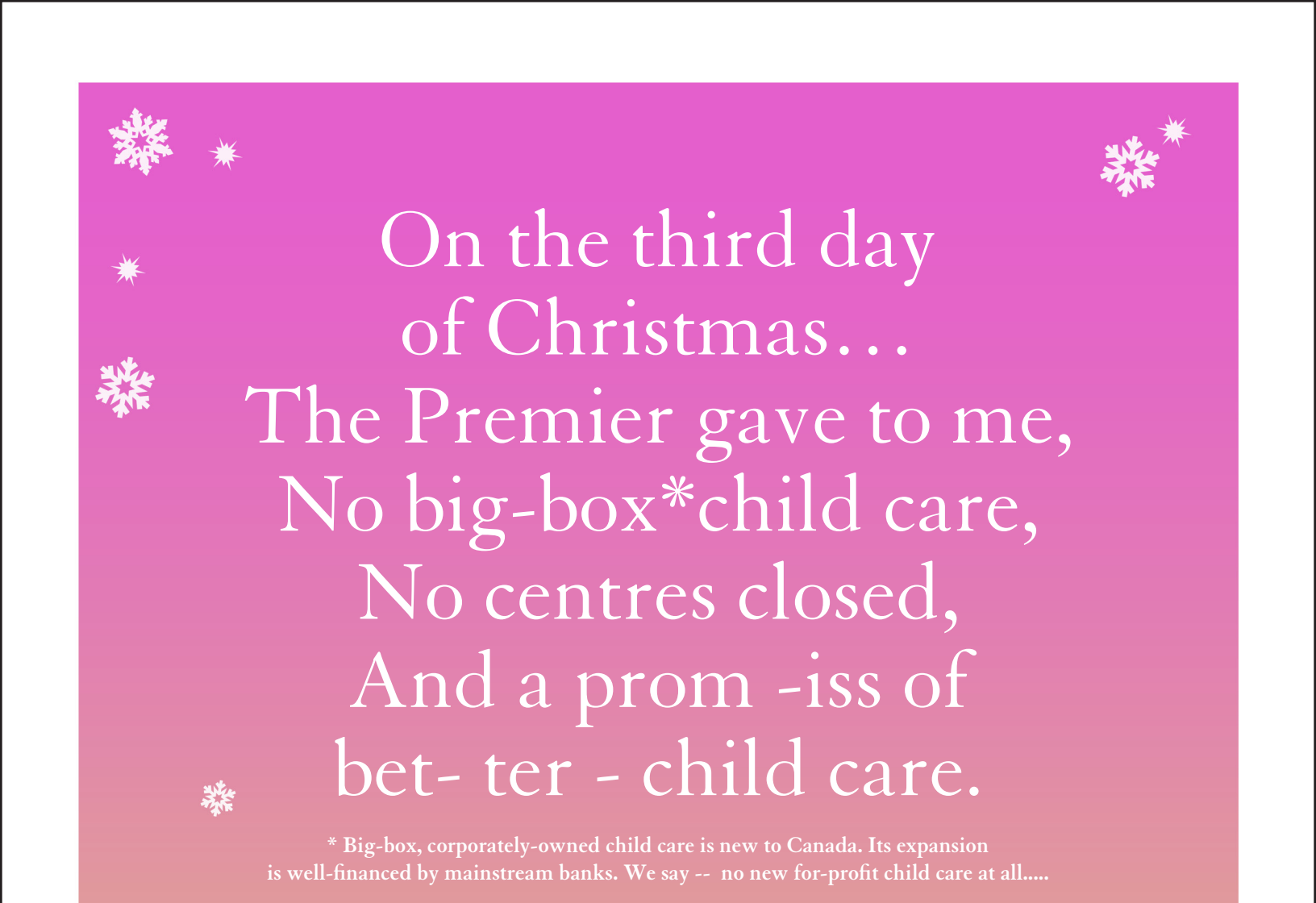
\* Better access, better quality, better funding, better policy



On the second day  
of Christmas...  
The Premier gave to me,  
No centres clos -ing\*,  
And a prom -iss of  
bet- ter child care.

\* No municipal or non-profit centres, that is

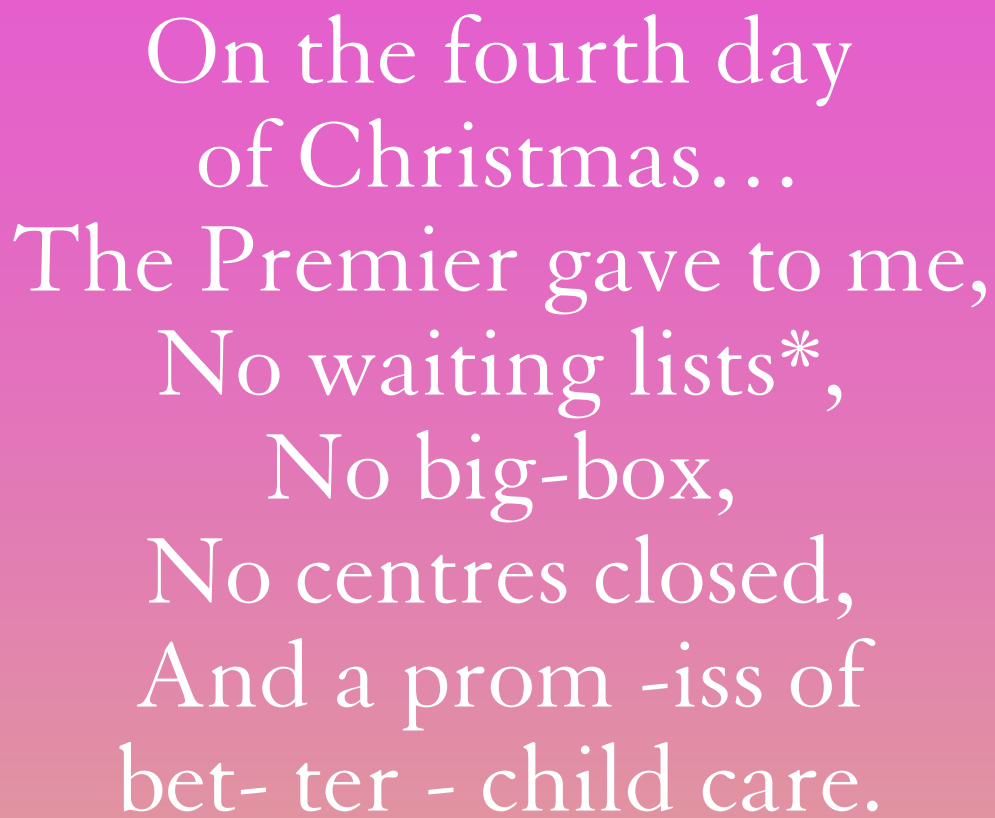




On the third day  
of Christmas...  
The Premier gave to me,  
No big-box\* child care,  
No centres closed,  
And a prom -iss of  
bet- ter - child care.

\* Big-box, corporately-owned child care is new to Canada. Its expansion is well-financed by mainstream banks. We say -- no new for-profit child care at all....





On the fourth day  
of Christmas...  
The Premier gave to me,  
No waiting lists\*,  
No big-box,  
No centres closed,  
And a prom -iss of  
bet- ter - child care.


\*Parents have to sign up to waiting lists even before they're pregnant to get a space....



On the fifth day of Christmas...  
The Premier gave to me,  
Two hund--- dred mill---yan\*  
No-o wait- ing lists ,  
No big-box,  
No-o centres closed,  
And a prom -iss of  
bet- ter - child care.


\* An emergency fund of two hundred million dollars this year is needed to stop the collapse of child care across Ontario





On the sixth day of Christmas...  
The Premier gave to me,  
A new way of fund-ing\*,  
Two hund--- red – mill---yan,  
No-o wait- ing lists,  
No big-box,  
No-o centres closed,  
And a prom -iss of  
bet- ter - child care.

\*The old way of financing child care in Ontario doesn't work.  
What is needed instead is a way to "base fund" the programs.






On the seventh day of Christmas...

The Premier gave to me,  
Keep our pub-lic\* centres,  
New way of fund-ing,  
Two hund--- red – mill---yan,  
No-o wait- ing lists,  
No big-box,  
No-o centres closed,  
And a prom -iss of  
bet- ter - child care.


\*Some municipalities are threatening to sell or close publicly-operated centres due to under-funding.



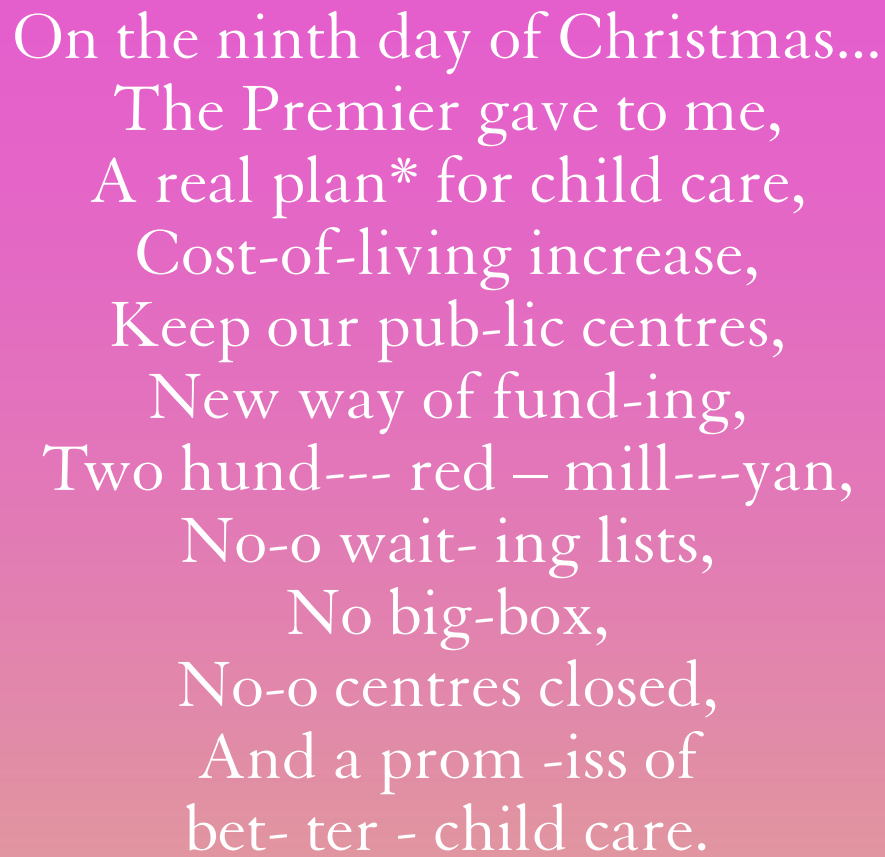


On the eighth day of Christmas...  
The Premier gave to me,  
Cost-of-living increase\*,  
Keep our public centres,  
New way of funding,  
Two hundred and red – million,  
No waiting lists,  
No big-box,  
No centres closed,  
And a promise of  
better child care.

\*Provincial child care funding to municipalities for child care does not increase with the cost-of-living, so child care funds shrink every year.



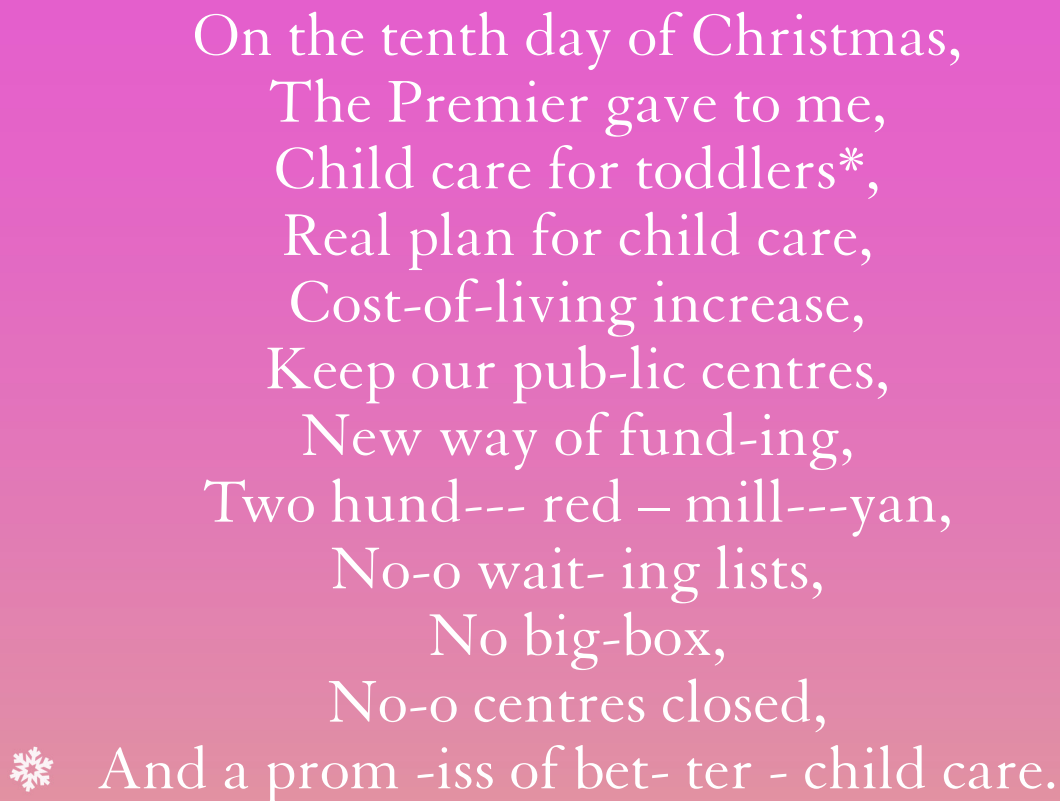




On the ninth day of Christmas...  
The Premier gave to me,  
A real plan\* for child care,  
Cost-of-living increase,  
Keep our public centres,  
New way of funding,  
Two hundred---red – million---yan,  
No-o wait- ing lists,  
No big-box,  
No-o centres closed,  
And a prom -iss of  
bet- ter - child care.

\*Ontario does not have a plan or policy for early childhood education and child care.

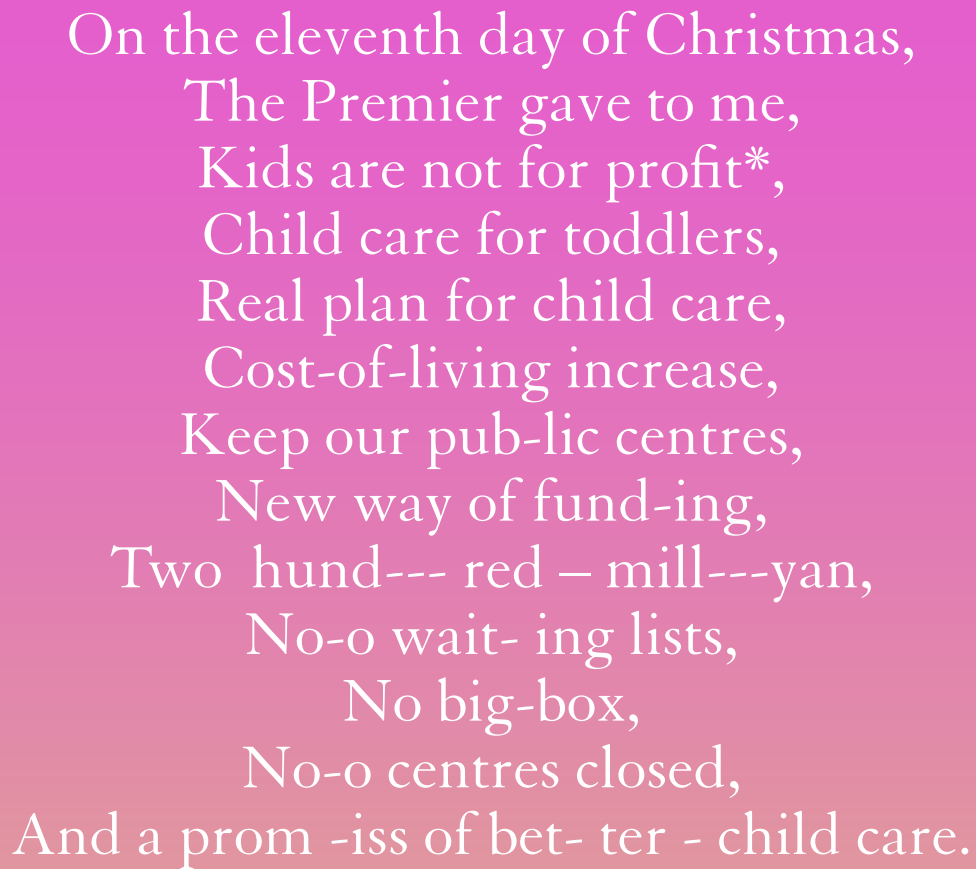




On the tenth day of Christmas,  
The Premier gave to me,  
Child care for toddlers\*,  
Real plan for child care,  
Cost-of-living increase,  
Keep our public centres,  
New way of fund-ing,  
Two hund--- red – mill---yan,  
No-o wait- ing lists,  
No big-box,  
No-o centres closed,  
❄️ And a prom -iss of bet- ter - child care.

\*In the transition to full-day kindergarten, child care for infants, toddlers and three year olds has been ignored by the provincial government, and is collapsing.

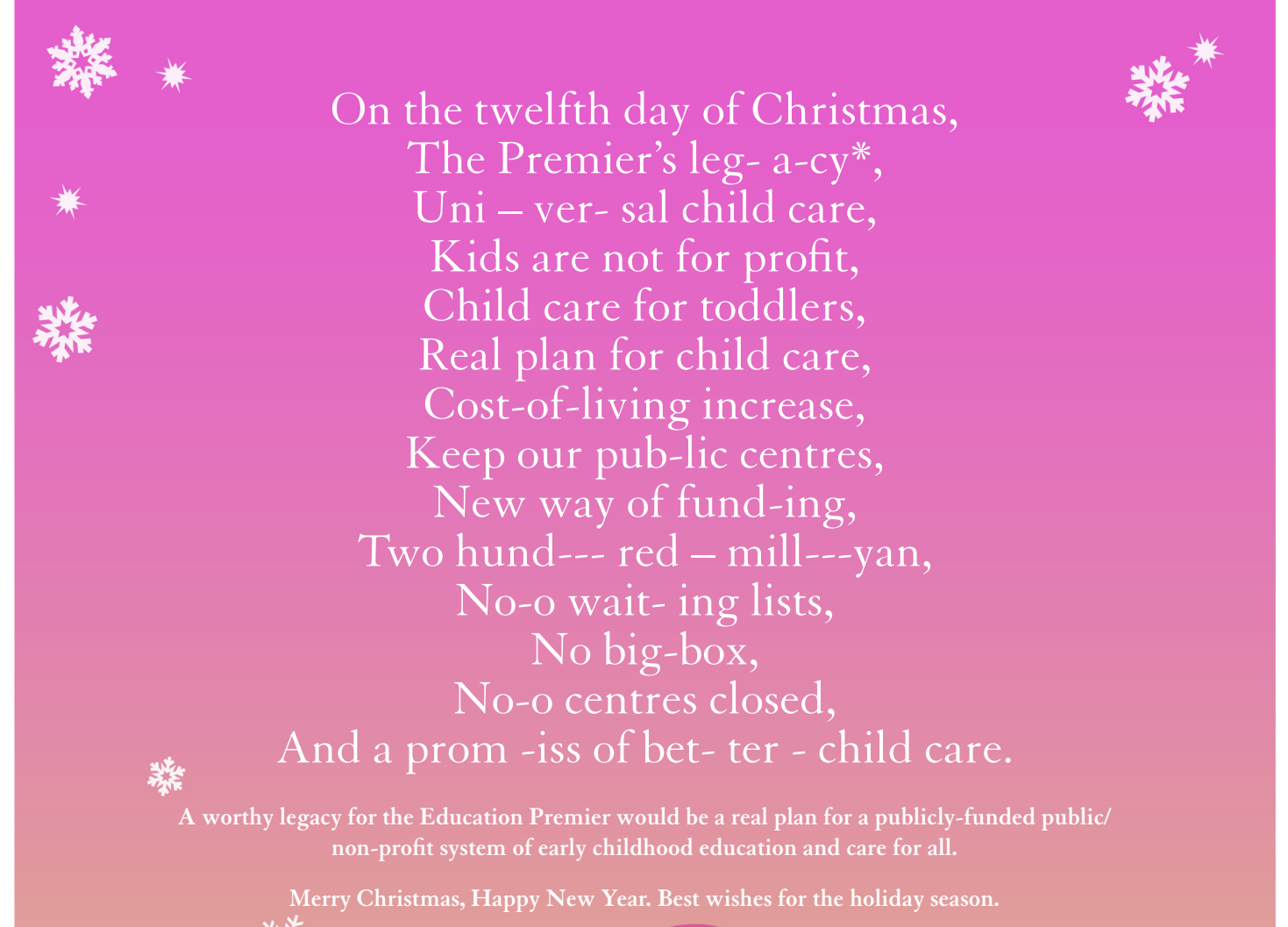




On the eleventh day of Christmas,  
The Premier gave to me,  
Kids are not for profit\*,  
Child care for toddlers,  
Real plan for child care,  
Cost-of-living increase,  
Keep our public centres,  
New way of fund-ing,  
Two hund--- red – mill---yan,  
No-o wait- ing lists,  
No big-box,  
No-o centres closed,  
And a prom -iss of bet- ter - child care.

\*Profit-making child care, especially chains, are on the increase in Ontario.





On the twelfth day of Christmas,  
The Premier's leg- a-cy\*,  
Uni – ver- sal child care,  
Kids are not for profit,  
Child care for toddlers,  
Real plan for child care,  
Cost-of-living increase,  
Keep our pub-lic centres,  
New way of fund-ing,  
Two hund--- red – mill---yan,  
No-o wait- ing lists,  
No big-box,  
No-o centres closed,  
And a prom -iss of bet- ter - child care.

A worthy legacy for the Education Premier would be a real plan for a publicly-funded public/  
non-profit system of early childhood education and care for all.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year. Best wishes for the holiday season.

