



## Memorandum

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Charlene Ramont, Assistant Director

**RE:** Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA) – Healthy Children’s Fund  
Innovative Services Contract

**DATE:** MARCH 17, 2025

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Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and NSEA for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract expands local childcare capacity and increases kindergarten readiness by funding the expansion of the Contractor’s licensed summer childcare program for preschool youth (ages 3 – 5) by an additional twelve slots, with four spaces reserved for low-income families (85% or below State Median Income). In addition, the contract expands the childcare program’s hours, filling the childcare gap that transitional kindergarten programs leave for working families in the summer months. The Contractor will also pursue Early Achievers Recognition from the Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families.

This contract is awarded as a result of RFP solicitation 24-66 and aligns with the Healthy Children’s Fund Implementation Plan’s Strategy Six to support innovative approaches to meet various goals related to Early Learning and Care.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$48,947, is provided by the Healthy Children’s Fund. These funds are included in the 2025 budget. Council authorization is required per WCC 3.08.100, as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Sarah Simpson, Children and Family Programs Supervisor at 360-410-2400 ([SSimpson@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:SSimpson@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions.

Encl.