



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	July 8, 2022
SUBJECT:	Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Angela Burden General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

On March 28, 2022, the Province of Ontario signed the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) agreement with the federal government. The key deliverables of this funding include affordability, accessibility, quality workforce, inclusion and enhanced data and reporting. The CWELCC agreement will provide funding to reduce child care fees for families to an average of \$12/day by September 2025.

Launch of CWELCC Expression of Interest

To support the successful implementation of CWELCC in Hamilton, the City has released an Expression of Interest (EOI) available to all licensed child care operators.

By completing the EOI, the City is notified that child care operators are interested in learning more about opting-in to CWELCC. Child care operators are not formally accepted into CWELCC and they are not committed to enrolment in CWELCC.

After submitting interest in CWELCC, child care operators will proceed to the next step of the application to opt-in. This will include an assessment of financial viability, determine base fees and eligible/ineligible expenses. The deadline to formally opt-in/opt-out is September 1, 2022. The City will then establish contracts with child care operators that chose to opt-in and receive payments.

Once the contract is signed, child care operators must reduce fees by 25% within 31 days and refunds to parents within 60 days (back-dated to April 1, 2022).

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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We look forward to continuing our collaborative planning with our local early years partners to implement CWELCC. Not only will CWELCC support families and children in Hamilton but it will provide stability to child care operators to ensure their businesses continue to thrive.

Should you require further information on the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care plan, please contact Jessica Chase, Director Children's Services and Community Services Division at ext. 3590 or via email at Jessica.Chase@hamilton.ca.

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