

Child care and early learning updates e-newsletter

August 10, 2022

Welcome to The Regional Municipality of Durham's child care and early learning updates e-newsletter. These e-newsletters provide licensed child care operators in Durham Region with updated information related to child care.

This edition includes the following topics:

- Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system updates:
 - Current status
 - Ministry of Education CWELCC amended guidelines - Update
 - Durham policy updates
 - CWELCC parent refund application - Update
 - CWELCC opt-in process initiation
- Special needs resourcing (SNR) survey
- Information on becoming a registered early childhood educator (RECE)
- CSD staffing update

Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system updates

Current status

The Region of Durham has opened the CWELCC application as of June 6, 2022. Licensees must complete their application before September 1, 2022.

The application is available on the operator portal. Operators must complete the online application and then submit any additional required documentation via the operator portal. Applications will be deemed complete only after all required information is submitted.

If you have questions about completing the opt in process or about your current submitted application, please email your detailed questions, and contact number to childcareoperators@durham.ca and a CSD staff will reach out to you.

Ministry of Education CWELCC Amended Guidelines - update

The Ministry of Education has advised service system managers that an updated version of the CWELCC amended guidelines will be released in the coming days. Information will be shared with licensees as it becomes available.

Durham CWELCC policy updates

The Children's Services Division has developed draft CWELCC policies. Once the ministry releases their updated amended guidelines, we will review and update our policies as required and release to Durham licensees as soon as possible.

CWELCC parent refund application - Update

The parent refund application is now posted on the operator portal and includes an update as of July 27.

Please download and use this new application for any data not yet completed.

For those who have already completed a portion of the application please contact Natalie Mercier at Natalie.mercier@durham.ca to discuss options to update.

The updated application includes three new columns in the 'refund data tab'

New columns:

Fees incurred – Total amount of fees billed to families by month. For example, if you billed a family and have not received payment yet, you can include that amount in 'total fees incurred'

25% of fees incurred (to be paid to operator) – this column automatically calculates 25% of the fees incurred

25% of fees collected (to be paid to parents) – this column automatically calculates 25% of the fees collected

This application must be completed and submitted via the portal within seven days of receiving your letter of enrolment into CWELCC.

CWELCC opt-in process initiation

The Children's Services Division has been reviewing and processing applications as we have been receiving them. We will communicate with your organization prior to beginning your opt-in process to ensure timelines for refunds and fee reductions are aligned.

Please reach out to our team if you require support or have questions at childcareoperators@durham.ca and watch your operator portal for ongoing information and details.

Special needs resourcing (SNR) survey

If you have not already done so, please complete the special needs resourcing (SNR) survey before August 19, 2022.

The survey is intended for completion by child care site supervisors, home visitors, or recreation program supervisors. Please consider reaching out to your staff for input on this survey. We value all input and feedback.

Please click the link below to be redirected to the survey monkey website to complete the [Durham Region SNR Services Survey](#).

SNR services in Durham Region support children with special needs under 13 years of age who are enrolled in licensed child care settings, in camp programs (age four years and up), and in children's recreation programs (age four years and up).

Licensed child care agencies, camps and recreation programs who have a service agreement for fee subsidy and/or wage enhancement funding have the option of accessing SNR services. Agencies are required to agree to the terms of service as outlined in the special needs resourcing services – service description schedule (schedule G) included with operator contracts.

To support service system planning that meets the needs of the early learning and child care sector, we ask that you take a moment to complete the SNR survey. We

appreciate your input and your time. If you have additional information you would like to share about SNR services, please feel free to contact Julie Gaskin, Manager Early Learning at Julie.Gaskin@durham.ca

Information on becoming a registered early childhood educator (RECE)

Through Durham's workforce strategy funding, our division has been working to gather and share information to support recruitment and retention of educators in the child care field.

Please visit www.Durham.ca/BecomeAnRECE.ce and explore the variety of education pathways, programs, and grant opportunities for you and your staff. Please be sure to share this link with your teams!

CSD staffing update

Many of you know Maxine Jones, Program Assistant for the Early Learning Team. Maxine is currently on a temporary assignment with the Income and Employment Supports Division until May of 2023. If you require support from our team, you can reach out to Nathaniel Nolan, Program Assistant at Nathaniel.nolan@durham.ca .