

Child Care and Early Learning Updates E-Newsletter

October 18, 2023

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:

- Amendment to the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014 (CCEYA) Ontario Regulation 138/15
- 2024 Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Funding Approach
- Canada Learning Bond (CLB) Clinics
- Children's Services Division – Staffing Updates

Amendment to the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014 (CCEYA) Ontario Regulation 138/15

Effective September 29, 2023, Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) are required to make reasonable efforts to work together, or with licensees, to support eligible fee-subsidy families seeking child care outside of their home municipality. This change will support parental choice and reduce barriers to families seeking access to subsidized child care outside of their own service area.

Currently, Durham Region Fee Subsidy has cross-jurisdictional agreements with Simcoe County, County of Northumberland, and City of Peterborough. We are working on agreements with Peel, York, and Kawartha Lakes. All agreements allow Durham residents to attend child care within the other municipality and residents from the other municipality to attend child care within Durham. Spaces are limited to 10 children from each municipality. All regular Fee Subsidy eligibility requirements and policies are followed in cross jurisdictional cases.

2024 Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Funding Approach

To support municipal partners and licensees prepare for the new Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) funding approach, the existing revenue replacement approach to CWELCC funding will remain in place for at least the first eight months of 2024, pending the announcement of the new funding approach. Licensees with existing purchase-of-service agreements will continue to receive pre-CWELCC funding.

The Ministry of Education has received sector feedback that licensees may be subject to cost escalation beyond their control and may feel that the revenue replacement funding approach could impact their capacity to participate in the CWELCC system. The financial stability of operators is a key consideration for the 2024 funding allocations. Further communication from the Ministry on this matter is expected in early November 2023.

Canada Learning Bond (CLB) Clinics

The Region of Durham Social Services Department is organizing Canada Learning Bond sign-up events this November. The events will support eligible families to open a free RESP and access the Canada Learning Bond for their child(ren). By opening the RESP, families can receive up to \$2,000 for education after high school from the Government of Canada. Representatives from Service Canada, the Canada Revenue Agency, and Social Services will be present at all events. Families must bring Social Insurance Numbers (SINs) and valid proof of identification for both parent and child. Click [here](#) for more information.

Beaverton Town Hall (397 Simcoe Street, Beaverton) on Thursday, November 16, 2023, 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Lakeview Harbourside Community Room (1529 Ritson Road South, Oshawa) on Monday, November 20, 2023, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Clarington Public Libraries Bowmanville Branch (163 Church Street, Bowmanville) on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Children's Services Division – Staffing Updates

Children's Services is excited to announce the following staffing updates:

Data Analysis Coordinator (DAC) – Policy and Strategic Initiatives: Natalie Mercier is the successful candidate for the DAC role. Natalie began her transition to the new position on Tuesday, October 10. She will continue to support operators with CWELCC inquiries in the Financial Analyst role until the position has been filled.

Program Manager, Contracted Services – Early Learning: Stacey Stevenson joined the Children's Services Division on Monday, October 16. Stacey brings over twenty years of experience in the Early Learning and Child Care community, as well as experience in budget development and CWELCC processes. Stacey will provide guidance and support to community partners by collecting and reviewing financial data as well as

developing and implementing strategies that support the implementation of the CWELCC system.