

Child care and early learning updates e-newsletter

June 24, 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
 - CWELCC operator consultation sessions ***PLEASE ATTEND***
 - CWELCC parent refund application
 - Special Needs Resourcing (SNR) survey

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

Current status

The Children's Services Division is pleased to support the implementation of the CWELCC system in Durham Region. We are ready to help you; licensed child care operators, to navigate the transition into this new phase of providing support to families in our Region.

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.

CWELCC information, updates, and application details are circulated via the child care operator portal. If you require support using the child care operator portal, please contact Darlene Burns for assistance at (905) 668-7711 x 2644 or darlene.burns@durham.ca.

Processing time – CWELCC applications will be processed as they are received. Please note, that due to the high volume of applications and detailed review required, the opt in process will take time to complete.

A reminder to operators with a current fee subsidy purchase of service agreement that if your audited financial statements (AFS) are due presently, they must be submitted for your CWELCC application to be deemed complete.

For operators without a current fee subsidy purchase of service agreement, please ensure you have uploaded all required financial documentation to the operator portal for your CWELCC application to be considered complete.

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.

CWELCC operator consultation sessions

As part of the next phase of the CWELCC implementation process, the Children's Services Division has scheduled in-person meetings to gather input and information from our Durham Region child care licensees. These sessions will allow us to seek operator input on aspects of our CWELCC implementation plan, such as, reasonableness of expenditure elements, defining eligible and ineligible expenditures, and surplus/profit thresholds. We will also discuss annual budget and audit submissions and reporting processes that meet CWELCC. The information gathered will inform our policies and processes to begin 2023, after the transition year is complete.

Session details:

All licensees currently operating in Durham Region are strongly encouraged to attend one of two possible sessions, scheduled by auspice.

All sessions will be in-person only.

All sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. with doors opening at 8:30 a.m. Sessions are expected to wrap up by 3:30 p.m.

Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided.

Please enrol in one session only and be sure to enrol in the session applicable to your auspice as discussion points will be relevant to auspice type.

To accommodate all licensees, we are limiting registration to no more than two people per organization. Each person must register individually.

Click the link below for the session you wish to attend. You will be redirected to the Eventbrite web page to complete your registration.

Commercial (for-profit) operator sessions:

[Session A: Tuesday July 5, 2022](#)

[Session B: Thursday July 14, 2022](#)

Non-profit operator sessions:

[Session A: Thursday July 7, 2022](#)

[Session B: Tuesday July 12, 2022](#)

CWELCC parent refund application

The parent refund application is now posted on the operator portal. For operators who opt-in, you are required to complete this application and submit via the portal within seven days of receiving your letter of enrolment into CWELCC. The timing of this application is important as families must receive their refunded fees within 60 days of receiving your notification of enrolment letter. Our team will process your parent refund application and provide the payment to you within 30 days to ensure you have sufficient time to process the refunds to your families.

The 25% CWELCC refund of fees must be refunded to families. To clarify, 25% of any fees paid, backdated to April 1, 2022, including fees paid in advance, must be refunded back to families by cash, cheque, e-transfer, or other electronic means. Refunds may not be provided through credits for future or past fees owed. Only fees paid should be refunded. For families with unpaid fees owing, the fees owed must be reduced by 25%.

Special Needs Resourcing survey

Special Needs Resourcing (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 below. 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

The survey will be open until July 22, 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](#).