

Child care and early learning updates e-newsletter

April 13, 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:

- Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit
- Special Purpose Funding Guide and Application
- Children's Services Division - Staffing Updates

Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit

- Did you know that eligible registered early childhood educators can claim up to \$1000 for teaching supplies purchased for use in their programs?
- One is considered an eligible educator if, at any time during the 2022 tax year, both of the following conditions are met:
 - The individual was employed in Canada as a teacher or an early childhood educator at an elementary or secondary school, or a regulated child care facility.
 - The individual held a teaching certificate, licence, permit or diploma, or a certificate or diploma in early childhood education, which was valid and recognized in the province or territory in which employed.
- Select the [Government of Canada Line 46900 – Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit](#) link to learn more.

Special Purpose Funding Guide and Application

2023 Special Purpose Funding application forms are now available on durham.ca. Individuals can access this information by:

- Navigating to durham.ca
- Selecting 'Living Here'
- Selecting 'Early Learning and Child Care'
- Scrolling to the heading 'Operating a Child Care Centre'

Children's Services Division (CSD)– Staffing Updates

With the changing of the seasons, the Children's Services Division is also experiencing changes within the division. We are excited to welcome new colleagues to the division,

and feeling mixed emotions wishing some valued members of our team all the best with their next chapters.

Retirement/Farewell:

After an incredible 47 years of dedicated service, it is with mixed emotions that the Children's Services Division will be saying farewell to Darlene Burns, our Business Technology Coordinator. Darlene has announced her retirement at the end of June 2023. Darlene has been an integral part of the Children's Services Division and has made significant impact to service delivery, clients, children and families, and colleagues along the way. Her legacy of work will live on for many years to come. Please join us in wishing her all the very best in this new chapter of her life.

Maxine Jones has decided to take the big step to move out of country and begin a new chapter in her life. We will miss Maxine and wish her all the best in her new adventures!

New Team Members:

Business Technology Coordinators: To ensure we meet the increasing demands of our technology supports, we will have two Business Technology Coordinators to ensure timely service to our service providers and the CSD team. We are pleased to announce Nathaniel Nolan and Andrew Mundy as our new Business Technology Coordinators. Andrew and Nathaniel will support Darlene until her retirement and be here to support your access and training needs.

Please continue to reach out to Nathaniel at Nathaniel.Nolan@durham.ca; Andrew at Andrew.Mundy@durham.ca, and Darlene at Darlene.Burns@durham.ca until the end of June.

Data Analysis Coordinator: Welcome to our new Data Analysis Coordinator, Shaila Arman, who will be joining the team effective April 11, covering for Charmalee Harris who is on temporary assignment with another Division. Shaila will support the division and community with data needs and can be reached at Shaila.Arman@durham.ca

Program Manager – Early Learning: Finally, the Children's Services Division is pleased to welcome Emily Witlarge to the new Program Manager, Early Learning position. Emily will work along side the current Program Managers in the Early Learning Team to support the child care community managing system planning including Canada- wide Early Learning and Child Care system expansion, Special Needs Resourcing, and EarlyON system planning Emily can be reached at Emily.Witlarge@durham.ca

Program Assistants – Early Learning: Welcome to Nazish Kramat, Catherine Andre and Jenna Peters as new members of the Early Learning team. Catherine and Nazish

assumed the role of Program Assistant earlier this year and Jenna will replace Nathaniel Nolan in this role beginning April 18.

You will see Nazish, Catherine, and Jenna at early learning events and committees and through correspondence from our team. They can be contacted for general assistance at: Nazish: Nazish.Kramat@durham.ca; Catherine: Catherine.Andre@durham.ca, and Jenna at Jenna.Peters@durham.ca.

Temporary Quality Assurance Advisor: The Children's Services Division is pleased to announce that Charmaine Calim was the successful candidate for the Quality Assurance Advisor position. Charmaine is already out meeting her caseload teams and supporting quality in the early learning community.