

Report to Council

Report Title: Brockton Child Care Half Day Programs
Prepared By: Sharon Bross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor
Department: Child Care
Date: June 21, 2022
Report Number: BCCC2022-02 **File Number:** C11BR

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number BCCC2022-02 - Brockton Child Care Half Day Programs, prepared by Sharon Bross, Supervisor of Child Care and in so doing authorizes the end of half day programs for the Brockton Child Care Centre and School Age programs effective September 1st, 2022 with notice provided and further;

That the Consolidated Fees By-Law be brought forward to remove the half day program fees.

Report:

Background:

The Brockton Child Care Centre currently offers full and half day (morning only) programs for families as well as before and after school care. Prior to the changes that were introduced by the Minister of Education to offer full day kindergarten, the Centre offered both morning and afternoon half day programs which would provide care for the children either in the morning or afternoon, depending on their school schedule. However, once the full day schooling was offered, the demand for afternoon half day programs at the Child Care Centre decreased. Currently only morning half day programs are offered at the Brockton Child Care Centre as there were not enough demand to fill an afternoon only program.

The Brockton Child Care Centre committee met on May 31st and discussed our half day programs and whether it was financially viable to continue to offer this service. This discussion resulted in a further review of other child care centres where it was determined that centres are no longer offering half days. The Committee discussed and recommended that as of July 2022 we should no longer offer the half day programs. We would allow those families on half day programs to continue on the programs until the end of August allowing a notice period and adequate communications to the affected families.

Analysis:

The half day program is currently only used by seven families, as follows:

- 3 families attend 2 half days
- 2 families attend 3 half days
- 2 families attend 1 half day plus some full days.

Three of the families noted above will be attending school in the fall and another three families will be requiring full day child care in the near future. The Brockton Child Care Committee and staff reviewed the financial stability of the half day programs vs full day programs. The overall expense is the same, however we do not recoup the same revenue for half day programs. With the upcoming \$10/day fee, the Child Care Centre will have an increased demand for enrollment. Staff recommend removing the half day program to allow for families to optimize the full day program, which will be at a reduced cost to the family. However, this will result in increased revenue for the Municipality with the grant funding currently being offered through the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System Funding (CWELCC). This has been presented as part of the financial plans being submitted to the County for review for base funding.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

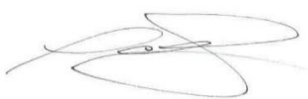
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|---|-----|
| • Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance | Yes |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

By eliminating the half day programs and only offering full day programs the Centre would bring in more revenue which would aid in covering expenditures. We must opt into The Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System Funding (CWELCC) by September 2022 which will result in savings for families. This program will help families financially and we would not be creating a financial hardship on families if the half day programs are eliminated.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Bross".

Sharon Bross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sonya Watson".

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer