

Report to Council

Report Title:	Changes to Summer Program Offerings		
Prepared By:	Carri-Ann Scott – Manager, Child Care Services		
Department:	Child Care		
Date:	November 25, 2025		
Report Number:	BCCC2025-07	File Number:	C11BR
Attachments:	N/A		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number BCCC2025-07 – Changes to Summer Program Offerings, prepared by Carri-Ann Scott, Manager Child Care Services and in doing so support the planned changes to summer programming at the Brockton Child Care Centre (BCCC), beginning in 2026, and to outline the benefits for families, licensed child care capacity, and broader community access, recognizing its value in improving family choice, enhancing community access to licensed care, and supporting efficient year-round operations at the Brockton Child Care Centre..

Report:

Background:

Historically, BCCC’s summer programming has been available only to families who maintained enrollment for at least 2 days per week during July and August. Families seeking care—whether toddler, preschool, or before-and after-school—were required to remain enrolled during the summer to secure their space for September.

This approach provided continuity but limited family flexibility, created financial pressure on those who did not need care in the summer, and restricted access for other community members seeking licensed programming.

Analysis:

To better align child care services with family needs, operational capacity, and community program offerings, BCCC is implementing several updates for the 2026 program year. These changes respond to feedback from parents, support more flexible enrollment options, and strengthen the centre’s ability to plan staffing and classroom transitions throughout the year. The revised model also enhances access to licensed child care and expands summer programming for the broader community, while maintaining compliance with CCEYA licensing requirements.

The following sections outline the key components of the 2026 program expansion and associated policy updates:

1. School-Year Families No Longer Required to Maintain Summer Enrollment

Beginning in 2026:

- Families enrolled in toddler, preschool, and before and after-school programs through the end of June **will not have to maintain enrollment during July and August.**
- Their existing space will be **reserved for September.**
- Summer care will continue to be available for those who choose to opt in.

2. Expanded Community Summer Programming (Kindergarten to Age 10)

In alignment with the policies of the Recreation Department, BCCC will offer **expanded summer programming for any families in the community:**

- **Children entering Kindergarten to age 10** may enroll.
- Children **under 68 months** (before their 6th birthday) may be eligible for the summer child care program and billed at **CWELCC rates.**
- Children **68 months to 10 years** will be billed at a rate of **\$XX/day.**
- It should be noted that these spaces are for Summer Programming only. Participation in the summer program will not guarantee a spot in the centre's before- and after-school programs at either St. Teresa of Calcutta or Walkerton District Community School.

Enrollment will operate on a **5-day-per-week model**, and families may register for **one or more weeks**, subject to availability. Enrollment will first be offered to existing BCCC families to maintain continuity of care for the children. Additional spaces will then be provided to all families in the community.

This structure presents a flexible, predictable, and accessible option for families seeking licensed care during the summer months.

3. Licensed Capacity and Program Supervision

The expanded offering will support:

- Up to **60 school-aged children** (an increase of 30 licensed spaces over previous years), and
- Up to **26 Kindergarten-aged children,**

In accordance with the Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA) licensing requirements. All programming will be supervised by **Registered Early Childhood Educators** and delivered during BCCC's operating hours: **6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.**

4. Toddler and Preschool Enrollment Flexibility

Families in toddler and preschool programs will also have the option to **pause enrollment for July and August** while retaining their placement for September. It is anticipated that this will:

- Improve accuracy in staffing and class planning.
- Allow new families to begin during the summer through the natural progression of children advancing to older age groups.
- Support stable enrollment across the whole calendar year.

Community and Operational Benefits

This revised model will:

a) **Respond to community requests**

Families have expressed a desire to choose between BCCC summer care and Brockton's recreation programs **without financial penalties or the obligation to hold unused child care spots**.

b) **Increase access to licensed child care**

This expansion strengthens the availability of cost-effective, licensed summer programming in Brockton, supporting a broader range of family needs and schedules.

c) **Optimize use of licensed spaces year-round**

Allowing school-year families to pause enrollment creates more opportunities to fill available spaces during the summer with new or waitlisted families.

d) **Support efficient staffing and planning**

The anticipated increase in summer enrollment will be managed through the annual hiring of **contract summer staff**, ensuring service levels are maintained while keeping staffing costs aligned with operational needs.

Next Steps

- Update the Parent Handbook, website, and summer program materials to reflect the revised model.
- Begin communication to families in January 2026.
- Coordinate with the Recreation Department to align messaging and avoid duplication.
- Initiate recruitment of contract summer staff in late winter each year.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

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

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community | Yes |
| • 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 Yes
- 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

The proposed 2026 program changes are expected to have a neutral to positive financial impact on BCCC's operations and have been fully reflected in the 2026 budget

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Carri-Ann Scott, Manager, Child Care Services

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer