

Corporation of the Town of Carleton Place

175 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, ON, K7C 2V8, Phone: (613) 257-6200 Fax (613) 257-8170



December 14, 2020

The Honourable Ahmed Hussen
Minister of Families, Children and Social Development
48 Rosemount Avenue
Unit B
York, Ontario
M9N 3B3

VIA EMAIL

Dear Honourable Minister:

At the December 8th, 2019 session of The Town of Carleton Place Council, Resolution 1-132-10 was adopted as follows:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted childcare options for nearly every family in our community and has profoundly increased the cost to operate safe childcare forcing childcare spaces or centres to close.

AND WHEREAS Ontario has among the highest average childcare fees of any Canadian province and while costs vary regionally for licensed childcare, families are paying between \$9,000 and \$20,000+ per year for each child and these costs continue to rise steadily which makes passing the associated COVID-19 costs to families not possible;

AND WHEREAS a 2012 study identified that in Ontario, public investment in the early years and childcare has a ripple effect in positive economic benefits resulting in an economic output of \$2.27 for every dollar invested in childcare;

AND WHEREAS the economic recovery of Carleton Place, Lanark County and Ontario is dependent on families having access to safe, reliable, and affordable childcare that incorporates early learning principles;

AND WHEREAS we are committed to working with the provincial government and childcare service managers to deliver positive and affordable options for our families;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Town of Carleton Place request the Government of Ontario:
 - a. prioritize children and childcare as part of its overall post pandemic recovery plan;



- b. develop, adequately fund and release publicly a comprehensive plan that can support facilities through the provision of licensed childcare and early learning education; and
 - c. provide increased funding to childcare providers reflective of COVID-19 operating cost increases to ensure a safe reopening and long-term sustainability for the sector; and
2. this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario, Randy Hillier MPP, Scott Reid, MP, the Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and the provincial Minister of Education.

CARRIED

We look forward to hearing back from you with respect to any opportunities for funding to ensure the long-term sustainability of the childcare services sector.

Sincerely,

Stacey Blair

Town Clerk

sblair@carletonplace.ca

- cc. Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development
Provincial Minister of Education
MP Scott Reid
MPP Randy Hillier
All municipalities within the Province of Ontario