

Dear Families with Children in Licensed Child Care,

The federal and provincial governments recently signed the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Agreement, which works toward making child care more affordable for families.

### **What does this mean for your family?**

Licensed child care providers must choose whether to apply to participate in the CWELCC system by November 1, 2022.

If you have a child under 6 years of age in licensed child care and your child care provider is participating in the CWELCC system, you will receive a 25% child care fee reduction retroactive to April 1, 2022.

An additional 25% fee reduction is set to take place by the end of 2022.

### **When will child care fees be reduced and retroactive payments issued?**

Child care providers are in the process of applying to the CWELCC system with applications being reviewed into the fall. If your childcare provider is approved to participate in the CWELCC system, they will let you know when you will receive your refund. If your provider will not be participating in the CWELCC system, they must also let you know.

We understand the importance of lowering the cost of licensed child care for families. We are working hard to develop the tools and procedures needed to manage the CWELCC program. Child care is in a time of significant change, and we thank you for your patience as we continue to review the information and work to introduce the CWELCC system.

Once your child care provider is accepted into the CWELCC, it will likely take some time for you to get your fee rebate from your child care provider. Please be assured that your rebate will be issued retroactively to April 1, 2022. As this is a new program for the child care sector, we require time to develop the right approach to support this plan.

## **How is the County of Middlesex preparing for the CWELCC?**

The County of Middlesex is committed to building and supporting a strong child care and early years system that meets the needs of all families and children. In the coming weeks, we will continue to work closely with the provincial and federal governments to carry out this plan. We are committed to keeping you up to date as more information becomes available.

## **Where can I find more information?**

Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information:

[www.middlesex.ca/departments/social-services/child-care/canada-wide-early-learning-and-child-care-agreement](http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/social-services/child-care/canada-wide-early-learning-and-child-care-agreement)

We encourage you to reach out to your child care provider with any questions you have about their intention to apply to participate in the CWELCC agreement. We are excited to be working with child care providers to support families accessing high-quality, affordable child care that supports healthy child development and makes the city of London the best place to raise a family.

Sincerely,

Joe Winser  
Manager – Social Services  
County of Middlesex