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Sent: July-06-18 9:45 AM

Subject: Childcare BC New Spaces Fund Announcement

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing to let you know that the Province has announced details of its Childcare BC New Spaces Fund, one of several initiatives outlined in the Childcare BC plan aimed at increasing the number of licensed child care spaces in the province.

The Childcare BC New Spaces Fund replaces the Child Care Major Capital Funding program, although similarities remain in that the new funding program will continue to fund the building of new child care facilities, along with renovations that add new child care spaces to existing facilities. The New Spaces Fund includes significant enhancements — with more under development — that will be of particular interest to school boards and municipalities.

The Childcare BC New Spaces Fund will support the creation of 22,000 new licensed child care spaces in B.C. with an investment of \$221 million over three years. This marks the single-largest investment to improve child care accessibility in B.C. history.

Other highlights of the new program include:

- An application process that is open year-round, based on availability of funds within a fiscal year.
- Priority on applications creating licensed infant and toddler and group 3-5 spaces, and child care spaces in underserved and vulnerable communities.
- A requirement for funding recipients to commit to deliver affordable child care.
- Higher maximum funding amounts, including up to \$1 million for public sector/non-profit partnerships.

Maximum funding amounts available include:

- Up to \$1 million per facility to public sector partnerships with non-profit child care providers.
- Up to \$500,000 per facility to school boards, Indigenous communities, Child Development Centres and not-for-profit child care providers.
- Up to \$250,000 per facility to private child care providers.

Referred to:

Sustainable City Advisory Committee Meeting (2018.09.05)

Copied to:

City Manager

Director Planning and Building

As the new program builds momentum and applications are submitted — especially those involving public-sector partnerships — it is anticipated that the New Spaces Fund will be vital in supporting the creation of a universal, quality, accessible and affordable child care system.

In the near future we will release a second funding stream targeted to organizations like yours that will further increase funding maximums for multi-facility projects. This responds to requests from many past applicants, and will allow communities with robust child care plans to quickly move forward with a significant expansion of their child care services.

Please watch for further details in the near future.

To learn more about the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund, including how to apply, funding guidelines and FAQs, visit www.gov.bc.ca/childcare/newspacesfund.

Please note that we have scheduled an informational call for interested applicants on July 16, 2018, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. To participate, call 1-877-353-9184 and use passcode 41532# to listen in and ask your questions.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Barry
Executive Director – Child Care Capital, Community, and ECE Registry Services
Ministry of Children and Family Development