

# The Corporation of The Town of Amherstburg

February 1, 2021

VIA EMAIL

The Honourable Ahmed Hussen Minister of Families, Children and Social Development 48 Rosemount Avenue, Unit B York, ON M9N-3B3 <u>Ahmed.Hussen@parl.gc.ca</u>

### **RE: COVID-19 Child Care Funding**

At its meeting of January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Amherstburg Town Council passed the following:

## "That Administration BE DIRECTED to send a letter in support of the Town of Carleton Place's request to the Provincial Government regarding COVID-19 Childcare Funding".

Enclosed is a copy of the correspondence from the Town of Carleton Place for convenience and reference purposes.

Regards,

Tammy Fowkes Deputy Clerk, Town of Amherstburg (519) 736-0012 ext. 2216 tfowkes@amherstburg.ca

> Website: www.amherstburg.ca 271 SANDWICH ST. SOUTH, AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO N9V 2A5 Phone: (519) 736-0012 Fax: (519) 736-5403 TTY: (519)736-9860

CC:

Stacey Blair, Town Clerk, Town of Carleton Place Email: <u>sblair@carletonplace.ca</u>

Hon. Stephen Lecce, Ontario Minister of Education Email: <u>minister.edu@ontario.ca</u>

Taras Natyshak, MPP Email: <u>tnayshak-qp@ndp.on.ca</u>

Chris Lewis, MP Email: <u>chris.lewis@parl.gc.ca</u>

AMO Email: <u>amo@amo.on.ca</u>

All Ontario Municipalities

## 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 8<sup>th</sup>, 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 mangers 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
- 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 <u>sblair@carletonplace.ca</u>

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