

## **Regional Council Decision - 2026 Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program Update**

On April 23, 2026 Regional Council made the following decision:

1. The Regional Chair write a letter, signed by all Mayors, to the Minister of Education to advocate for additional federal/provincial funding to support the creation of 2,175 more Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) spaces in York Region, supporting consistent access to affordable, high quality child care across the Region.
2. Council request the Province of Ontario and the federal government to explore an income tested approach to CWELCC fee reductions, that aligns with the existing child care fee subsidy program (which includes an income test), with a focus on better supporting families with lower household incomes, rather than priority geographical areas, allowing for greater flexibility for families to use an early child care facility of their choice.
3. The Regional Clerk circulate this motion and report to the Minister of Education, the federal Minister of Employment and Social Development, York Region Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament, and local municipalities.

The original staff report is available for your information at the following link:

### **[2026 Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program Update](#)**

Please contact Kevin Pal, General Manager, Social Services Branch at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72150 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Regards,

**Christopher Raynor** (he/him) | Regional Clerk, Regional Clerk's Office, Corporate Services Department

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