

REGION OF OTTAWA-  
CARLETON

MEMORANDUM

RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

NOTE DE SERVICE

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Information Previously Distributed

To be listed on the Community Services  
Agenda, 6 April 2000

DATE 8 March 2000

TO/DEST. The Chair and Members of Council

FROM/EXP. Social Services Commissioner

SUBJECT/OBJET **ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR  
CHILD CARE CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR 2000**

PURPOSE

This report provides information on the allocation of the additional \$400,000 approved by Regional Council for programs that have requested child care capital funding for 2000.

BACKGROUND

On February 23, 2000 Regional Council approved an allocation of \$1,985,536 for child care capital projects for 2000. Regional Council also approved an additional \$400,000 to be allocated to the seven programs that had requested capital funding. Delegated authority was granted to staff for this allocation.

METHODOLOGY

Each of the seven programs was contacted by phone to gather additional information on the impact of the recommended capital funding on their financial situation. A business case including information on capital funding need, ongoing operating cost and fee for service was developed for each of the seven programs.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND RATIONALE

In reviewing the additional information provided by the programs, staff from the Social Services Department used the following principles to assist them in allocating additional funding: equity amongst the programs, ensuring that the project could move forward and become a reality and ongoing financial viability.

### **Conseil des écoles catholiques de langue française du Centre est (CECLFCE) - Barrhaven**

This program is similar in size to the projects proposed by the CEPEO and Children's Place. The additional funding allocated to the CECLFCE took into account the total construction costs and the exceptional cost of the land. There is an active parent group involved in developing this child care program and the school board will be involved in minimizing the ongoing operating costs. The child care program is to be operational by September 2000.

### **Conseil des écoles publiques de l'est de l'Ontario (CEPEO) – Des sentiers**

The Centre préscolaire Coccinelle began operating a child care program in Des sentiers school in September 1999. The program is already full and provides care to 16 preschool, 10 kindergarten and 30 after-four school age children. Construction costs were lower than the CECLFCE and new CEPEO projects because it consisted in adapting two existing classrooms to serve as the physical space for the program. The additional funding will help minimize the cost of the renovation for the school board. Hot meals are catered to the children through the school cafeteria. The school board is committed and actively involved in maintaining low operating costs for the child care program.

### **Conseil des écoles publiques de l'est de l'Ontario (CEPEO) – New projects**

The construction costs for the two projects to be located in Nepean and Chapel Hill is in keeping with similar projects built over the years. The additional funding is more reflective of the constructions that are at par with the CECLFCE project. These programs will accommodate preschool, kindergarten and school age children. In order to ensure that child care services are affordable for families, the school board charges \$1.00 per year for rent, does not charge for utilities and only charges for janitorial services when the school is closed and the child care program is in operation. The school board intends to maintain this policy in the years to come.

### **Centre préscolaire Coccinelle**

The renovation costs for this innovative project have been kept to a minimum. The additional funding will meet the original request of the operator ensuring that the project goes ahead. The operator has less financial flexibility than the school boards and the other operators who have requested capital funding for 2000. Coccinelle will operate this program which will serve 10 toddlers and 16 preschoolers. Food will be catered from the Résidence St-Louis cafeteria. This workplace child care centre will develop programming to promote the interaction between children and seniors on a regular basis. The fees for the service are very reasonable.

### **Children's Place**

The total cost of this project includes the purchase of land and renovations to an existing building. Even though the additional funding is not to the level of the original request, the operator has some financial flexibility and is committed to realize this project. The operator who already offers flexible and part-

time group care needs additional space to meet the need of the existing clientele and is committed to offer a new innovative service to families in Ottawa-Carleton. The fees for the services are competitive.

### **Kanata Research Park Family Resource Centre**

The additional level of capital funding for this project and the ongoing operating budget provide added flexibility in managing costs for the Kanata Research Park Family Resource Centre. The Kanata Research Park has taken an active role in supporting lowering the cost of the service to families. This workplace child care centre will eventually provide services to 97 children aged 18 months to 12 years of age.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The approval of the 2000 budget provided \$1,400,000 in the child care capital reserve fund. There is currently \$100,000 in the reserve fund from accumulated interest and \$100,000 from the collection of Regional Development Charges for child care.

Transfer of \$785,536 from the child care contingency fund to the child care capital reserve fund was approved by Regional Council on February 23, 2000.

The Child Care Contingency Fund has a balance of \$2.1 million.

### PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Regional staff contacted each of the groups approved to receive capital funding for 2000.

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT COMMENT

Council approved the allocation of an additional \$400,000 for Child Care Capital Projects for 2000 at its meeting of 23 February 2000 (Community Services Report N° 42, Item 5, refers).

*Approved by  
D. Stewart*

ANNEX A

**Child Care Capital Costs and Grant Levels**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Total cost (\$)</b>	<b>Request (\$)</b>	<b>80% Grant (\$)</b>	<b>Original Grant (\$)</b>	<b>Additional Funding (\$)</b>	<b>Final Grant (\$)</b>
CECLFCE – Barrhaven	662,900	331,450*	530,320	202,500	97,500	300,00
CEPEO - Des sentiers	199,000	175,000	159,200	99,500	20,000	119,500
CEPEO - New schools	647,500	567,400	518,000	323,750	140,000	463,750
Coccinelle	247,000	190,000*	197,600	123,500	66,500	190,000
Children's Place	400,000	280,000*	320,000	200,000	66,000	266,000
Kanata Research Park	1,222,572	695,840*	978,840	611,286	10,000	621,286
Minor capital				425,000		425,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>1,985,536</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>2,385,536</b>

\* Denotes that the program requested less than an 80% child care capital grant. The figure listed in the column shows the exact funding request.