



COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

COMMITTEE REPORT

CEYD-23-01

To: Chair and Members of the Social Services Committee
From: Mandy Koroniak, Director of Children's Early Years Division
Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2023
Subject: **Revised 2023 Directly Operated Child Care Centre User Fees**

Background:

County of Wellington Directly Operated Child Care Centres have been enrolled in the 100% federally-funded Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) System.

In accordance with regulatory amendments to O. Reg. 137/15 and CWELCC Guidelines (August 2022), all licensed child care programmes enrolled in the CWELCC System were to implement a user fee reduction of 25% as of April 1, 2022 and a reduction of 50%, relative to 2020 user fees, as of January 1, 2023, to a minimum of \$12 per day.

Subsequently, Social Services Committee received the report CEYD-22-06 in September 2022, recommending a revised user fee schedule for 2022, and for the 2023 user fees commencing January 1, 2023.

Update:

In December 2022, The Ministry of Education released its 2023 CWELCC Guidelines. These guidelines provide further clarity on the 2023 user fee reduction requirements, specifying a 52.75% reduction in user fees as of January 1, 2023, to a minimum of \$12 per day. This adjustment represents the goal of an overall provincial 50% fee reduction in 2023 relative to 2020 provincial levels.

To meet the requirements of the CWELCC System the 2023 user fees approved by Council in September 2022 need to be further reduced and staff recommend that the following user fees be in effect as of January 2023 at all Directly Operated Child Care Centres.

User Fee Schedule as of January 1, 2023

Programme	March 2022 Daily Rates	Approved January 2023 Daily Rates	Proposed January 2023 Rates	% Decrease from March 2022
Infants				
Full day, 5 days/week	\$61.30	\$30.65	\$28.95	52.75%
Full day < 5 days/week	\$73.40	\$36.70	\$34.70	52.75%
½ day with lunch	\$39.85	\$19.93	\$18.85	52.75%
½ day without lunch	\$36.70	\$18.35	\$17.35	52.75%
Toddlers				
Full day, 5 days/week	\$49.55	\$24.78	\$23.40	52.75%
Full day < 5 days/week	\$54.25	\$27.13	\$25.65	52.75%
½ day with lunch	\$33.75	\$16.88	\$15.95	52.75%
½ day without lunch	\$29.05	\$14.53	\$13.75	52.75%
Preschoolers				
Full day, 5 days/week	\$43.55	\$21.78	\$20.55	52.75%
Full day < 5 days/week	\$48.05	\$24.03	\$22.70	52.75%
½ day with lunch	\$27.95	\$13.98	\$13.20	52.75%
½ day without lunch	\$24.40	\$12.20	\$12.00	52.75%

Notes:

1. User fees are rounded to the nearest .05
2. Authority to impose fees and charges is set out in Part XII of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c. 25 and in by-law #5681-20 of the Corporation of the County of Wellington.

Financial Implications:

User fee reductions as required by the CWELCC System are offset by the 100% federal CWELCC System funding allocation. The Ministry of Education's 2023 CWELCC Guidelines indicate that CWELCC funding is designed to fully offset the reduction in revenue from reduced base fees, while also improving compensation for eligible qualified workers.

Recommendation:

That the updated user fee schedule for Directly Operated Child Care Centres for January 1, 2023 be approved as set out in report CEYD-23-01 ; and,

That staff be directed to prepare the necessary by-law.

Respectfully submitted,



Mandy Koroniak
Director of Children's Early Years Division