

Memorandum

Date: December 15, 2020

To: City Council

From: Rod Sutherland, Director of Human Services

Re: Proposed Provincial Amendments to Child Care and Early Years Act

Recommendation

That the Memorandum from Rod Sutherland, Director of Human Services, Proposed Provincial Amendments to Child Care and Early Years Act, be received; and

That Council asks that the Province of Ontario reconsider the proposed amendments to the Child Care and Early Years Act and consult further with the sector and municipal service managers to design and implement Ontario's new child care plan, and to work with the federal government to implement a national child care plan with universal access across Canada; and

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Education and MPP Laurie Scott.

Rationale

The provincial government has recently conducted a review of the Child Care and Early Years Act and has proposed a number of changes.

The attached email and report was submitted to all Council members by Compass Early Learning and Care requesting a resolution in opposition to the proposed amendments. This memo provides a suggested resolution should Council wish to support the recommendation from Compass Early Learning and Care.

There have been similar concerns across much of the Children's Service sector including the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care and the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA). The Association of Municipalities of Ontario is encouraging the Province to continue consulting with OMSSA in support of the municipal service manager role.

From: Hanah McFarlane < hmcfarlane@compasselc.com>

Sent: Friday, November 27, 2020 1:08:41 PM

To: Council

Subject: Compass ELC responds to Ministry of Education's proposed changes to early years sector

Good afternoon,

Compass ELC runs child care and before and after school programming across CKL.

Please find the attached report submitted to the Ministry of Education Early Years division by Compass Early Learning and Care. It is in response to proposed changes to the Child Care and Early Years Act.

The feedback from our consultations with 75 members of Compass ELC including educators and families was clear and consistent. We do not support the proposed changes to Age Ranges, Ratios and Group sizes, Qualifications, and a registry for Home Child Care.

Toronto City Council just unanimously opposed the changes. (Article

here: https://www.thestar.com/news/city hall/2020/11/26/toronto-council-unanimously-urges-ford-government-to-abandon-proposed-changes-to-child-care-system.html).

We would like for every council throughout our child care communities to do the same. Please consider taking a stance on this issue.

Thank you, Hanah

Hanah Howlett McFarlane Communications Coordinator

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