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September 30, 2022

Re: Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (CWELCC)

Dear Parents,

We hope this letter finds you well.

As you may know, the federal and provincial governments recently signed the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care agreement (CWELCC) with a goal to make child care more affordable for families.

We are pleased to share that Brant Street Daycare has opted-in and been approved to the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) agreement between the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada.

While the government is moving quickly to implement initial steps, the full implementation plan will be phased-in over the next five years. A main focus of the plan is to reduce child care fees for families with children under the age of six (as well as children who turn six years before June 30).

What does this mean for my family?

All families with children under the age of six, as well as children who turn six years before June 30, will receive up to a 25% discount on their child care fee, retroactive to April 1, 2022. Subsidized families will receive the same discount on the parent portion of their fees. The rebates will be administered when we receive direction from the City of Toronto. Parents can expect a further fee reduction by the end of December 2022. Once we receive more information about the next steps, we will let you know when you can receive your refund/credit.

When will childcare fees be reduced, and retroactive payments/credits be issued?

If your child is eligible, a refund/credit retroactive to April 1, 2022, will be issued as soon as funds are available. As this is a new funding program for the childcare sector, we will require time to develop the new processes required to support this plan.

We will continue to work collaboratively with our partnering agencies and commit to keeping you up to date as more information and details of the plan become available. Once the

agreement process is complete, we will notify all families being impacted by the fee reduction by email. Please be sure that your email on file is up-to-date.

To learn more about the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program visit:

- <https://www.ontario.ca/page/canada-ontario-early-years-and-child-care-agreement>
- <https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/community-partners/early-learning-child-care-partners/canada-wide-early-learning-child-care-agreement-cwelcc/>

This is an exciting opportunity as we embark on the next phase in supporting an affordable, accessible, inclusive, and responsive childcare system in our community. Increasing access to affordable licensed childcare creates opportunities for positive early years experiences, providing a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will Brant Street Daycare be opting in to participate in the Canada-Wide Early Learning & Child Care Plan?

Yes! We have opted in.

Licensed child care agencies who are participating in the program are required to submit an Opt-in/Opt-out application. Brant Street Daycare worked with our municipal partners in Toronto and has completed the Opt-in application process.

What does this agreement mean for Brant Street Daycare families?

The Canada-Wide Early Learning & Child Care Plan is a five-year plan that is based on equity and inclusion. All families, including those with a fee subsidy, will have access to Canada-Wide Early Learning & Child Care programs by 2025.

Families with children 5-years old or younger enrolled in our centre-based or home child care programs should see their fees gradually reduced until by September 2025, the **average** fee for child care will be \$10-a-day.

Who is eligible?

Families with children in licensed centre-based care, and in licensed home child care, are eligible.

Children under the age of six (or turning six before June 30) in child care programs that are approved to participate in the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care system.

Who is not eligible?

Children over the age of 5 (with some exceptions for children with birthdays early in the year who are 6 years of age before June 30th, but are still enrolled in kindergarten).

All *unlicensed* child care programs are ineligible to participate in the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care system.

Do I have to apply or enroll to be eligible for reduced fees?

Brant Street Daycare is a licensed child care provider that has opted-in to the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System. Parents or guardians of children under the age of six enrolled in eligible Brant Street Daycare programs **do not** have to apply to receive a child care fee reduction.

If your child is enrolled in one of our programs, you may be eligible for reduced fees if:

- you pay more than \$12 per day for child care and your child:
 - is under the age of six, or
 - turns six years old and is enrolled in a preschool, kindergarten or family age group or a licensed home child care premises, *until June 30*

The amount that parents/guardians will save depends on the current fees being charged.

I have been hearing about \$10 per day child care. Will my fee be \$10 per day?

The intention of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care plan is to reduce child care fees:

- > By 25% (to a minimum daily fee of \$12) as of April 2022
- > By 50% (to a minimum daily fee of \$12) by the end of 2022
- > To an **average** of \$10 a day by September 2025

Fee reductions will only be available to families who have children enrolled with agencies, like Brant Street Daycare, who have enrolled in the Canada-Wide Early Learning Child Care program.

Brant Street Daycare is working a process with the city of Toronto to implement fee reductions. Fee rebates, retroactive to April 2022, will be facilitated as soon as possible after fee reductions have been implemented.

I receive a child care fee subsidy. Will I be eligible for the fee reduction?

Yes. The Ontario child care fee subsidy program will continue to be available for families who are eligible to apply for financial support to help you pay for licensed child care.

Subsidized families will receive the same discount on the parent portion of their fees.

To get more information or apply for the child care subsidy, Contact the Children's Services in the area you live for more information and to apply: [City of Toronto](#)

What happens next?

Once the agreement process with the City of Toronto is complete we will notify all families being impacted by the fee reduction by email. Please be sure that your email on file is up-to-date.

A fee reduction of up to 25% will be implemented and refunds for fees retroactive to April 1, 2022, will begin.

Will I still receive a refund if I withdrew my child from care after April 1, 2022?

Yes. All families eligible for a refund for fees paid after April 1, 2022 will receive their refund.