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Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Re: AU12.2 Children's Services Division: Opportunities to Achieve Greater Value for Child Care from Public Funds

Dear Chair and members of the Audit Committee,

ACORN members have been advocating municipally and provincially for an affordable and accessible child care system that works for everyone. ACORN members are low-to-moderate income people across the city. We are newcomers, low-wage workers, and parents struggling to afford child care.

ACORN stands firmly against the recommendations in the Auditor General's Report. ACORN supports a strong, publicly run child care system where child care workers and Early Childhood Educators are paid a living wage. Transferring operations of City run child care centres to non-profits will not benefit children, parents or child care workers.

We are concerned that recommendation 8, to require parents provide pay stubs to assess eligibility for subsidy, will be more onerous for our low-income members. The report states that child care is unaffordable for 75% of families in Toronto and we strongly believe more people should have access to subsidy, not less.

We do not support further exploration into recommendations one and eight of the Auditors Report. ACORN members will not support weakening our current child care system and will continue to fight for one that works for all Torontonians.

Alejandra Ruiz-Vargas  
East York ACORN Chapter Chair

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