

Attachment 4: Overview of Efforts to Secure a Location for a Child Care Centre

Location

Children's Services Division have been searching the Woodbine Local Area to secure a location suitable for a child care centre that will meet the obligations of the Rexdale – Casino Woodbine Community Benefits Agreements. They have engaged and consulted with Casino Woodbine staff, local residents, and members of the Rexdale - Casino Woodbine Community Benefits Agreement Community Steering Committee, and the Employment and Labour Market Partners Implementation Working Group.

Many potential locations were explored, but it has been difficult to find a suitable location that meets the licensing requirements within the designated area. Considerations for appropriate child care location are governed by legislative requirement under the *Child Care and Early Year Act* including, but are not limited to, requirements around adequate interior and exterior space. In addition to legislative requirements, accessibility to public transit is a strong consideration. To date, a suitable space has not been secured; however, Children's Services Division continue to work with a commercial broker as well as other City divisions for a suitable location.

One Toronto Gaming's contribution of \$5 million was intended to be used to establish a child care centre off the site of the casino, in part because of concerns regarding the suitability of having a child care co-located with a casino. Plans for Blocks 9 and 10 of the development lands, both of which are close to being finalized, do not contemplate a child care and are unlikely to be suitable.

Community Engagement

The licensed child care centre will be available to community residents and Woodbine Casino employees. The centre will provide care for infants, toddlers and preschool children. Staff are exploring the possibility for extended child care hours, depending on demand and the ability of the operator to provide service. With the support of community partners future and current employees, as well as, the community are being surveyed on their current and future child care needs.

Once a location is secured, staff will meet with community and local planning tables to provide information and receive feedback. Staff will follow an Expression of Interest process to select an operator.

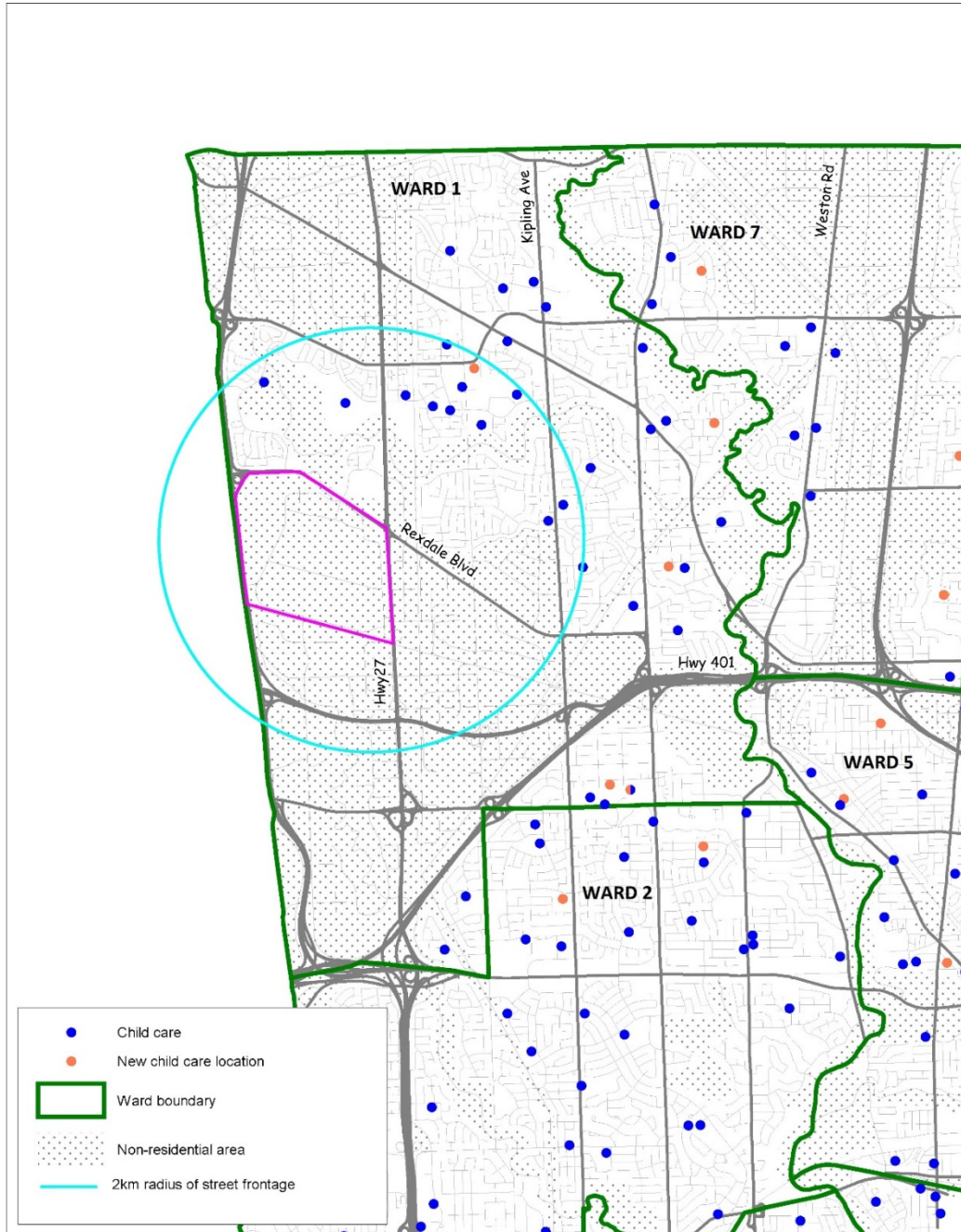
To date, a total number of 257 completed responses have been received, of which 48 per cent are current job applicants, 20 per cent are part-time employees, 14 per cent are full-time employees, and 13 per cent are community residents. Of the responses received to date, approximately 30 per cent have children. The majority of respondents, 86 per cent, indicate a preference to Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. child care, and expressed interest in extended hours for child care on Saturdays and Sundays.

Current findings do not reflect future preferences since individuals' needs will change. Therefore, the Casino Woodbine Area Child Care Demand Survey will remain open for residents to provide their input. [The link to the online survey may be accessed by clicking here.](#)

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A map of new child care locations and existing child care locations in Wards 1, 2, 5, and 7 is provided below.

Woodbine Casino Site showing Child Care within a 2 km radius and beyond



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