

MEMORANDUM

DATE: Wednesday, June 26, 2013
TO: Community Development and Recreation Committee
FROM: Councillor Anthony Perruzza, Ward 8, York West
RE: CD 22.3, Full-Day Kindergarten Implementation Status Update

SUMMARY:

The transition over to Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) has created significant pressures on childcare providers. The City, as the mediator for these service providers and the Province, is in a unique position to find the right direction to move forward in order to strengthen the child care system.

The measurable advantages of improving and expanding child care services in the City of Toronto are many. The City needs to communicate the benefits of providing excellent and affordable childcare services to a wider audience in order to garner more support for the investments required to shore up the system through the transition. Child care providers, the School Boards and the City are facing undue pressures through this period, but the City is in a unique position to make the case for the type of expansion in the system that can lead to economic growth and better standards of living.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that:

1. The General Managers of Children's Services, Toronto Employment and Social Services and Economic Development and Culture jointly report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee prior to the end of 2013 on the financial impact of the availability of child care on sustaining employment and on the delivery of other social services.
2. That the MEDU and Boards of Education work together with the City to ensure that the level of funding for the provision of child care services and that the transition schedule be sensitive to the needs of service providers.

Sincerely,



Anthony Perruzza
City of Toronto Councillor
Chair of Community Development and Recreation Committee