

ATTACHMENT 2

TORONTO CHILD CARE SERVICE PLAN 2010-2014: SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DIRECTION #1 – STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

- Provided ongoing feedback and expertise to Provincial discussion papers, proposed legislation and regulations related to modernizing child care and FDK, resulting in the division's role as service system manager being reaffirmed and strengthened in the new *Child Care and Early Years Act*.
- Implemented a variety of strategies, planning processes and funding programs to facilitate implementation of FDK before and after school programs and to mitigate the impact of FDK on child care operators.
- Developed a new child care funding model to reflect the updated Provincial Funding Framework for presentation to Council in June 2015.
- Developed shared Child and Family Outcomes as outlined in "Raising the Village: Measuring the Well-being of Children and Families in Toronto".
- Undertook a variety of research and stakeholder engagement, including two Parent Summits, to inform service system management and policy development.

DIRECTION #2 – ADVANCING QUALITY

- Created the only Canadian validated quality assessment tool (formerly the operating criteria) for infant, toddler and preschool children, in partnership with Ontario Institute for Studies in Education/University of Toronto and expanded its use to other municipalities on a cost-recovery basis.
- With community partners, developed and launched a variety of training initiatives to enhance quality and the use of pedagogy in early learning settings.
- Developed *Child Care Design and Technical Guideline* to promote quality of environment in child care settings for broad community use.

DIRECTION #3 – IMPROVING ACCESS AND EQUITY TO SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- Managed system growth of 8,200 child care spaces for a total of 64,700 spaces and 1,116 fee subsidies for a total of 25,116.

- Completed and launched the cross-divisional Middle Childhood Strategy, resulting in expansion of Afterschool Recreation and Care Programs in ten neighbourhoods, in partnership with Parks, Forestry and Recreation.
- Undertook a number of initiatives to increase recognition of licensed home child as both a career opportunity and a mechanism to increase the availability of early learning and care options for younger children.
- Enhanced communications through social media on programs and services available to Toronto's children and families.
- Enhanced online services to parents by introducing online and 311 access to fee subsidy applications. Modernized and expanded online services for child care operators and other service providers.
- Through the division's capital budget, funded construction of 11 new child care centres, creating 564 spaces.
- With school boards, identified and secured provincial approval of sites to be retrofitted under the Provincial Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy.

DIRECTION #4 – DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- Established the Toronto Child and Family Network, bringing together provincial ministries, City divisions, school boards and community partners to further the development of an integrated early years system in Toronto.
- Established, assessed and refined sites of practices for service integration in Regent Park, O'Connor, and at the Scarborough Child and Family Life Centre.
- Improved customer service by co-locating two offices with Toronto Employment and Social Services and enhancing on-line services.

DIRECTION #5 – TRANSITION TO EARLY LEARNING

- Lead community partners in developing and implementing area-specific, multi-year strategies to stabilize child care while the system adapts to the impacts of FDK. Using provincial resources, provided grant funding and strategic direction to assist operators with business transformation, space retrofits and financial stabilization.
- Established four District Child Care Advisory Committees to improve communication with child care operators and to facilitate change management.