

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM3.14	ACTION			Ward:All
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**"Child Care At Risk" - Child care Centres in Schools on the Closure List
- by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Janet Davis**

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Community Development and Recreation Committee.
A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Janet Davis, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Deputy City Manager, Cluster A, to create an inventory of child care facilities operating in Toronto District School Board (TDSB) properties across Toronto and identify child care facilities located in schools identified as under consideration of closure.
2. City Council direct the Deputy City Manager, Cluster A, to report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee on an appropriate intervention and advocacy position to the Province.

Summary

The Provincial Ministry of Education Directive to the Toronto District School Board means as many as 1 in 5 schools could close in the City of Toronto.

Many of the schools that would be forced to close by the Directive have child care centres integrated into the school learning environment.

The Ministry of Education determines the square footage of school space required for the system based on pupil enrollment ignoring early childhood education as instructional space in schools.

In the schools in danger of closing there are 53 child care centres with over 3,000 licensed spaces. If the Provincial Directive is fully implemented these centres and spaces would be lost putting tremendous pressure on remaining spaces in other schools. Furthermore, there are already thousands of families on the wait list for child care.

The City, parents and the child care community need to be aware of how many child care centres are at risk and the impact of accommodating those families who would lose their child care.