



# Janet DAVIS

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Chair and Members  
Community Development and Recreation Committee

Re: **Full Day Kindergarten and Before-and-After-School Program  
Implementation**

In 2010 the City of Toronto became a key partner with Toronto's four school boards and the Ministry of Education in the policy development, planning and implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) and new mandatory Before-and-After-School (B&A) programs. Children's Services is also the Service Manager for the B&A program and holds contracts with third-party operators to provide fee subsidies for eligible families. Child care for all age-groups has been moved into the Ministry of Education.

The introduction of all-day kindergarten is now complete and the funding to assist with transition has been eliminated. However, there continue to be challenges faced by schools and service providers: growing demand for service, limited space in schools, sharing classroom space, adequacy of funding, parent survey to approve new programs, lunch program supervision and class size, B&A financial stability, split shifts and retaining qualified staff.

In 2013, Children's Services reported to Committee and Council with a status update on FDK, including number of programs, enrolment, costs, provincial funding and other implementation issues. Council adopted a number of recommendations to support centres with implementation. Today, some operators are still struggling to remain financially viable, respond to demand and adapt to new regulatory changes. An update of this report would be very helpful to understand the status of FDK, B&A in Toronto and its outstanding challenges.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2013/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-63941.pdf>

The Ministry has recently announced new regulations to require school boards to provide after-school programs for students in Grade 1 and up. The policy and program delivery models are still under consideration; however, I believe it would be wise to review the implementation of FDK and B&A for "lessons learned" in order to anticipate and respond at the start.

The TDSB is also considering undertaking a review of the implementation of FDK and B&A programs, and developing options for school-age models. In order to support this initiative, I would like to recommend the following motions:

1. City Council, subject to the TDSB undertaking a review of the implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten and Before-and-After School Program, request the General Manager of Toronto Children's Services to support and participate in the proposed TDSB review, and assess the impact on existing child care programs and the development of Extended Day program options for school aged children; and
2. Report to the November 29 meeting of Community Development and Recreation with an update of the 2013 report, which includes number of schools, operators, number of subsidies, nutritional and other supports provided for all-day kindergarten, and other related matters related to After School/Extended Day programs.

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