

**From:** [torontoeecc](mailto:torontoeecc)  
**To:** [Budget Committee](#); [Councillor Burnside](#); [Councillor Campbell](#); [Councillor Carroll](#); [Councillor Crawford](#); [Councillor Di Ciano](#); [Councillor Mihevc](#); [Councillor Nunziata](#)  
**Cc:** [Councillor Davis](#); [Mayor Tory](#); [Councillor Fletcher](#); [Councillor McMahon](#); [Councillor Fragedakis](#)  
**Subject:** Child care funding in 2018 budget  
**Date:** Monday, January 15, 2018 4:02:10 PM

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To the members of the Budget Committee:

We are writing to ask you to ensure the full funding that City Council committed for child care as part of its Child Care Growth Strategy is included in the city's 2018 Budget.

We are Toronto East Enders for Child Care (TEECC), a group that was formed in 2016 by parents on Toronto's east end with the goals of more high-quality spaces in our neighbourhood; an early years and child care system that is affordable for families; and better information about our child care centres. We see fair compensation for child care workers and adequate support for newcomers and low-income families in our communities as going hand-in-hand with these goals.

The child care situation in the east end of Toronto has hit crisis proportions - insufficient licensed, high-quality spaces for the growing number families in the area, prices well above the median for the city and growing faster than the rate of inflation, and limited information about what is specifically being planned to enhance early childhood services for our growing community. In the East End, the challenges of access to infant and before/after care spaces are particularly acute.

Last year our group called on all orders of government to make child care a priority in 2017. We are pleased that all orders of government made commitments to new funding for child care, an important step to help address the many challenges faced in our community in accessing and affording quality child care.

However we understand the proposed 2018 city budget has not included much of the federal and provincial funds that were committed to the City of Toronto, and that the City itself has reduced its funding for child care overall. This goes against the commitments of Councillors this year and will not allow us to stem the child care crisis the city faces.

We ask that the city meet its own commitment to fund 20% of the Child Care Growth Strategy, and work to ensure that neighbourhoods with a growing child population like Toronto's East End are prioritized for new child care investments.

We thank you for your support

Sincerely,

Toronto East Enders For Child Care  
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