Child Care Growth and Expansion:
Updates

Toronto Children’s Services
Toronto Early Learning and Child Care Forum
September 2017
New Investments &
Toronto’s Licensed Child Care
Growth Strategy
Federal and Provincial Investments

• May 2017: Province confirmed new resources, including $34.4M in expansion funding for ages 0-4 for Toronto

• June 2017: Ontario’s Action Plan, under Canada-Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (ELCC)
  • Included Federal investment of $21.5M in 2017
Licensed Child Care Growth Strategy

- Vision of Toronto’s 10 yr Licensed Child Care Growth Strategy:
  - Grow the child care system to serve 50 per cent of children from birth to age four
  - Increase fee subsidies to serve 40 to 50 per cent of all spaces
  - Provide operating grants that reduce parent fees by 25%-40%
  - Support a thriving early learning and child care workforce
Licensed Child Care Growth Strategy

• Council approved the following allocation of 2017 investments:
  • 2189 new fee subsides for children 0-4
  • 427 new fee subsidies for children 4-12
  • $15.7 million allocated for capital to build new child care spaces
  • Increased investments of over $3 million in base funding through the General Operating Grant to improve salaries for child care staff and improve affordability for families through cost avoidance
  • Dedicated new funding of $1 million for children with extra support needs

• October: reporting to CDRC on targets and implementation for years 1-3
Child Care Capital Strategy Update 2017
Capital Strategy 2015-2019

- Focus on creating spaces for infants & toddlers
- Wards & neighbourhoods with fewer licensed spaces than fee subsidies considered a priority for capital investment
- To date 654 infant & toddler spaces have been added with an additional 1,340 spaces to be added by the end of 2019
• Create sufficient capacity to meet Licensed Child Care Growth Strategy’s vision to serve 50% of children 0-4 by 2026 (benchmark)
• New funding from the Federal & Provincial Governments to support the expansion of licensed child care & Child & Family Centre’s (CFC’S)
• To identify school priorities in the City of Toronto for child care and Child and Family Centre expansion under provincial B06 and B07 capital programs
Capital Funding

Federal Government

• Funding for the expansion of community child care programs through new capital builds & renovations to existing child care centres

Provincial Government (Ministry of Education)

• B06 Funding to construct school based child care for additions & renovations; funding is also available for CFCs (Application deadline: August 4, 2017)

• B07 Funding to support the construction of new schools & school consolidations which may include child care (Application deadline: September 8, 2017)
Community Child Care Expansion

**Purpose:** To increase access to out-of-school child care

**Process:** combination of new capital buildings and capital renovations

1. Incentive program for operators to open new programs or expand existing programs in areas of high priority that includes capital, operating & start-up

2. Review list of capital projects on books but without funding

3. Review Early Learning Transition applications on waitlist

4. Work with Facilities and Real Estate to identify new build opportunities
Expansion of **community** child care programs through new capital builds & renovations to existing child care centres

- Funded by Provincial and Federal agreements
- Covers 100% of capital costs; no agency contribution required
- Project agreements must be in place by December 2017
- Construction must be completed by December 2018

**Funding available:**

1. Capital renovations - renovation projects up to $500,000 to reconfigure existing space to add infant, toddler and preschool capacity within an existing child care centre.
2. Major capital - capital projects over $500,000 for new builds or additions.
Eligibility: Applicants must:
• be a non-profit or public agency
• have a Toronto Children's Services fee subsidy contract in good standing for a minimum of one year
• have the space available for expansion
• complete the capital project and/or renovation by December 2018
• create additional spaces

Applications received until: November 30th, 2017

More information and application forms: www.toronto.ca/children
Neighbourhood Priority for Early Years Expansion

Neighbourhood priority:
- highest (10 to 20% served) (49)
- high (20% to 30% served) (39)
- medium (30% to 40% served) (20)
- low (40% to 50% served) (17)
- not a priority (more than 50% served) (15)