

Children's Services
Giuliana Carbone, Deputy City Manager

Metro Hall, 10th Floor
55 John Street
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3C6

Tel: 416-392-8128
Fax: 416-397-4518
toronto.ca

November 16, 2017

Dear child care partner,

Further to the email that you had received on November 15, I am very happy to confirm that City of Toronto Children's Services will be offering increased base funding through **General Operating Funding** for eligible child care operators who offer full-time care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. This increased funding will be targeted to the Council-approved *Child Care Growth Strategy – Phase One Implementation* principles of increased affordability for families and better wages for child care staff. The term "General Operating Funding" replaces what was known as the "General Operating Grant (GOG)" to reflect that funding will be operational base funding rather than a grant tied to wages.

As part of the process to secure increased funding, eligible child care operators will need to use the additional funding to address affordability and/or staff wages. This will be done through a simple-to-use Implementation Plan tool, which must be submitted with your 2018 Budget for approval. To allow sufficient time for this planning process, we have extended the Budget submission deadline to **January 26, 2018**.

Between now and the end of January, we will be carefully rolling out the new tool, holding information sessions and providing detailed documentation. These resources will help you determine how best to use the increased revenue to lower fees and increase wages.

I encourage you to review the attached Q&A document as it should help you understand the implications of this increased funding opportunity for your centre. As always, you can also connect with your District Consultant if you have any questions that are not answered in this document.

Here is what to expect over the coming weeks:

Date	Description	Action
November 16, 2017	2018 Budget App. will show a funding increase from \$0.37 to \$0.52 per point.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Log into the Budget App.• Review your potential increase.• Consider how the additional funding could help decrease fees and/or increase wages for child care staff.
November 24, 2017	Forum meeting: Elaine Baxter-Trahair to talk about the new funding.	Plan on participating (in-person or on-line) in the Forum to get the latest facts about General Operating Funding.

Date	Description	Action
End of November/early December 2017	Evening meetings to be scheduled to discuss new increased funding and how it will work. (e-blast notification to follow)	Executive Directors, Board members, operators and book keepers are encouraged to attend the meetings to familiarize themselves with how the increased funding would apply to them.
Early December 2017	Customized Implementation Plan tool will be sent to each centre.	A customized funding Implementation Plan tool will be sent to you by email. This tool will help you determine how the increased revenue can offset fees, increase child care staff wages or both.
December & January	Budget Labs (additional)	Onsite guidance within the Budget Labs will be available to help determine the annual budget and to support completion of your Implementation Plan.
January 26, 2018	2018 Operator Budgets are due for all centres.	Operators to submit their Budget and Implementation Plan, which demonstrates how the increased funding will be used in 2018.

The increased funding is great news for Toronto's child care system. I know that this represents another of the many changes these past few years. I want to assure you that we are working hard to provide you with the information, resources and support that you need to help you through this exciting phase in the growth of Toronto's quality child care system.

Sincerely,

(Original Signed)

Elaine Baxter-Trahair
 General Manager
 Toronto Children's Services