

Staff Report

Report From: Bonnie Hastings, Childcare Services Manager

Meeting Date: October 21, 2024

Subject: Month End Report for October 2024

Attachment(s): N/A

Recommendation:

That Goderich Town Council receive this report for information.

Report Summary:

To provide Council with an update on the general operation of the Childcare Centre, which may also include any legislative/regulatory updates from the Ministry of Education and/or Ministry of Health.

Background/Analysis:

The Ministry of Education has provided the necessary approvals for the infant playground at the Childcare Centre. Funding for this project was approved through an Accessibility grant and was completed in October. The final inspection was performed by Playchek Playground Inspection Services. Updates and maintenance were also completed in other areas of the Childcare Centre yards. The final stage of the new infant playground shed is scheduled for October 31, 2024.

Generator installation at the Centre is scheduled for later this month.

To date, we have 8 full-time and 15 permanent part-time employees, along with several casual employees. This scheduling setup works well with consistency for the children and programming.

The upcoming Circle of Security training course is scheduled for Thursday afternoons in November, with 7 employees attending.

Inspections from Huron Perth Public Health and the Ministry of Education were also completed in September. Both inspections were completed with minimal recommendations for improvement. The Centre's renewal with the Ministry of Education is January 2025.

Two Early Childhood Education students from Fanshawe and Georgian College are fulfilling placements at the Centre in October/November.

The upcoming closures for the Centre will be as follows:

October 14, 2024 – Thanksgiving

October 21, 2024 – ECE Appreciation Day – Staff attending full-day training coordinated by the County of Huron Children Services Department

November 11, 2024 – Remembrance Day

December 24, 2024 - January 2, 2025 – Christmas Closure

I am pleased to provide the following current Centre Waitlist. This information is constantly evolving as parents find alternate care, and children’s ages change.

Program	Operating Capacity	Current Enrolment	October Operating Capacity	Current Waitlist for 2024	2025	2026
Infants	10	12	10	16	62	23
Toddler #1	15	11	10	27	15	3
Toddler #2	15	11	10	0		
Preschool #1	16	17	16	26	7	4
Preschool #2	16	18	16	0		
Preschool #3	16	16	16	0		
Preschool #4	15	17	15	0		
Total	103	103	93	69	84	30
<p>Current enrolment includes part-time/flex care for attending children.</p> <p>Total number of children on waitlist 183</p>						

Linkages:

- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #1: Safe and Reliable Infrastructure
- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #2: Welcoming and Caring Community

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

No financial impact is associated with this report.

Approved By: Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer
 Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk