

Report to Council

Report Title:	Brockton Child Care Centre Reopening		
Prepared By:	Sharon Bross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor		
Department:	Child care		
Date:	June 23, 2020		
Report Number:	BCCC2020-05	File Number:	C11BC, P03
Attachments:	N/A		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approves Report Number BCCC2020-05 Brockton Child Care Centre Reopening for information purposes and confirms and ratifies the decisions made by staff with respect to the Brockton Child Care Centre reopening.

Report:

Background:

The Brockton Child Care Centre and School Age programs were closed by Provincial mandate due to Covid-19 pandemic on March 13, 2020. The Provincial government allowed reopening of Child Care programs as of June 12, 2020.

Analysis:

The Brockton Child Care Centre tentative reopening date will be Monday July 6th, 2020. Strict protocols from the Grey-Bruce Health Unit and the Ministry of Education will be followed. All the full-time staff will be recalled along with the required part-time staff as of June 29th, 2020. There is a possibility of more part-time staff being recalled to cover full-time staff vacation and will be determined as needed. The week of June 29th to July 3rd the staff will be required to attend training on the use of personal protective equipment, review the new protocols and prepare the environment for reopening.

As a result of a survey sent to all the Brockton Child Care Centre current families, we are able to accommodate 46 of the 60 children that responded they would like to return now and will work to accommodate more as we are able. Due to the guidelines set out by the Province some of the families do not meet the criteria we must follow due to their sporadic child care needs due to shift work. The hours of operation for the Centre will be shortened. Normally the Centre is opened from 6:15 am to 6:15 pm. The reopening hours of operation will be 6:45 am to 5:30 pm to comply with the Provincial guidelines in regards to screening, staffing and related ratios. In discussions with the Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board they are allowing the use of three

classrooms in the school for our programs. I have inquired about the potential of using more classrooms in the school if required but this request cannot be accommodated due to limited resources from the school's perspective regarding cleaning of the school and the contained area they have allotted to us for our programs. I would also note that the Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board is a willing partner that supports our programs and has accommodated us significantly during this construction period.

A number of our Child Care Centre and School Age families indicated on the survey they would like to return in September. A letter will be sent to all our families briefly stating when an announcement is received by the Provincial Government in relation to cohort numbers and any additional protocols for September families will be contacted. Currently, what September will look like is still unknown. If children return to school, spaces will open up and if cohort numbers increase we can accommodate more children. However, as you are aware from the announcements related to the options presented by the Province the school year is still unclear. We will continue to adapt and work to accommodate as many children as possible while returning the remaining part-time and contract staff to work as required.

Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

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| • Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? | N/A |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

Financial implication are unknown at this time, however, there will be a decrease in the total revenue due to the reduced number of children in each classroom and increased expenditures to cover COVID related safety measures and additional staff required to do so. There will be Provincial and County financial support, however the amounts are unknown at this time.

The funding parameters for the re-opening period can be summarized by the following points:

- Available federal supports in Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan (i.e. CEWS and CECRA) must continue to be maximized by operators
- Provincial sustainability plan funding continues for eligible overhead costs to cover costs for vacancies in centres with reduced capacity
- Provincial funding will support increased costs associated with PPE
- Provincial funding will support increased costs associated with enhanced cleaning (over and above regular cleaning costs prior to COVID-19)
- School Boards will be required to not charge rent for child care centres located in schools during this phase of child care re-opening until schools reopen in September

- Provincial funding for child care centres re-opening will be contingent on operators not increasing parent fees. Parent fees must not be higher than the fees charged prior to the closure period (i.e. in March 2020)

Further updates related to the financial situation will be provided as they become available.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sharon Cross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer