

Report to Council

Report Title:	Brockton Child Care Centre Summary Report July-September 2020		
Prepared By:	Sharon Bross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor		
Department:	Child Care		
Date:	September 22, 2020		
Report Number:	BCCC2020-06	File Number:	C11BR, P03
Attachments:	N/A		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number BCCC2020-06 – Brockton Child Care Centre Summary Report July-September 2020, prepared by Sharon Bross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor for information purposes.

Report:

Background:

The Brockton Child Care Centre was closed due to COVID-19 Pandemic from March 16th until July 6th, 2020. The Centre reopened on July 6th to a limited number of children allowed to access the Centre and School Age programs due to the Ministry of Education COVID-19 re-opening guidelines. The guidelines have changed three times since the Centre re-opened. This report will indicate the challenges facing the Child Care Department during this time period and the adaptations we continue to work through.

Analysis:

The Brockton Child Care Centre and School Age programs, according to the most current Ministry of Education COVID-19 Guidelines, are allowed to operate at full capacity while maintaining the appropriate physical distancing. In order to follow the physical distancing guidelines, the Centre will only be able to operate at 75% capacity. The families have been slow to return so currently we are operating at 66% capacity. I am anticipating the Centre will be at 75% capacity by the middle of October. St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School's school age program is at full capacity. The Walkerton District Community School's school age program is at 50% capacity. All the staff have been recalled due to the heightened cleaning and cohort policies. In order to maintain the cohort requirements, the Centre's hours of operation had to be reduced by one and half hours. We are currently operating daily from 6:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. As of September 1st, all staff at the Centre are required to wear masks and eye protection when physically distancing cannot be

maintained. Scheduling of shifts, transition times (avoiding mixing groups in the hallways) and staff lunch breaks becomes more challenging due to the Pandemic.

The Pandemic has had financial impacts on the Centre (reduce number of children but increased number of staff). Grants from the County of Bruce have been beneficial in reducing the financial burden. In recent discussions with the County of Bruce more funding will be available this fall.

The Brockton Child Care Staff have been very flexible and accommodating during this unusual time.

We will bring forward a further financial report one funding sources and staffing requirements level out for a more accurate picture.

Sustainability Checklist:

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

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

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

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

It is expected that funding sources will cover any additional staffing and costs related to COVID that the child care is experiencing.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sharon Bross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sonya Watson", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer