

Ministry of Education
Mowat Block
900 Bay St.
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation
Édifce Mowat
900, rue Bay
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



2012: ELCC9d

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief, First Nation

FROM: Pam Musson
Director, Early Learning and Child Care Implementation Branch
Early Learning Division

Rupert Gordon
Director, Early Learning and Child Care Policy and Program Branch
Early Learning Division

Andrew Davis
Director, Financial Analysis and Accountability Branch
Elementary/Secondary Business and Finance Division

DATE: July 10, 2012

SUBJECT: **New Ontario Works Child Care Funding**

We are pleased to announce that the Ministry of Education (EDU) will be moving forward with the implementation of Ontario Works (OW) child care funding for First Nations delivering the full OW program. This investment will provide First Nations with the appropriate resources to facilitate full participation in the OW program.

We are excited that the implementation of this funding has given us the opportunity to build a new relationship with your First Nation. We look forward to working with you in supporting children and families.

This memo includes information on your 2012-13 OW child care funding allocation as well as details regarding the process for entering into a funding relationship with the ministry.

Contract Management:

In the Ministry of Education, the Early Learning Division under Jim Grieve, Assistant Deputy Minister, through the Early Learning and Child Care Implementation Branch (ELCCIB), is responsible for child care program support and contract management.

Within the ELCCIB there are six Child Care Advisors who are located in EDU's six regional offices across Ontario: London, Toronto, Barrie, Sudbury/North Bay, Ottawa and Thunder Bay. To support you within this structure, there will be a Child Care Advisor who will work directly with you to provide advice and support on child care contract management.

Your First Nation is located within the Thunder Bay region. For questions related to child care service agreements, programming and Ontario Works, please contact:

Maria Saunders, Child Care

Advisor Ministry of Education
Early Learning Implementation Branch
20 Bell Farm Rd., Unit 9
Barrie, ON L4M 6E4
Tel: 705-725-7629
Fax: 705-725-7635
Email: maria.saunders@ontario.ca

Financial Support:

The Elementary/Secondary Business and Finance Division, under Gabriel F. Sékaly Assistant Deputy Minister, is responsible for financial reporting and issuing payments through the Financial Analysis and Accountability Branch (FAAB).

Financial Analysts within FAAB are located in Toronto and are available to provide support to you on financial reporting. These analysts work closely with the Child Care Advisors to support you and ensure seamless alignment between the child care program, contract management and reporting processes.

The Financial Analysis and Accountability Branch will contact your First Nation shortly to provide you with the contact information for your Financial Analyst at the Ministry of Education.

Please confirm with your CCA the name and contact information for your First Nation's designated OW and child care representative responsible for completing any financial reports related to the receipt of the Ontario Works child care allocation by July 16, 2012.

Ontario Works Child Care Allocation and Service Agreements:

Funding agreements between First Nations and EDU are governed by the Child Care Business Practices Guideline for First Nations and Child Care Transfer Payment Agencies. These guidelines provide an overview of the child care contracting process, service agreements, payment and financial reporting. The guideline is attached for your reference.

Annualized OW funding may be used to support both formal and informal child care. Formal OW child care fee subsidies can be used to cover the cost of formal licensed child care for children of parents who participate in the OW program. Informal OW child care funding can be used to cover the cost of informal child care arrangements of OW participants up to a maximum of \$600 per child per month.

OW formal child care subsidies are cost shared between EDU and First Nations, with 80 percent contributed by the province and 20 percent contributed by the First Nation. Informal OW child care is 100 percent funded by the province.

Your OW allocation for 2012-13 is \$X. First Nations are responsible for reporting OW child care fee subsidy expenditures at year-end under either formal (A402) or informal (A403) child care. Your Child Care Advisor will contact you in the coming weeks to respond to any questions that you may have.

OW child care funding details will be included in the 2012-13 child care service agreements. Cash flow will begin upon receipt of the service contract. Details on reporting and service agreements are available in the attached Child Care Business Practices Guideline.

Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to working closely with you and share in your commitment to serving the child care sector, families and young children.

Original signed by

Pam Musson

Original signed by

Rupert Gordon

Original signed by

Andrew Davis

Copy: Jim Grieve, Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Learning Division, Ministry of Education

Gabriel F. Sékaly, Assistant Deputy Minister, Elementary/Secondary Business and Finance Division, Ministry of Education

David Carter-Whitney, Assistant Deputy Minister, Social Policy Development, Ministry of Community and Social Services

Jeff Butler, Director, Ontario Works Branch, Ministry of Community and Social Services

Child Care Advisors

Financial Analysts

MCSS Regional Directors

Attachment: Child Care Business Practices Guideline – First Nations and Child Care Transfer Payment Agencies