

For Information Only

Provincial Funding of New Child Care Spaces - Impact on Greater Sudbury

Presented To:	Community Services Committee
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Resolution

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Finance Implications

This report has no financial implications.

Health Impact Assessment

The funding announcement has been reviewed and the proposed changes will not reduce existing service levels. If new funding is made available to CGS, new child care spaces will help to reduce barriers to health, by expanding access to quality child care. Access to quality, affordable child care has been shown to support children's healthy development and improve quality of life for families.

Background

On September 12, 2016, the premier's Speech from the Throne included a promise to create 100,000 new licensed child care spaces within five years, starting in 2017. This would double the province's current capacity. The new spaces will cost the province between \$1-3 billion in capital funds, as well as \$600-\$750 million in operating costs.

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Health Impact Review

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Division Review

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The Associate Minister of Education (Early Years and Child Care) will be leading consultations over the fall and early winter with parents, communities and everyone who makes high quality child care possible in this province to inform the government's five-year commitment and the broader policy framework that will underpin it.

In 2013, the Ministry of Education revised its funding formula for child care. Under the new funding formula Greater Sudbury's Children Services was determined to be overfunded by \$2,676,904, with a

potential corresponding future funding reduction. Children Services has developed contingency plans to respond if funding is reduced.

Because of the overfunding issue, and because Greater Sudbury does not currently have a waitlist for child care subsidy, staff are not expecting that the new child care funding will be directed to Greater Sudbury. If funding for new spaces does become available, staff will work with local school board and child care partners to develop spaces according to identified community needs.