

Background

In January 2018, the Children Services Section submitted a funding application for the Community-Based Early Years and Child Care Capital Program (CBCP) to the Ministry of Education, on behalf of Le Carrefour francophone and the Place des Arts project currently under development in the City of Greater Sudbury.

This funding opportunity is a result of the provincial government's vision for child care and early years under the Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework, as well as the commitments made in Ontario's Action Plan under the Canada-Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Agreement

The Children Services Section was successful in receiving capital funding in the amount of \$750,000 from the CBCP. The amount received is based on a provincially determined calculation that supports the creation of a licensed child care program for 6 infants, 10 toddlers and 8 preschoolers within the Place des Arts project.

Le Carrefour francophone, is the agency that will be operating this new program as part of Place des Arts, and currently operates 9 francophone licensed child care programs in the City of Greater Sudbury.

The Place des Arts is a \$30 million, 60,000 sq ft multi-disciplinary arts and culture centre - a gathering place for francophones and for the whole community, in the downtown core of Greater Sudbury. All three levels of government have contributed to the Place des Arts which will be the permanent home of eight francophone organizations, including the francophone licensed child care program. Construction is scheduled to start in 2018.

This child care expansion is supported by a needs assessment that was conducted by the Children Services Section indicating that more licensed child care spaces are required in the downtown/central area.

The Children Services Section will be providing operational funding to Le Carrefour francophone, with parental fee subsidies and a general operating grant, to support the financial viability of the program through the existing operational budget.

Next Steps

A funding agreement will be completed for this capital project.

Beginning in 2018, the Children Services Section will administer the \$750,000 capital funding to Le Carrefour francophone, up to the end of the project completion in September 2020.

Le Carrefour francophone will be required to provide a financial reconciliation of the project funds upon completion of the project.