



For Immediate Release
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Child care space expansion for Sioux Lookout

In the fall of 2018, the Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) purchased 54 Princess Street, also known as the Norah Love Children's Centre from the Municipality of Sioux Lookout. The transfer in ownership ensures that the community asset continues to be utilized for Early Years programming. The centre was initially licensed for 33 child care spaces, following renovations, that number will increase to approximately 40 child care spaces for various age groups.

“Sioux Lookout Municipal Council continues to recognize the growing need for child care in our community. The sale of the Norah Love building to KDSB is part of the plan that facilitates the creation of additional child care spaces in Sioux Lookout from 2018 to 2019. Council is very appreciative of the work done by Municipal Staff and KDSB to make this happen. We also acknowledge the patience of child care staff and parents as we transition to increased spaces,” says Doug Lawrance, Mayor of Sioux Lookout.

“Families who can't find or afford child care are often forced to leave the workforce or rely on means outside of a child care setting such as family or friends,” says Henry Wall, Chief Administrative Office of the KDSB. “The KDSB, in partnership with Waninawakang Aboriginal Head Start will help address the urgent need for an increase in fully inclusive Early Years services for the municipality of Sioux Lookout.”

Waninawakang Aboriginal Head Start will provide programming and staffing. “We are pleased to operate ten infant and 30 toddler spaces at 54 Princess Street and expand programming to offer more child care spaces to families in Sioux Lookout,” says Clarise Henrickson, Executive Director of Waninawakang Aboriginal Head Start. Waninawakang Aboriginal Head Starts current location, 66 Princess Street will continue to operate two classrooms of 16 preschoolers.

The Norah Love Children's Centre is currently undergoing renovations that will allow the existing infrastructure to excel in providing affordable, high-quality Early Years programming in 2019.

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