



For Immediate Release
June 13, 2019

KDSB to assume responsibility of Child Care programming offered by the City of Dryden

At a special City of Dryden Council meeting held this evening, the City of Dryden Council approved and finalized the transfer of the operation of its current Child Care program and services to the Kenora District Services Board (KDSB). The transfer is a result of the City of Dryden and the KDSB looking to realign the delivery of Child Care programs to enhance service levels and leverage efficiencies. This transfer will allow the KDSB to strengthen the availability of child care services and spaces in Dryden and will not affect those children and families who are currently utilizing the services.

Through the transfer, all of the staff currently employed with the City of Dryden will be receiving offers of employment for comparable jobs within the community of Dryden with KDSB and there will be no interruption in services for children and their families.

Effective January 1, 2020, the KDSB will assume the operation of the four Child Care programs that are currently operated by the City of Dryden: Dryden EarlyON Child and Family Centre, St. Joseph's Best Start, K.P. Best Start and Open Roads Best Start. "The City of Dryden approached the KDSB after many thorough and thoughtful discussions as to what sustainable and enhanced Child Care looked like for the City in the long-term. The City is confident that the transition will allow children and their families to continue receiving quality and efficient child care programming services," says Roger Nesbitt, Chief Administrative Officer of the City of Dryden. He adds, "The City of Dryden would like to extend its sincere gratitude to all of its valued Child Care employees for the outstanding service provided to children and their families. You will continue to play a very important role in our community."

The KDSB is committed to providing Child Care that is affordable and accessible in the City of Dryden in this new capacity. "The KDSB wants to ensure families, the City of Dryden Child Care employees and the community that the KDSB will continue to provide high-quality Child Care and programming that is child and family centred, welcoming and inclusive," says Henry Wall, Chief Administrative Officer of the KDSB. He continues, "There will be no visible changes to services children and families are accustomed to and that KDSB's Child Care operating model will focus on Child Care enhancements and increasing Child Care spaces for the City of Dryden. We look forward to welcoming the Child Care workers to KDSB."



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The KDSB and the City of Dryden will be working closely in the coming months to ensure a smooth and seamless transition of operation and will make communication with families, Child Care program employees, stakeholders and the community a priority as both parties move forward.

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