

For Immediate Release
March 13, 2020

Update on Child Care and EarlyOn Centre programming during COVID-19 publicly funded school closures

On March 12, 2020, the Government of Ontario announced that it would close all publicly funded schools for an additional two weeks following March break due to concerns about the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) would like to inform families of the following:

- **All Child Care and EarlyON Centre programming that operates within Keewatin-Patricia District School Board schools will close until April 6, 2020.**
- **All Child Care programming that operates within the Northwest Catholic District School Board will be closed until April 6, 2020.**
- **Child Care programming that operates within Kenora Catholic District School Board in Kenora will remain open. St. John's Early Learning Centre in Red Lake will be closed until April 6, 2020.**

The programming closures within KDSB's partner School Boards takes effect on Monday, March 16, 2020. "The decision to close Child Care and EarlyON Centre programming within our partner School Boards was not taken lightly as this action impacts many families within the District of Kenora. The safety, health and well-being of our families and communities are of the utmost importance during this time," says Henry Wall, Chief Administrative Officer of the KDSB.

Every precaution will be taken to ensure the safety and well-being of children and staff at locations that remain open "Our Early Learning and Care Outbreak Management Directive has been implemented; sanitary practices such as cleaning and disinfecting have increased, staff remain diligent in monitoring children and staff for proper and regular hand hygiene practices and activities and games that cannot be easily disinfected will be discontinued during this time," Wall concludes.

The KDSB will continue to issue communication updates as they arise. The KDSB will also provide updates through KDSB's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TheKDSB> as new information becomes available or programming changes take place in regards to Child Care and EarlyON Centres within publicly funded schools in the District of Kenora.

For the most up-to-date information on the status of COVID-19 and how to protect yourself and your family, please visit www.ontario.ca/coronavirus.

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