

Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System

Operator Webinar: Directed Growth Plan, Halton Guidelines and 2023 Funding Approach

Halton Region

October 12, 2023



Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement



Agenda

- 1 2023 CWELCC System Update
- 2 The Ministry of Education's CWELCC directed growth plan
- 3 Highlight of changes to the 2023 Halton Region CWELCC Guidelines
- 4 CWELCC funding approach for September to December 2023
- 5 CWELCC supports
- 6 Questions and Answers

2023 CWELCC System Update



88% of Halton's licensed child care programs are enrolled in the CWELCC System



272 sites are enrolled in the CWELCC System, representing 18,332 spaces



Child care fees have been reduced by 52.75% from March 2022 rates



More than 1,000 RECEs benefited from wage improvements in 2023



The Ministry of Education's CWELCC Directed Growth Plan

Photo by Markus Spiske

The Ministry of Education's CWELCC Directed Growth Plan

Halton Region's Space Allocation 2022 - 2026

| Year | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | Total Spaces |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|--------------|
| School-based Spaces | 88 | 215 | 194 | 88 | 264 | 849 |
| Community Spaces | 0 | 190 | 0 | 0 | 347 | 537 |
| Total | 88 | 405 | 194 | 88 | 611 | 1,386 |

- 2022 → Open enrollment, all operators could opt into CWELCC
- 2023 → Directed Growth Plan for CWELCC with provincially allocated spaces targets for CWELCC growth by region

The Ministry of Education's CWELCC Directed Growth Plan



- December 2022 → 2023 funding allocation based on 100% enrollment of all licensed child care spaces as of August 2022.
- May 2023 → 2023 funding allocation adjusted to reflect licensed child care spaces that enrolled in CWELCC as of December 31, 2022.
- These changes mean there will be no new CWELCC spaces in 2023. The Directed Growth Plan results in minimal CWELCC growth until 2026.
- The Region continues to advocate for additional funding.



Halton Region 2023 CWELCC Guidelines – Key Highlights

Photo by Scott Webb



2023 CWELCC Enrollment

The Ministry's framework for enrollment is guided by the following principles:



New programs/spaces must be consistent with:

- The Ministry's Directed Growth Plan
- The Ministry's Access and Inclusion Framework
- Halton Region's Early Learning and Child Care Plan



The Region must comply with an auspice target when adding new spaces.



The Region must enroll and provide funding to support new spaces for operators who received floor plan approval prior to January 1, 2023.

Fee Rates and Reductions in 2023



- Operators that enroll in CWELCC in 2023 must reduce their child care fees by 52.75% from March 2022 fees.
- Newly enrolled operators in 2023 will receive funding to reduce fees by 52.75% from the enrollment date.
 - They will not receive funding to provide retroactive rebates for child care fees paid in 2022 or 2023.

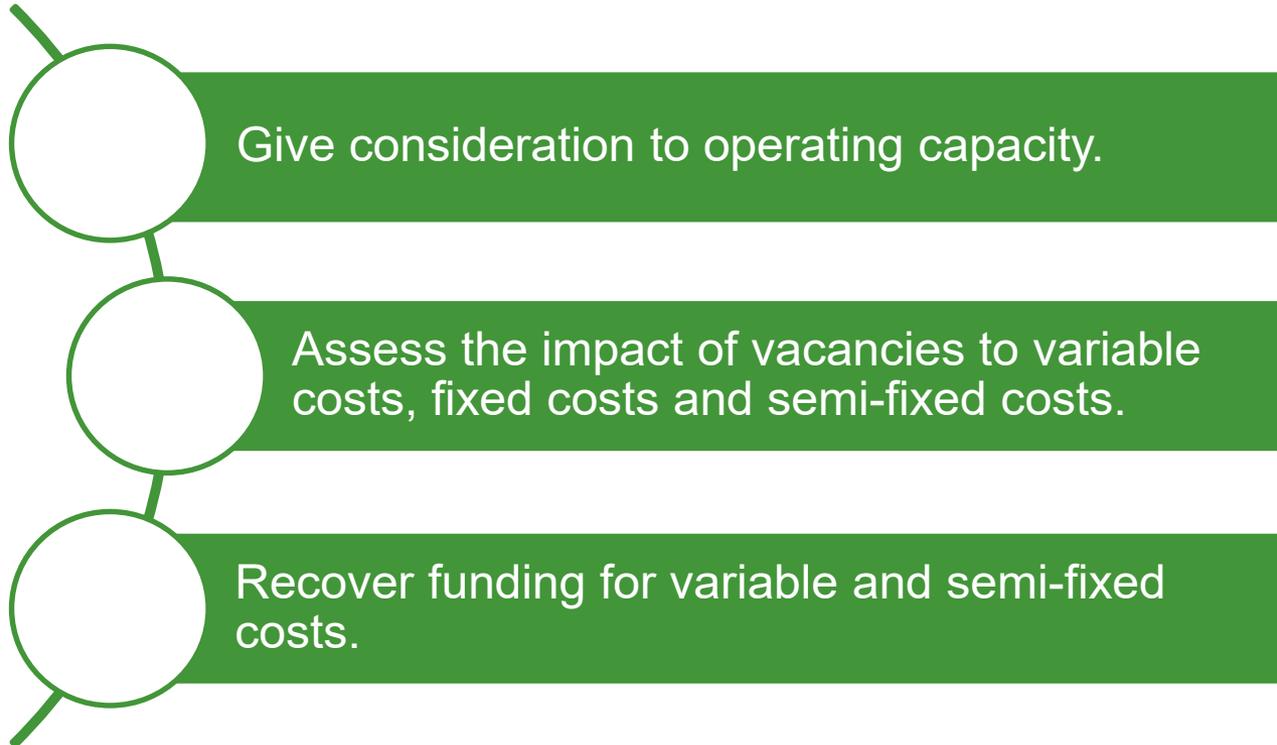


CWELCC Funding Approach: September – December 2023

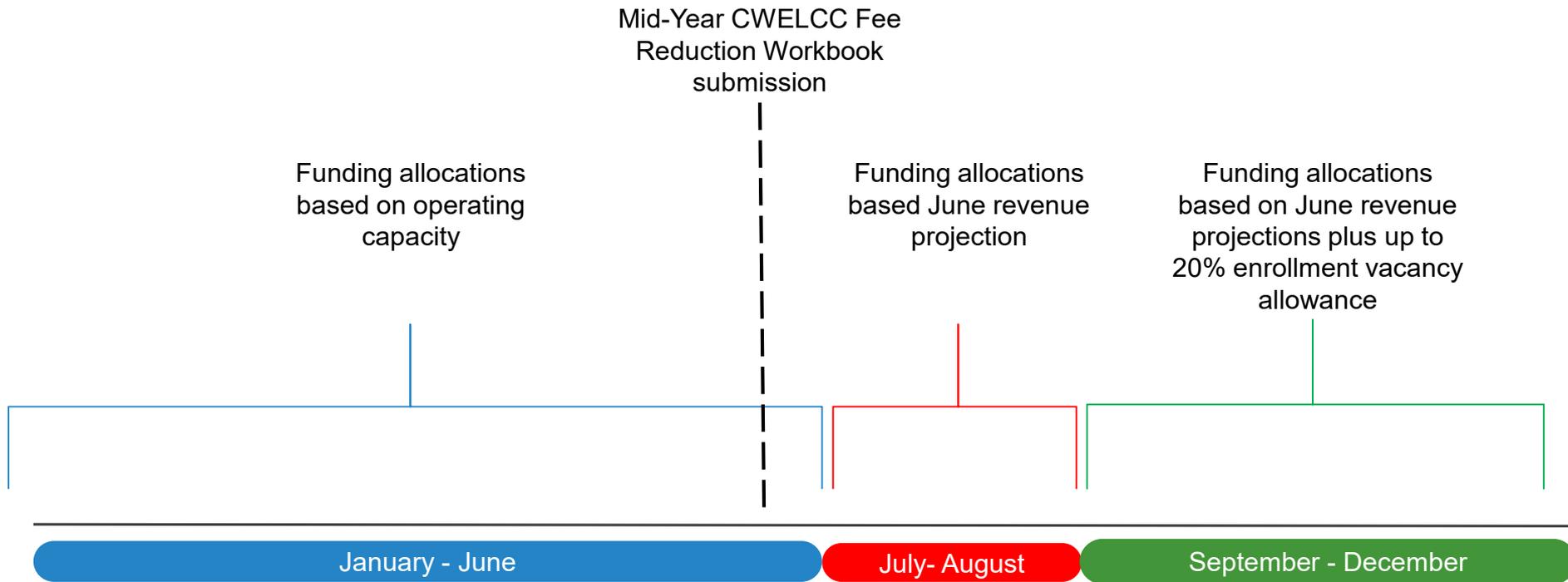
Photo by Sigmund

2023 CWELCC Funding Approach

The Ministry's June 2023 CWELCC Guidelines include the following direction for funding administration to operators:



2023 CWELCC Funding Timeline



September – December CWELCC Funding

- June revenue projections plus an enrollment vacancy allowance of up to 20%.
- Funding capped to a maximum amount based on operating capacity.
- Cost escalation and wage compensation allocations remain unchanged.
- More accurate allocation of fee reduction funding will reduce the need for significant year-end recoveries.



Photo by Markus Spiske

CWELCC Supports



- 2023 Halton CWELCC Guidelines
- Key Updates to 2023 Halton CWELCC Guidelines One-Pager
- Program Analyst
- childcareservices@halton.ca



Questions and Answers



Thank you.



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Photo by Ben Wicks