

Children's Services Social & Community Services Department Halton Region 690 Dorval Drive 5th Floor Oakville ON L6K 3X9

August 18, 2022

# RE: Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care System (CWELCC) Update #6 – Updated Ministry of Education CWELCC Guidelines and Opt-In Process Timelines

Dear Operator,

This memo contains important information about updated Ministry of Education CWELCC Guidelines for 2022, and revised timelines for the opt-in process and implementation of the CWELCC System in Halton.

## 1. Updated Ministry of Education CWELCC Guidelines, Halton Region Guidelines and CWELCC Service Agreements

On August 17, 2022, the Ministry of Education distributed updated "Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System Guidelines: Addendum to Ontario Child Care and EarlyON Child and Family Centres Service Management and Funding Guideline (2022), August 2022" to licensed child care operators and service system managers. A summary of the key changes to the guidelines is outlined at the beginning of that document, for your reference.

In accordance with direction from the Minister of Education, I will send operators Halton Region's CWELCC Interim Guidelines for 2022, and sample CWELCC agreements (Child Care Service Management Agreement and Wage Enhancement Grant Agreement) by August 29, 2022. The guidelines and agreements will be posted on Halton Region's CWELCC webpage here in the Guidance and Resource section, under both the Guidelines and Resources tabs.

#### 2. Updated CWELCC Opt-In Timelines

In my previous memo, "Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care System Update #5 – Overview of Opt-In Process, Support for Operators and 2022 CWELCC Workbooks" dated August 11, 2022, I provided an overview of Halton Region's CWELCC Opt-In Process outlining key dates and milestones as part of the implementation of the CWELCC. The Ministry of Education has since made changes to opt-in timelines and has implemented service standards for processing applications, agreements and fee rebates. Halton Region has updated its opt-in process timelines accordingly, to reflect updated Provincial direction.

Child care operators now have until **November 1**, **2022** to submit their Opt-In/Opt-Out form to Halton Region. Operators are encouraged to submit earlier, if possible. Regional staff will process opt-in applications as they come in.

Please review the attached Revised Overview of 2022 Halton Region CWELCC Opt-In Process.

#### **Regional Municipality of Halton**

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### 3. 2022 CWELCC Workbooks

On August 11, 2022, I distributed the 2022 CWELCC Workbooks to operators to complete by September 16, 2022. This timeframe has been updated. Operators will now have 14 days from the date they submit their Opt-in form to submit their completed workbook. If you have already submitted your Opt-in form, please submit your workbook by September 16, 2022. We continue to encourage you to submit your workbook as soon as it is completed.

Please contact your program analyst or <u>childcareservices@halton.ca</u> with questions.

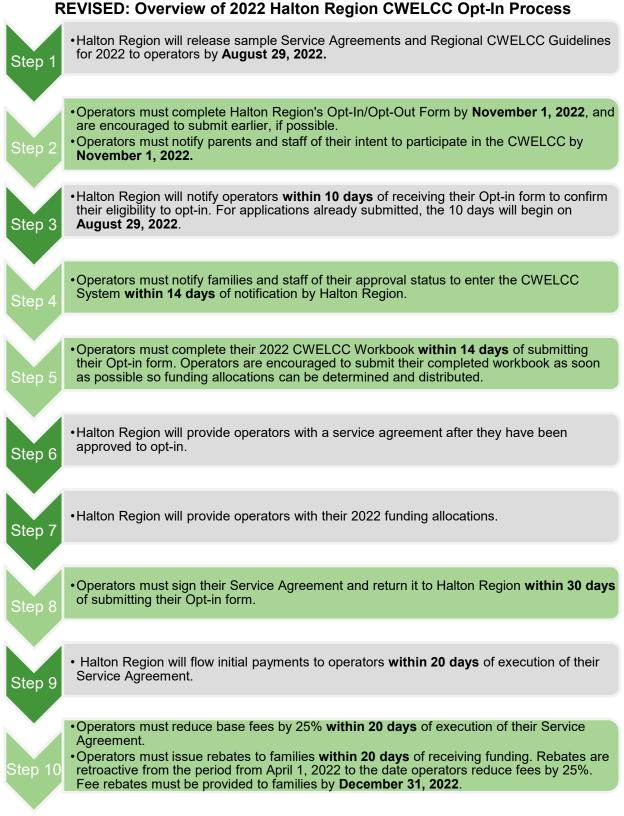
We look forward to continue working with you on the implementation of the CWELCC System in Halton.

Sincerely,

Sandy Palinski

Sandy Palinski Director, Children's Services

- cc: Samantha Jackson, Manager, Systems Planning and Evaluation Donette Phillips, Manager Direct Child Care Services Catherine Wills, Manager Children's Developmental Services
- Enc: REVISED: Overview of 2022 Halton Region CWELCC Opt-In Process



\*Note that all references to "days" mean calendar days.