



May 16, 2022

**Re: Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (CWELCC)**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The federal and provincial governments recently signed the [Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care agreement](#) aimed at making child care more affordable for families.

**What does this mean for my family?**

If you have a child under 6 years in licensed childcare and the centre chooses to participate in the agreement, you may receive up to a 25% childcare fee reduction as of April 1. An additional 25% fee reduction is also set to occur by the end of 2022.

All childcare providers that wish to participate in the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care program will need to apply to the County of Lambton by September 1, 2022. If your licensed childcare provider decides to participate and is approved, they will let you know when you can receive your refund. If your provider decides not to participate, they must let you know.

**When will childcare fees be reduced, and retroactive payments be issued?**

The County of Lambton Children's Services team is working through information from the Provincial Government, and we will be creating an application process to make it easy for your childcare provider to apply to be a part of the agreement. While this process may take a few months, you will still receive a refund retroactive to April 1, 2022.

As this is a new funding program for the childcare sector, we require time to develop the new processes required to support this plan. We ask for your patience as we process new information and commit to providing you with updates as we learn more.

We encourage families to reach out to their childcare providers for any questions they have related to the childcare provider's intention to apply to participate in the agreement.

We are excited to be working with our community to support all families with accessing high-quality, affordable childcare that supports healthy child development and makes the County of Lambton a great place to raise a child.

Sincerely,

*Melissa Fitzpatrick*

Melissa Fitzpatrick, Manager  
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County of Lambton