



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Children's Services

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August 26, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We are writing to let you know that due to changes in provincial funding, the Fee Reduction Pilot will end December 31st. Starting in 2020, the Provincial Government will make child care more affordable through a new tax credit.

When the fee reduction launched in 2018 our intention was for it to be ongoing. For centres that opted into the program, parents paid \$10 less per day for infants, \$3 less for toddlers, and \$2 less for preschoolers. Families have come to rely on this reduction and we recognize that the cost of child care is a significant financial stress for many.

To help families who will pay the highest fees when the reduction ends, infants enrolled in licensed child care as of August 31, 2019 will continue to receive their fee reduction until their infant is old enough to move into a toddler space.

Your child care program will share your new fees with you by October 31st.

We understand that these provincial changes may impact your ability to afford licensed child care and we are committed to finding more ways to make it more affordable. We will work with you to figure out the best way to do that for your family. The Region does provide help to pay for licensed child care through our subsidy program. Check the [online calculator](http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/subsidycalculator) (www.regionofwaterloo.ca/subsidycalculator) to see if you qualify, or call 519-575-4400 to find out more.

For more information on the Ontario Childcare Access and Relief from Expenses (CARE) tax credit, visit the Province's website (<http://budget.ontario.ca/2019/bg-tax.html>).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Cardow".

Barbara Cardow
Director, Children's Services
Region of Waterloo