



May 27, 2022

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

**RE: Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care System and Halton Early Years and Child Care Workforce Strategy Updates**

Dear Service Provider,

Please find below for your information, some important updates regarding:

1. The Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care System, including follow-up information from the Introductory Webinar held for licensees on May 13, 2022; and
2. The Halton Early Years and Child Care Workforce Strategy ECE Bursaries and Grants, which are now available.

**1. Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care System – Introductory Webinar Follow-up**

On Friday May 13, 2022, Halton Region hosted a webinar for local child care and early years service providers on the Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) System. The webinar provided an overview of the provincial [CWELCC Guidelines](#) and next steps for implementation of the CWELCC System in Halton.

As many of you know, parents/caregivers want information about the CWELCC System, particularly as it affects their child care fees. A letter to parents/caregivers is attached. Please share this letter with families that attend your programs.

Please find enclosed the following resources:

- [Webinar Recording](#);
- Webinar Presentation Slides; and
- Memo to families.

Many child care service providers submitted questions about the CWELCC System and CWELCC Guidelines to the Region by email or through the webinar. Frequently Asked Questions are being developed and will be circulated soon.

Going forward, I will share regular updates about the Region's progress on the implementation of the CWELCC System. Email updates are intended to support child care service providers in understanding the requirements and the enrolment process. Please continue to send questions regarding the CWELCC System to [childcareservices@halton.ca](mailto:childcareservices@halton.ca).

We look forward to working together with you to implement the CWELCC System in Halton.

**Regional Municipality of Halton**

HEAD OFFICE: 1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1  
905-825-6000 | Toll free: 1-866-442-5866

## 2. Halton Early Years and Child Care Workforce Strategy – ECE Bursaries and Grants Now Available

I am pleased to announce that Halton Region will be providing funding to increase the number of Early Childhood Education (ECE) graduates and reduce financial barriers for 1,900 students entering the field. Under Halton's Early Years and Child Care Workforce Strategy and the Canada-Ontario Early Childhood Workforce Agreement, this initiative aims to grow the number of qualified professionals and supports the recruitment of a high-quality early years and child care workforce.

Through a collaborative investment with the City of Toronto, Region of Peel and Region of Durham, students at four institutions in the Greater Toronto Area will have an opportunity to complete their ECE diploma while receiving funding to cover the cost of tuition. Through this initiative, 210 new graduates will be ready to enter the field by the Fall of 2023 and play a vital role in creating a high-quality early learning and child care system.

Bursaries that will fund 100% of tuition costs will be offered at:

- [Centennial College \(registration open for July 2022\)](#)
- [Durham College \(registration open for July 2022\)](#)
- [George Brown College \(registration open for July 2022\)](#)
- [Mothercraft College \(registration opening soon for January 2023\)](#)

This investment will also reduce financial barriers by providing additional grants to support the cost of books and technology for students in both the compressed and two-year diploma programs starting in September 2022 and January 2023 at:

- Centennial College
- Durham College
- George Brown College
- Humber College
- Mothercraft College
- Seneca College
- Sheridan College

For additional information about the programs, including information and details on how to apply, please visit the Colleges' websites or <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/programs/education-community-and-social-services/early-childhood-education>.

We encourage you to share this opportunity with your staff, home child care providers, and other sector partners as applicable. Halton Region will be developing a website to share information about these opportunities and the link will be shared once it is available.

This exciting initiative and innovative partnership to address recruitment and retention of Early Childhood Educators is funded in partnership with the City of Toronto, The Region of Peel, The Region of Durham, the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada under the new Canada-Ontario Early Childhood Workforce Agreement.

Sincerely,



Sandy Palinski  
Director, Children's Services

cc: Samantha Jackson, Manager of Systems Planning and Evaluation  
Donette Phillips, Manager of Direct Child Care Services  
Catherine Wills, Manager of Children's Developmental Services