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London  
CANADA

May 24, 2022

**RE: Supporting More Licensed Childcare Spaces**

To: Members of the Community and Protective Services Committee

With the completion of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement between the Federal Government and the Province of Ontario, there will be more affordable licensed child care in the City of London.

As costs decrease, it is reasonable to expect that demand from lower income Londoners will rise. However, those currently accessing licensed child care spaces are unlikely to give up their spots. This has the potential to create an equity issue that can be partially alleviated through the creation of more affordable licensed spaces.

One of the fastest ways to create more licensed spaces is through the rapid conversion of already existing unlicensed spaces. Not every unlicensed child care provider will choose to become licensed, but for those that do, the City of London can play an important role in providing assistance with the conversion through access to information, education, and other possible supports.

Given the desire of the Federal Government and the Province of Ontario to create new spaces, there is also the potential to receive financial support for any program the City develops to foster more licensed spaces.

We believe this warrants investigation by our staff to determine what role, where appropriate, the City of London can play to support the creation of more affordable licensed childcare spaces.

We therefore request that the following motion be considered:

The Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to provide a report related to options to increase the accessibility and number of licensed child care spaces as part of the implementation of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, to the appropriate standing committee; it being noted that increased affordability is expected to lead to increased demand for limited licensed child care spaces.

Respectfully,

Josh Morgan  
Deputy Mayor  
Councillor Ward 7

Mariam Hamou  
Councillor Ward 6

Elizabeth Pelozo  
Councillor Ward 12