

NEWS CHILD CARE



Spring Issue



GREETINGS FROM THE MANAGER OF CHILD CARE SERVICES

Finally it is April and I can look out my windows and see the sunshine, and the snow has almost melted...hopefully for good.

Welcome to another edition of our Child Care Newsletter. We hope that you post this and share it within your agency so that all staff have access to it and the information inside.

Child Care Services has been very busy this year, can you believe one quarter of 2014 has already passed? Below are a few of our accomplishments

- We have distributed our Capacity amounts to programs, and developed a plan to support staff working in licensed child care
- We have distributed our General Operating dollars to operators, this wasn't done until July last year; now centres/owners/operators are currently making their plans on how they are going to best utilize the dollars and are establishing benchmarks for their agencies.
- We are almost nearing a final draft of our new purchase of service agreement and will be beginning to make plans to have an operator day to review old and new processes
- We have devised new financial reporting forms
- We are visiting our centres on a monthly basis

We are beginning to email our approval letters to save on the costs of stamps and paper.

We have sent out our Health and Safety Request forms (due April 30th) and transition forms (due June 30).

As always I appreciate your comments. We are always looking for ways to improve our services and communication to you our operators. We are simply a phone call away.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION... EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2014

This was taken from the Fall/Winter 2013 issue of the eceLINK,

The AECEO has launched a new, updated AECEO Certification designation and program.

Effective April 1, 2014 the **AECEO.C** is the new credential that will attest to an AECEO member's successful completion of the Certification program.

The AECEO is very pleased with the new acronym as it more accurately captures the ownership and administration of this much respected certification program.

The replacement of "ECE.C" is not an easy one, however..., changing times and legislation require the retirement of this well-respected acronym.

THANK YOU FROM CHILD CARE SERVICES

The staff of Child Care Services would like to thank the following programs who have graciously taken the time to show our staff around their centres. Thanks to Kiddy Korner, Boys & Girls Club, Blueridge YMCA, YMCA SACC St. Basil/Walter Gretzky, Brantford Little School Community Childcare, Creative Minds Children's Centre and Kidsworld YMCA Child Care.

BRANT LEARNING ECE

BLECE on-line learning is always being updated. Take a look at some of the training that is currently being offered.

- BLECE Participant Training Tool BLECE001
- Introduction to ELECT OEYC001
- Observation - Take a Good Look LCC005
- Partnering with Parents LCC004
- Teaching Kids to Care OEYC002
- Uniquely You, Discovering the Temperament Traits LCC001

And coming soon...

- Basics of Life LCC002
- Biting LCC003
- Following the Professional Path OEYC003

SCANNING APPROVAL LETTERS

Here's a little reminder to keep checking your email for approval letters. They will be sent out twice a week. You can contact Cathy Medway or your Child Care Representative if you have any questions or concerns.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION NEWS

In 2013 the recruitment and retention committee worked on a Salary Survey to determine rates and benefits paid to staff working in an early learning licensed child care program. This year the group would like to find out a bit more on the professionals in the field, and what employers need to know about why they are staying and why they are leaving.

In the next little while the recruitment and retention sub committee will be sending out a survey monkey to child care professionals. It will be a secure site and centres will not be able to identify where the information came from as it all will go to our Data Analysis Co-ordinator for Brant, Anca Gaston. Anca will then provide us with a summary of comments which we can then use to strengthen the relationships that we have with our employees.

DID YOU KNOW.....

There are over 2777 licensed child care spaces in Brantford /Brant. In 2013 we served over 1053 children and 829 families requiring financial assistance with their child care costs.

Here are a few bullet points from Karen Calligan, Ministry of Education, regarding Bill 143

The [Child Care Modernization Act Bill 143](#) had its first of three readings in legislature on December 3, 2013. If passed, the Act will see the repeal of the *Day Nurseries Act* to be replaced by the *Child Care and Early Years Act* for children birth-12 years. The *DNA* was first enacted in 1946 and has not been reviewed since 1983. It is important to note that in the interim, the *DNA* and Regulation 262 are still in effect.

The *Child Care Modernization Act* also contains an amendment to the *Education Act* that would oblige all school boards to survey families to determine whether there is sufficient demand for before and after school programs for children aged 6-12 as well as amendments to the *Early Childhood Educators Act, 2007*.

The College of *Early Childhood Educators Act (ECEA)* completed the statutory review process which was required within the first five years of the *ECEA*. Feedback included an accreditation program for Early Childhood Educators and amendments to align the *ECEA* with changes under Bill 103 (i.e. an Act to amend the Ontario College of Teachers Act to protect students and strengthen public confidence in the Ontario College of Teachers). **For more information on how to participate in the legislative process, please visit the Legislative Assembly of Ontario website at: <http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/home.do> or call the Procedural Services Branch at (416) 325-3500.**

BEST START NEWS

By now you may have received the Spring Edition of the Best Start Magazine. This edition's feature article focuses on the differences between licensed and unlicensed home day cares. Be sure to check it out and share with friends and families.

The magazine is also filled with lots of getting ready for spring and summer activities.

CHILD MODERNIZATION ACT

The Best Start Network has sent a collaborative response to the province regarding the proposed changes to Regulation 262 of the Day Nurseries Act (DNA). Many thanks to those who contributed their comments and ideas to the document.

REMINDER EASTER CLOSURES

Child Care Services Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 18th and Easter Monday, April 21st.

After the long winter we have all endured take the time to enjoy your family and friends over the long weekend.

Time to shed your winter coats because sweater weather is just around the corner.

