



TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

REPORT

Item No.

REPORT TO: Reeve Vincent and Members of Council
PREPARED BY: Valerie Watson, Manager of Childcare Services
DATE: 23/07/2018
SUBJECT: Child Care Department Update
ATTACHMENTS: NA

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receives the Activity Report of the Manager of the Children Services, dated July 23, 2018 for information purposes.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Manager of Childcare Services will be providing a monthly report of activities and ongoing projects to keep Council informed.

DISCUSSION

North Huron Children's Centre

The Main centre has been operating at a higher than usual summer enrollment. Infant numbers are lower than usual due to the holding of spaces for a full ten new infants in September. Toddlers are operating at 15-20 out of licensed capacity of 25. Preschool is operating at a full capacity of 32 out of 32.

Staff are renewing their annual memberships to the College of Early Childhood Educators. Staff are also in the first year of their Continuous Professional Learning Cycle and this includes staff reviewing the Code of Ethics and Standards for Practice and self-identifying learning goals and strategies for implementation.

The Ministry's annual licensing and inspection was completed on July 9, 2018. Staff are pleased to report the centre met all of the Ministry's requirements. The Ministry did suggest staff update and include more detailed policies on vulnerable screening for staff, students and volunteers, and more specifically, address time lines, who can require them and how they are assessed. It was also suggested staff include more detailed information in the policies regarding Offence Declarations and further, recommended the policies address how information collected through vulnerable screening, offence declaration and/or attestations will be used. The Ministry's Program Advisor also suggested consideration be given to additional measures to ensure adequate protection of the children.

Staff have acted on the suggestions. Updated and revised policies have been submitted to the Program Advisor for review and approval.

In the report, the advisor stated: "The value placed on relationships in this programs was apparent." "The environment is rich in documentation. Staff should be commended on their attention to detail and their professional delivery of service."

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Early Learning (Sacred Heart)

The offsite child care centre is at full capacity operating at approximately 20 out of 24 preschool spaces for the summer. We have welcomed in JK/SK children back into program for the summer. Staff have implemented a full range of activities to ensure programming is stimulating and age appropriate. Staff are currently having conversations with the County regarding the possibility of expanding spaces at this location.

EarlyON

The EarlyON staff are working with the Capacity Building Funding to create a wide range of programs. They are working on creating some “pop up” programming to entice new users to the services. They are designed to connect with areas who may not have regular services.

Staff have recently completed training. One staff member has been trained in Circle of Security. The County of Huron is hoping to use this Program as a base to provide common language for Parenting across service providers. Another staff member attended a training session called Nobody’s Perfect. This training will be used to support parents in parenting in our local communities.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

NA

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

NA

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

- Goal 1 – Our community is attractive to new businesses and residents
- Goal 2 – Our residents are engaged and well informed
- Goal 3 – Our community is healthy and safe
- Goal 4 – Our municipality is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence



Valerie Watson RECE, Manager North
Huron Children’s Programs



Dwayne Evans, CAO