

COMMUNICATION 134059

Received From: Tracey Freill, Manager of Carleton Place Childcare Services
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
Date: June 6, 2023
Topic: Commercial Washer and Dryer

SUMMARY

Some of the washer and dryer machines at the Childcare Centre are residential. Over the years, the Childcare Services Department has been replacing the residential units with commercial ones. \$10,000 was included in the 2023 Childcare capital budget for the purchase of a commercial washer and dryer. Only one (1) bid was obtained from the same firm that the other two (2) commercial sets were purchased from to maintain consistency. In order to proceed with the purchase, Council approval for the cost overrun is required.

BACKGROUND:

Commercial washer and dryers are known for their durability and efficiency. The Centre currently has two (2) units commercial sets and one (1) residential set that are in full use daily. For consistency, we would like to purchase the same make (Miele) that we currently have for the new washer and dryer units that were budgeted in 2023.

Due to the higher numbers of children in the Childcare Centre now that our expansion is almost full, laundry has increased, and the current residential machines are not able to manage the extra workload. We had postponed this capital project to line up with our required need of when the new classrooms would be filled. The Centre is now in a position where the new washer and dryer are required.

COMMENT:

Commercial laundry systems require an upfront investment. Larger capacities and efficient spinning save time and reduce costs. They are built with the purpose of heavy duty loads and tend to have a longer life span.

Sanitization modes remove bacteria which aid in preventing the spread of germs from clothing and bedding. This helps to create a healthy, safe environment for childcare.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The 2023 capital budget included \$10,000 for the new commercial washer and dryer machines. The cost of the machines came in at \$11,218.00 plus HST. After taking into account the Town's net share of HST, the budget deviation of \$1,415.44 needs to be addressed. The Childcare Centre has reserves which can cover this budget overage.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approves the purchase of a commercial washer and dryer for the Childcare Services Department at a cost of \$11,218.00; and
THAT the budget deviation of \$1,415.44 be taken from the Childcare reserve.