

COMMUNICATION 136008

Received From: Tracey Freill, Manager of Carleton Place Childcare Services
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
Date: February 18, 2025
Topic: Childcare Fee Increase

SUMMARY.

This report proposes a 2.5% fee increase for Carleton Place Childcare Services for eligible School-Age groups that do not fall under the Canada-Wide Early Learning Child Care Agreement (CWELCCA).

Children who are 0-5 yrs fall under CWELCCA do not qualify for an increase as rates are frozen as stipulated by the government.

BACKGROUND:

This report proposes a fee increase for eligible School-Age childcare services. If the fees are approved by Council, all parents and guardians of the eligible age groups will be notified about the rate changes which are recommended to take effect on June 1, 2025. This increase is in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and is necessary to ensure we can continue to meet the growing demands of childcare operations while maintaining the standard of care that families expect from us.

COMMENT:

The increase in fees reflects the rise in the cost of living as determined by the Consumer Price Index. This ensures that our fees remain aligned with the broader economic environment, helping us manage inflationary pressures.

A significant portion of the fee increase will go towards covering rising staffing costs. In order to attract and retain qualified educators, the Town has been committed to offering competitive salaries, which have become increasingly necessary to keep pace with the competitive labour market for these positions. The increase will also address rising operational costs, including supplies, facility maintenance and other essential services that support the quality of care we provide. These costs are essential to keeping our programs safe, clean, and effective for all children.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

We understand that any increase in fees can be concerning. However, we have worked hard to keep the increase as modest as possible while continuing to deliver the high standard of care children and families deserve. The new fee structure will help ensure we maintain the resources needed to support both children's development and our dedicated staff.

The last fee review for the School-Age programs at Carleton Place Childcare Services occurred in 2024.

The 2.5% increase in childcare fees is a necessary step to maintain our ability to provide excellent care and support the growing needs of our childcare facilities and will see an increase in revenues of \$19,700.00 over a one-year period. Please see attached proposed fee schedule.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the School-Age Childcare fees as outlined in the report by the Manager of Childcare Services dated February 18, 2025, be approved based on a 2.5% fee increase effective June 1, 2025; and

THAT the necessary by-law to enact the fees be forwarded to Council for approval.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Draft Summary of Proposed Changes to the Carleton Place Childcare Fees**

1. Draft Summary of Proposed Changes to Carleton Place Childcare Fees

Carleton Place Childcare Services		
June 1, 2025 Fee Schedule - CWELCC \$22.00 Cap for Parental Portion		
Age Group	Full Base Fee - Per day	Parental Portion
Infants (0-18 months)		
Full Day	\$80.80	\$22.00
Toddlers (18-30 months)		
Full Day	\$54.40	\$22.00
Preschoolers (2.5-5 yrs.)		
Full Day	\$52.30	\$22.00
Nursery School		
Preschool Morning Session (9:15 – 12:00)	\$21.60	\$12.00
JK/SK (Eligible for CWELCC*)		
Full day (Carambeck or Francis)	\$45.30	\$21.40
Before School (Carambeck)	\$14.60	\$12.00
After School (Carambeck)	\$14.60	\$12.00
Before & After School (Carambeck)	\$29.20	\$13.80
JK/SK (Not eligible for CWELCC*)		
Full day (Carambeck or Francis)	\$50.68	\$50.68
Before School (Carambeck)	\$16.32	\$16.32
After School (Carambeck)	\$16.32	\$16.32
Before & After School (Carambeck)	\$32.64	\$32.64
School Age (Grade 1 & eligible for CWELCC*)		
Full Day	\$42.84	\$19.76
Before School	\$16.32	\$12.00
After School	\$16.32	\$12.00
Before & After School	\$32.64	\$15.04
School Age (Grade 1 and up)		
Full Day	\$42.84	\$42.84
Before School	\$16.32	\$16.32
After School	\$16.32	\$16.32
Before & After School	\$32.64	\$32.64
Junior School Age Program		
Full Day	\$42.84	\$42.84
Before School	\$16.32	\$16.32
After School	\$16.32	\$16.32
Before and After School	\$32.64	\$32.64

Summer Camp		
JK/SK (Eligible for CWELCC*)	\$45.30	\$21.40
JK/SK (Not eligible for CWELCC*)	\$50.68	\$50.68
School Age & Junior School Age	\$42.84	\$42.84

Rate Increase Chart	New Rate	Increase Amount
JK/SK Full Day (Not eligible)	\$50.68	\$1.24
School-Age & Junior SA Full Day	\$42.84	\$1.00
B&A School-Age & Junior SA	\$32.64	\$0.80
B or A School Age & Junior SA	16.32	\$0.40

ADDITIONAL CARE RATES- NON BASE FEES

Extra Charges for Care Over 10 hours per day

All Ages	\$3.00 per ½ hour
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Late Pick-up Fees per Child (all groups)

1 minute - 15 minutes	\$15.00
16 minutes - 30 minutes	\$45.00
31 minutes - 60 minutes	\$75.00
61 minutes - 90 minutes	\$105.00

Not Sufficient Funds (NSF) Fee

NSF Fee per occurrence	\$50.00
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* Parental Portion is capped at \$22.00 for children eligible for CWELCC. Eligible children are:

- ▶ 0-5 years old
- ▶ any child that turns 6 from January 1- June 30th is eligible up until June 30th
- ▶ any child that turns 6 from July 1- December 31st is eligible up until the last day of the month they turn 6