



Committee Report

To: Councillor Mark Goetz, Chair and
Members of the Human Services Committee

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Human Services

Date: December 15, 2022

Re: Bruce County Licensed Home Child Care Program Rate and Policy Updates

Staff Recommendation:

That the proposed daily rates and policy updates for Bruce County's Licensed Home Child Care Program, as outlined in this report, be approved.

Background:

Bruce County, through the Children's Services Division, operates a licensed home child care program that contracts with Home Child Care Providers to provide high-quality, inclusive, accessible, and affordable child care in their home.

Currently, Bruce County contracts with 19 home child care providers who provide care to an average of 114 children daily across the county.

Home Child Care Provider Rates:

With the introduction of the [Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care \(CWELCC\) system](#), the implementation of reduced child care rates will be reported, and attendance captured, through the Ontario Child Care Management System (OCCMS) database for full fee-paying parents/guardians and parents/guardians who require fee subsidy support.

To streamline fee reduction calculations, billing, and funding allocations with Licensed Home Child Care Providers, staff are recommending a transition from hourly rates (currently \$5/hour) to daily base rates, effective January 1, 2023, as follows:

Type of Care	New Daily Rate
Before School Care	\$11.00
After School Care	\$14.00
Before and After School Care	\$25.00
Children (Not in School) Attending 5 hours or less	\$25.00
6-9 Hours of Care	\$50.00
10-11 Hours of Care	\$60.00
Over 12+ Hours of Care	\$75.00

As per the [Child Care and Early Years Act \(Ontario Regulation 137/15\)](#), a Licensee's child care base rates cannot be higher than the amount charged on March 27, 2022, unless a communication has already been provided to parents advising of the planned fee increase.

As such, current rates paid by parents/caregivers for Bruce County's Licensed Home Child Care program will remain frozen and CWELCC fee reductions for parents/caregivers will be based on Bruce County Licensed Home Child Care rates as of March 27, 2022.

However, CWELCC general operating funding will be provided by Bruce County directly to Licensed Home Child Care Providers to support the increase in rates resulting from the transition from hourly rate fee calculations (as of March 27, 2022) and the new daily base rates (effective January 1, 2023).

Policy Updates:

As required by the Ministry of Education, Bruce County's Home Child Care Program policies and procedures have been updated (as attached) to incorporate the new [Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System Addendum to the Ontario Child Care and EarlyON Child and Family Centres Service Management and Funding Guideline \(2022\)](#).

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There are no financial, staffing, legal or IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

No interdepartmental consultation was required for this report.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Goal #6 - Explore alternate options to improve efficiency and service

Report Author:

Tina Metcalfe
Children's Services Manager

Departmental Approval:

Christine MacDonald
Director, Human Services

Approved for Submission:

Derrick Thomson
Chief Administrative Officer