



MEMORANDUM

TO: Community and Health Services Committee Members

FROM: Adelina Urbanski, Commissioner of Community and Health Services

DATE: June 9, 2010

RE: **Reinstatement of Provincial Child Care Funding**

The purpose of this memo is to advise members of Committee that we have received a preliminary notification confirming the re-instatement of Best Start Funding for the current fiscal year. Although many details are unknown, including allowable expenses and duration of the funding, staff felt it important to advise Councillors of the confirmation.

The attached letter from the Minister of Children and Youth Services confirms that York Region will be receiving a reinstatement in Provincial child care funding, for fiscal year 2010-11, in the amount of \$2,972,943. This reinstatement addresses the reduction of funding, in the same amount that the Region was informed of through previous correspondence dated August 20, 2009. Based on concerns regarding significant impacts to service, including Early Intervention Services for special needs children as a result of the previously announced reduction, Council had approved additional tax levy funding in the amount of \$2,500,000 in the 2010 budget.

This reinstatement of funding was expected following the announcement, in the recent provincial budget, that the Province was committed to filling the funding gap created by the end of remaining federal funding previously provided under the Canada/Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Agreement. The purpose of this letter was to confirm York Region's allocation.

At this point we are working with the Province to confirm details regarding the funding. This includes seeking information on how it may be applied, and whether the funding is expected to be ongoing. Whereas the Provincial budget indicated that this money was designed to permanently fill the funding gap left by the Federal Government there was no specific indication of how it may be applied in the future and whether it would continue to flow to Municipal Service Managers.

Staff will be working closely with the Province over the next few months to gather information and confirm details, following which we will report back to Committee and Council through various corporate mechanisms as details unfold.

Adelina Urbanski
Commissioner of Community and Health Services

DR/cgz

Attachment

**Ministry of Children
and Youth Services**

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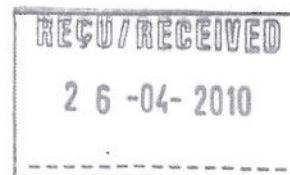
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Ontario

APR 20 2010



Mr. Bill Fisch
Chairman and CEO
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
PO Box 147
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Fisch:

Further to my recent letter in which I highlighted our government's commitment of \$63.5 million in permanent provincial funding for child care to fill the gap left by the federal government when they cancelled the Canada/Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Agreement in 2006, I am writing to confirm your portion of these funds.

I am pleased to advise you that of the \$63.5 million, \$2,972,943 will be reinstated in your municipal child care budget. This funding will go a long way to maintaining child care services for families and children in your community. Staff from your local Ministry of Children and Youth Services Regional Office will be available to answer any questions you may have in regards to this new provincial funding.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to early learning and child care in Ontario. As you know our government is committed to giving every child the best start in life and I look forward to our continued partnership in this important area.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurel Broten".

Laurel Broten
Minister