



**YMCA of
Central East Ontario**

CHILD CARE UPDATE

June 10, 2020

Yesterday Premier Ford announced that Child Care centres are able to reopen starting Friday, June 12th.

What does this mean for our Association?

At this time, as an operator of Licensed Child Care, we are waiting for further direction from the Ministry of Education, outlining what guidelines and practices will need to be implemented in order for our Child Care Centres to open.

What we do know, is we will need to ready our centres, we have to recall and train our staff, we need to take the appropriate steps and measures to make changes within our facilities and will need to coordinate with local Public Health Leaders before being able to predict an actual opening date.

As it pertains specifically to our Child Care Centres in Belleville, Peterborough and Lakefield, these will run in cohorts of 10 per room which mean 15 children total in Belleville, 23 children total in Peterborough and 21 children total in Lakefield (provided we have access to the Lakefield District Public School site).

These numbers are only a fraction of the families registered in our Child Care programs, which causes additional challenges for our YMCA and the families who have been part of our Child Care. We are awaiting the guidelines to determine which families will have the first opportunities to return to their Child Care space.

There are still a number of unknowns, and a coordinated process and effort will be required to ready our Child Care Centres for opening.

We understand that many parents and families are anxious for us to open as quickly as possible.

At the YMCA of Central East Ontario we believe our number one priority is the health and safety of the precious children in our care, the health and safety of the professional Child Care staff team who care for your children and the health and safety of you, our families, that choose our YMCA as the place for their children to receive care.

We will not compromise, we will not put our children, our staff or our families at risk. We want to ensure that all of the necessary policies and guidelines have been implemented and achieved. We want to ensure our staff understand and are trained and that you as parents are comfortable with the steps we have taken to meet your expectations, and that your children will receive the kind of care you have come to expect from our organization. Once we are confident that these things have been achieved, then and only then, is when we will open our Child Care Centres and welcome children back into our care.

We thank you for your patience and understanding while we prepare for the re-opening of our Child Care Centres.

David Allen, President & CEO

Kerry Vadneau, Manager Children & Family Services