

Ministry of Education
Early Years and Child Care Division

315 Front Street West, 11th floor
Toronto ON M7A 0B8

Ministère de l'Éducation
Division de la petite enfance et de
la garde d'enfants

315, rue Front Ouest, 11^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 0B8



April 11, 2023

Shanley McNamee, General Manager
Toronto Children's Services
City of Toronto

Stacey Zucker, Associate Director
Modernization and Strategic Resource Alignment
Toronto District School Board

Dear Shanley and Stacey,

Re: Status of the Child Care Umbrella Agreement between the City of Toronto Children's Services (the City) and the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and seeking support for child care operators currently under this agreement

Thank you Shanley for your letter of January 20, 2023 with an update on the City's arrangement with TDSB and some next steps. We appreciate your ongoing commitment to child care and early years programming.

As part of the implementation of the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system, the Ministry of Education is developing a new sustainable child care funding formula that will be responsive to child care cost structures. The 2024 funding formula is under development and will consider occupancy costs, including capital, for child care centres in schools.

In the interim, in recognition of the costs incurred by the TDSB, the ministry would be supportive of an agreement for 2024 between the City and the TDSB that is aligned with the benchmarks for operating and renewal costs found under the School Facility Operations and Renewal Grant (per the [2022-23 Education Funding Technical Paper](#)). For TDSB, in respect of exclusive child care space in schools, these would amount to **\$9.94 per square foot** in elementary schools and **\$9.95 per square foot** in secondary schools.

As these rates are based on 2022-23 cost benchmarks, they could be further refined using 2023-24 funding benchmarks once announced to the education sector later this Spring. It is also the ministry's expectation that the occupancy benchmark costs to be included in the child care funding formula would be confirmed prior to January 1, 2024 upon finalization of the 2024 funding formula. As communicated in the recently released discussion paper, accommodation costs will be one part of the gross funding allocation under the funding formula, partially offset by parent fees and municipal contributions.

I trust that this interim solution will be helpful to continue the existing relationship between the City and TDSB. Thank you again for your commitment and hard work in your roles in the delivery of child care and early years programs. I look forward to our continued partnership as we work together towards improving and strengthening child care and early years programs and services in Ontario.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Moran".

Holly Moran
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education, Early Years and Child Care Division