



March 20, 2025

Ministry of Education
Honourable Jill Dunlop
438 University Ave, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2A5

Honourable Dunlop:

At its regular meeting on March 13, 2025, Dufferin County Council passed the following resolution:

THAT Council direct staff to correspond with the Ministry of Education to request immediate recalibration of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System (CWELCC) formula to reflect the targets as they have been achieved;

AND THAT advocacy efforts continue until the Ministry of Education responds to the request.

While the County of Dufferin exceeded its growth targets of new childcare spaces in 2024 with the opening of two new childcare centres, Dufferin did not exceed the overall target set for 2022 – 2026, as shown below:

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Target	0	90	120	108	160	478
Actual	0	93	294	0	-	387

The 2025 CWELCC funding allotment to Dufferin County includes funding for a combined total of 2022-2024 growth targets, as well as 50% of the target set for 2025. As such, the County of Dufferin is responsible for funding the shortfall in 2025. While Dufferin County is still in dire need of childcare spaces, we expect there will be no creation of new childcare spaces in 2025 due to the lack of available funds to support them. It is anticipated that this shortfall could be in the range of \$2,000,000, based on the current funding model. This is a large financial burden that is being placed on the municipality during these uncertain economic times.

Dufferin County is dedicated to ensuring families have access to quality affordable childcare and we urge the Ministry to immediately recalibrate the CWELCC formula to reflect targets as they have been achieved.



Thank you,

Michelle Dunne

Michelle Dunne
Clerk

Cc Dufferin Municipalities

