

## **Web Café- June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### **How is everyone feeling?**

- The uncertainty can be stressful
- Many of us are parents balancing pre/post COVID, technology, helping our children with school
- Dealing with layoffs
- Excited to go back to work; centre is like a “time capsule” right now
- Trying to be positive about going back but it was hard in the beginning, it was sad, we didn’t get to say goodbye; many of the children are moving on to school
- Just graduating confused at what direction I’m going in; nervous, excited to start in the field but not having a permanent position and not knowing what’s coming is stressful
- Think of the possibilities not just the restrictions; fresh set of eyes/new lens can be very positive as a new graduate
- Curious to see the difference in how we will continue on; we can only grow from this; skills before plus skills that come from this pandemic
- Preparing to go back to work; getting organized with all of the documents- do a deep clean and hope to open in September; it’s a lot of work; hard to balance home and work life
- Parents in the group utilizing technology; thankful to the teachers; lots of outside time; been at work in the building last two months preparing programs
- How many centres will be open for July? We are unsure at this time.
- Government asking for same cohorts and has proposed mixed age grouping; if a room is licensed for 30, do centres have to get licensed to be a mixed age grouping; how to determine who can come back when everyone needs care? Pointed to guidance document for direction on how to determine how individual centres can prioritize/determine this information
- The rural areas have always had lots of parents concerned about finding care in the rural areas and can only imagine the stress families will go through with COVID19 but it’s all over the province
- Essential workers are contacting centres that had been in ECC they were families that had not previously gone to the centre; continue to direct them to the ONE list; Any families that were on ECC list did receive an email letting them know that ECC was ending

- Centre communicating with families through HiMama program, do not have access to phone from home
- Centre currently surveying families
- School plans- hybrid options what will families do with all different schedules and potentially no options for child care; it will be very complex.
- How did ECC accommodate the extra cleaning? How will programs do this while still operating in the cohorts? The procedures and protocols are different for this stage. The health unit will work with centres to determine how to do this. Many programs will have to operate with additional staff, and definitely fewer children

**-Question about CCEYA revision- what document supersedes what?**  
[\(https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r20261\)](https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r20261)

- It's a lot of pressure to comply with the new document; the fines are intimidating; we will all just try our best while simultaneously receiving support from TBDHU, licensing, DSSAB

### **Moving forward, what would be helpful in the web café?**

- Find the Q&A helpful; the more questions answered, it makes more sense; appreciates it as it brings to mind lots of questions that we have been thinking; do we take everything out of the playroom and super clean? How do we social distance children? Build up our confidence to do this; What more can I be doing? Is there something others are doing that they can share? Build on that and get more communication with families and with everyone