

September 3, 2020

Hon. Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
5th Floor
438 University Ave.
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

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REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair & CEO

10 Peel Centre Dr.
Suite A, 5th Floor
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9
905-791-7800 ext. 4310

Dear Minister Lecce:

On behalf of the Region of Peel Council, thank you for the opportunity to meet at the recent AMO Conference to discuss how we can continue to work together to ensure that Peel residents have access to safe and affordable child care.

Since the start of the of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Region has worked closely with Ministry of Education staff. We appreciate the ongoing engagement and continued support for Peel's child care providers during the pandemic.

As mentioned in our meeting, Peel's child care system is the second largest system in Ontario. In addition, given our growth rate, and comparatively young population, child care is particularly critical. While we welcome the Safe Restart Funding to help support the reopening of the child care sector, to ensure additional stability, the Region is urging you to delay the implementation of the 50 per cent mandatory cost sharing of administrative funding for child care until at least January 2022.

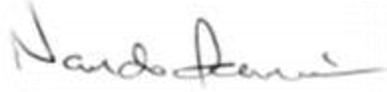
Given the unprecedented and unpredictable nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is difficult to forecast the ongoing impact on the Early Years and Child Care sector. This will most likely include significant changes in the demand for child care, as well as additional supports required by families and child care providers. This would be a particularly challenging time to take on the additional financial burden of an administrative cost-sharing arrangement. Ensuring that Service System Managers have the adequate administrative resources available to implement these measures will be critical, as Ontario moves to the next phase of recovery.

As you move forward in making any policy or funding framework changes, we ask for continued engagement with the Region of Peel and Service System Managers. Like you, we believe that responding to COVID-19 and rebuilding our province will take an all-level-of-government approach.

Thank you once again for meeting us. We appreciate the opportunity of ongoing collaboration with the Province as we work together to ensure a safe reopening of the child care sector.

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED _____

Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer
Region of Peel

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Regional Chair & CEO

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