



# KCCS Parent Newsletter

December, 2011

## Message From the Executive Director

Season's Greetings to all of our families at Kawartha Child Care Services. 2011 has flown by and we are so grateful for the memories and the parent support that you have given in our programs. Every day I hear stories of how you, our families, have supported the success of our programs. From bringing in found materials to providing feedback to lending a hand at our various events, your warmth and caring about our communities shines through.

Kawartha Child Care Services is a value based organization, dedicated to education for democracy. Relationships are at the heart of all we do. That means that you are important to us.

This year we conducted a Strategic Planning process. We have draft versions of our Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Guiding Values which we have included in this newsletter. We would love to have your feedback on these statements.

The challenges that Full Day Kindergarten has presented to the child care field means that we need to look at new ways of doing business. We are part of a coalition of child care organizations in Peterborough who are marketing quality licensed child care. We want to reach those parents who are using unlicensed care and inform them of the benefits of quality licensed child care for their children, themselves and their communities. If you would be interested in providing a testimonial for our marketing efforts, please contact me. We can use your story on our website at [www.qualitychildcareptbo.com](http://www.qualitychildcareptbo.com) or on radio or print ads. Our advocacy efforts also include meetings with local MPPs and provincial government. Having a parent along to tell their story is very effective in getting our message across. To date we have not achieved the sustainable funding that we are hoping for. However, we continue to advocate at the provincial level so that we may continue to offer an exceptional level of quality care. Two issues are at the forefront of our discussions.

1. As Full Day Kindergarten is implemented, the number of 4 and 5 year olds in our programs will diminish. This is a problem because fees from this age group offset the shortfall from the younger age groups. The average cost per day for infant spaces is \$80 per day, far more than the current fee. Toddler spaces also cost more than what we charge.
2. Early Childhood Educators are an integral part of the Full Day Kindergarten program. This is good news and bad news. The good news is that ECEs are getting recognition for their expertise in early child development and care. The bad news is that this will create a shortage of ECEs in a field that already struggles to find enough staff. In addition, there is a huge gap between the wages paid by the school board and those paid by child care organizations. For instance in 2012 the starting rate for ECEs at KCCS is \$16 per hour. The starting rate for local school boards is about \$24 per hour. This makes it very difficult to attract and retain our best educators.

I would love to have feedback from you about these issues. Please email me at [solan@kawarthachildcare.com](mailto:solan@kawarthachildcare.com) if you are interested in supporting this cause.

The 2012 Fee Schedule is also included in our newsletter. The fees for 2012 include an average increase of 3%, representing the rise in the cost of living as of September when the budgets were being drafted. This will allow us to increase our staff wages by an average of 3% and pay for goods and services.

All the best for a happy holiday with your families.

Sheila Olan-MacLean  
Executive Director

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## HOLIDAY HOURS

December 23	Open regular hours
December 26	Closed
December 27	Closed
December 28, 29, 30	Open regular hours
January 2	Closed
January 3	Open regular hours

## PAYMENT OPTIONS

There are numerous methods to pay your child care bill each month:

- Debit, Visa, MasterCard, cash & cheques are accepted at all full-day centres.
- Cash & cheques are accepted at all school age programs.
- Debit, Visa, MasterCard, cash & cheques are accepted at the Administration office located at 550 Braidwood Ave, Peterborough between 9:00am & 4:30pm.
- Cheques can be mailed to the Administration office: PO Box 1750, Peterborough ON K9J 7X6.
- Visa and MasterCard payments can be made by phone by calling the Administration office at (705) 749-3488.
- **NEW** - Now payments can be emailed to: [payments@kawarthachildcare.com](mailto:payments@kawarthachildcare.com)

## 2012 Child Care Fees - Durham Region

Centre Based Care	Part Day Max 6 Hrs	Full Day Max 9 Hrs	Extended Day Max 12 Hrs
Infant	46.35	51.50	56.65
Toddler	41.20	43.25	48.40
Preschooler	33.00	36.00	41.20
School Age	30.90	33.50	38.65
Before & After		20.60	
Before or After		12.35	
Nursery School		22.65	

The method and charges (if any) for email payments vary by bank. Contact your bank to determine how to send email payments. However, there are a couple fields that must be filled out in order for the payments to be processed:

1. In the 'message' field please write the parent name(s) exactly as they appear on the invoice as well as which centre is being paid for.
2. You must input a 'security question' so we are asking that the security question be: "Who is the Executive Director of KCCS?" and the answer will be "Sheila".

We are continuously investigating new payment methods to determine if they are affordable and convenient. We will let everyone know when new payment options become available.

Please email [finance@kawarthachildcare.com](mailto:finance@kawarthachildcare.com) or call (705)749-3488 if you would like further details on the current payment options available.

## New Strategic Plan

### Draft Mission Statement

Kawartha Child Care Services is a progressive non-profit organization who works collaboratively to provide excellence in early learning and care. The richness and uniqueness of our learning environments challenge children and adults to discover together the joy of learning.

### Draft Vision Statement

Kawartha Child Care Services' vision is to provide education for democracy: a place where children are valued as citizens of today. We embrace the principles of democracy in our relationships with children, families and community.

### Draft Guiding Values

**Relationships:** Relationships are the foundation of all that we do. Through collaboration and reflection we build respectful, authentic relationships with our colleagues, children, families and community.

**Well-being:** We value the joy and happiness that a sense of well-being brings to each of us. We understand the importance of nourishing our hearts, minds and bodies. Together we provide an environment that fosters and promotes a healthy lifestyle.

**Learning and Development:** We recognize the value of lifelong learning. We believe that educators, children and families deserve ongoing opportunities, resources and time for reflection so that they may be emotionally and intellectually engaged in learning together.

**Citizenship and Community:** We promote and value a sense of personal integrity, social responsibility and respect for ourselves and others. Within our programs we promote the principles of democracy and social justice. We make visible the capacity and contributions of our youngest citizens.

**Administration and Leadership:** We conduct business in an ethical manner with attention to fiscal responsibility, accountability and program stability consistent with our values, goals and objectives. We promote leadership within our classrooms, programs and our administration. We promote and advocate for policies, laws and systems that recognize early childhood education professionals.