



July 15, 2020

Re: 20th Annual Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day, October 22, 2020

To Ontario mayors and councils,

We are writing to ask that you and your council proclaim and participate in Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day on Thursday, October 22, 2020. This day recognizes the commitment, hard work and dedication of Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) and staff who work with young children. Each year, the day is proclaimed by The Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care (OCBCC), the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), municipalities and school boards across Ontario, and is marked by hundreds of child care centres, unions, and allies.

This year's Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day is especially important as we recover from COVID-19. Child care centres are the cornerstone of our economic recovery and function to ensure that parents have the support they need to fully participate in the workforce.

If your council does not issue official proclamations, there are many ways for your municipality to participate in celebrating this important day:

- Your council sponsors a public announcement;
- Display our posters and distribute our buttons; and
- Organize events and contests for the day or have councilors or the mayor participate in events hosted by child care centres.

A sample proclamation and document outlining additional ways to recognize this important day is attached.

We would love to acknowledge municipalities who choose to celebrate child care workers and ECEs across Ontario on October 22, 2020. Please let us know how your municipality is participating in the appreciation day and we will add you to our list of proclamations and celebrations.

Please direct any correspondence on proclamations and/or celebration activities to the attention of Carolyn Ferns, by mail: Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, 489 College St., Suite 206, Toronto, ON M6G 1A5, or by email at: carolyn@childcareontario.org.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sheila Olan-Maclean
President, OCBCC

Fred Hahn
President, CUPE Ontario Division