

For Immediate Release April 15, 2021

Emergency Child Care Services available in the Kenora District for eligible workers

Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) is working in partnership with community-based licensed child care providers to deliver emergency child care free of charge to eligible workers. This service provision comes following the Province's announcement that non-school-aged child care will remain open and free emergency child care for school-aged children of eligible health care and frontline workers.

The following community-based licensed child care centres will be offering emergency child care services:

- Open Roads Early Learning Centre, Dryden
- FIREFLY Child Care King George VI, Kenora
- Kids' Zone SMB, Kenora
- Red Lake Early Learning Centre, Red Lake

The KDSB is currently working with communities not listed to provide more spaces in the immediate future.

Parents and Caregivers who apply for emergency child care are asked not to contact the above child care operators directly. To apply, please visit the KDSB's homepage: kdsb.on.ca and download the fillable form. Once eligible workers complete and submit the online application, they will be contacted by the operator in their community if space is available. Space availability is limited and based on licensing capacity, staff resources, and family needs. The complete eligibility list can also be found at the following <u>link</u> (please refer to Schedule 5). This list will be updated by Friday, April 16, 2021. A list has also been provided on the last page of the emergency child care application.

"An insurmountable amount of gratitude goes to our Early Years team and our community-based licensed child care operators as they again navigate the implementation of emergency child care so quickly. Their dedication to the importance of child care services in this pivotal time speaks to the caliber of individuals we are so fortunate to work with", says Henry Wall, Chief Administrative Officer of the KDSB. He adds, "We will take every precaution to ensure the safety and well-being of children, their families, and child care staff in the locations that remain open in this time of need."

The KDSB will also provide updates through the media and KDSB's Facebook page <u>https://www.facebook.com/TheKDSB</u> if new information becomes available or programming changes occur regarding emergency child care services.

~30~

Media Contact: Roberta Lappage, Communications Officer Kenora District Services Board (807) 223-2100 ext. 2474 rlappage@kdsb.on.ca