Grey County Logo Committee Report

| **To**: | Warden Halliday and Members of Grey County Council |
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| **Committee Date:** | April 26, 2018 |
| **Subject / Report No:** | SSR-CW-08-18 |
| **Title:** | 2018 Ministry of Education EYCC2 Amended Agreement |
| **Prepared by:** | Barbara Arbuckle, Manager of Children’s Services |
| **Reviewed by:** | Debbie Pegelo, Acting Director of Social Services |
| **Lower Tier(s) Affected:** | County wide initiative |
| **Status:** | Recommendation adopted as presented by Committee of the Whole per Resolution CW109-18; Endorsed by County Council on May 10, 2018. |

## Recommendation

1. **That SSR-CW-08-18 regarding an amendment to the 2018 child care Ontario transfer payment agreement be received and;**
2. **That the Warden and Clerk be authorized to execute the 2018 Child Care Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement Amendment with the Ministry of Education.**

## Executive Summary

On April 03, 2018 the Ministry provided an amended service agreement which included the remaining 9 months (April to December 2018 or the 2018 Quarters 2, 3 and 4) of Fee Stabilization Support funding.

Grey County Council’s approval of the 2018 Child Care Service Amending Agreement will result in the following benefits:

* $ 291,272 Total Fee Stabilization Support funding for 2018 to assist licensed centres with the cost to increase wages for staff earning less than $14 per hour as of December 31, 2017
  + Of the total amount, $ 72,802 Fee Stabilization Support funding had been provided under the original agreement for the period January 01 to March 31, 2018.
  + The balance of $ 218,470 Fee Stabilization Support funding is being provided under the amended agreement for the period April 01 to December 31, 2018.
* Fee Stabilization Support funding is 100% provincially funded. No municipal levy is required.

## Background and Discussion

The Ministry of Education provides funding for Grey County Children’s Services through the following two separate Ontario Transfer Payment Agreements:

1. Child Care Service Agreement
   * 2018 Agreement approved by Grey County Council February 8, 2018 SSR-CW-02-18 through by-law 5004-18
2. Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres Agreement
   * 2018 Agreement originally approved by Council on October 26, 2017 through by-law 4995-17
   * Amended agreement approved by Council on March 8, 2018 SSR-CW-04-18 through by-law 5007-18

In response to the 2018 Ontario increase to the minimum wage, the Ministry of Education has provided $291,272 in Fee Stabilization Support for Grey County Children’s Services 2018 budget.

The Fee Stabilization Support funding will assist centres with the cost to increase wages in licensed child care centres for staff earning less than $14 per hour (excluding wage enhancement), as of December 31, 2017. Funding may not be used to support wages above $14 per hour in 2018.

Through Grey County Council’s approval of the 2018 Child Care Service agreement, this will support improving wages for the licensed child care workforce, affordability for families and address potential fee increases.

The total Fee Stabilization Support funding allocation is included in the Amended 2018 Child Care Service Transfer Payment Agreement.

Working in partnership with applicable agencies, Children’s Services staff has collected the necessary information required to disperse the funds. Upon council approval, these funds will be dispersed as per Ministry directives to centres that meet the eligibility requirements including the proof of fee avoidance.

## Legal and Legislated Requirements

The Ministry of Education provides funding to Grey County Social Services under the legislative authority of the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The 2018 Child Care budget for Grey County Children’s Services will increase as follows:

|  | 2018 |
| --- | --- |
| Original Budget | $ 8,118,389 |
| Fee Stabilization (Apr-Dec) | $ 218,470 |
| Amended Budget | $ 8,336,859 |

The 2018 Child Care Amending Agreement includes additional Fee Stabilization Support funding of $218,470 for 2018.  This funding is 100% provincial and has no required municipal contribution.

## Relevant Consultation

Internal

* Grey County Finance Department
* Grey County Planning Department (Planning Data Analysis Coordinator)

External

* Licensed child care centres in Grey County

### Attachments

*Ministry of Education Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement Amendment*

*2018 Child Care Amended Agreements and Estimate Reporting*

Respectfully submitted by,

Barbara Arbuckle,

Children’s Services Manager





