Grey County Logo Committee Report

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| **To**: | Warden McQueen and Members of Grey County Council |
| **Committee Date**: | September 24, 2020 |
| **Subject / Report No**: | SSR-CW-06-20 |
| **Title**: | Federal Safe Restart Funding – Child Care and EarlyON |
| **Prepared by**: | Tara Cockerill, Acting Children’s Services Manager |
| **Reviewed by**: | Barb Fedy, Director |
| **Lower Tier(s) Affected**: | County of Grey |
| **Status**: | Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution CW166-20; Endorsed by County Council October 8, 2020 per Resolution CC78-20; |

# Recommendation

1. **That Report SSR-CW-06-20 regarding the use of Federal Safe Restart Funding be received for information;**
2. **That the Warden and Clerk be authorized to execute any documentation required to issue the Federal Safe Restart Funding to eligible licensed child care and EarlyON programs within the County of Grey.**

## Executive Summary

On August 14, 2020, The Ministry of Education notified CMSMs with details regarding the distribution of federal Safe Restart Funding to ensure that the September Child Care re-opening ensures a safe return to child care and EarlyON Services.

In addition to the procurement and delivery of face coverings directly to child care operators, funding will be provided through CMSMs to child care operators for additional PPE, enhanced cleaning, additional staffing to meet health and safety requirements, and support short term vacancies as operators transition to return to full capacity. Minor capital required by public health and/or the Ministry of Education are also eligible expenses under this funding.

## Background and Discussion

The Government of Canada committed $625M in new funding nationwide to help the child care sector adapt to address the unique needs stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. In Ontario $234.6M from the federal Safe Restart Funding (SRF) will complement existing provincial investments.

Programs eligible for this funding are:

* Licensed Child Care Centres with an existing Purchase of Service Agreement for General Operating Grant and/or Child Care Fee Subsidy with the CMSM.
* Licensed Home Child Care Agencies with an existing Purchase of Service Agreement for General Operating Grant and/or Child Care Fee Subsidy with the CMSM.
* EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Child care operators who do not have a purchase of service agreement with the CMSM will receive funding support directly from the province for SRF.

## Legal and Legislated Requirements

Children’s Services have been consulting with Finance staff in regards to the SRF memo and the providing of these funds to eligible services providers.

Any required paperwork necessary to flow these funds will be completed and signed through the current approvals process.

## Financial and Resource Implications

There are no anticipated cost sharing requirements in relation to the use of the SRF funding as this funding is 100% Federal funding.

The allocation for Grey County is $954,328. Children’s Services staff have developed a local allocation plan in consultation with the Finance department. Children’s Services will work with the Ministry of Education and the County’s Finance Department to distribute funds in accordance with funding guidelines.

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| Program | Funding Allocation | Total Funding |
| Administration | 10% | $95,432.00 |
| EarlyON | 10% | $95,432.00 |
| Licensed Child Care | 80% | $753,464.00 |
| Total Allocation: | | $954,328.00 |

The Children’s Services and the Finance department will administer, monitor and reconcile the expenditure of these funds and will report back on SRF as part of the 2020 Financial Statement submissions in the Education Finance Information System (EFIS).

# Relevant Consultation

Internal: Children’s Services Department, Finance Department, and Clerk’s Department.

External: Ministry of Education, Early Years and Child Care Division

### Appendices and Attachments

Federal Safe Restart Funding Memo – August 14, 2020







