

- **Welcome all. I'm pleased to be here today and I'm happy to see everyone again**
  - The council has grown since the last time I was here
  - I would like to personally welcome the four new members that were recently appointed to Council (Carlos Brito, Melissa Hyndes, Angela (Angie) Maitland and Margaret Warcup)
  - I look forward to hearing your thoughts and advice on how to improve the affordability, quality, stability and accessibility of child care in the province
  - A lot has happened since the last time we were together. I'd like to take a few minutes to update you on some recent announcements
- **Most recently, we celebrated Child Care Month:**
  - I was happy to see that we received so many strong nominations (52) for the Child Care Awards of Excellence
    - I would like to thank the Child Care Awards of Excellence working group and council members who sat on the selection committee. Your hard work resulted in:
      - 10 successful nominees who received a Child Care Award of Excellence; and
      - 17 child care operators who have been providing care for 40 years or more received a Child Care Legacy Award
        - To help make this year's awards extra special, we invited former youth in care to submit artwork to be used for the awards
        - We wanted to provide the winners with a stand-out piece of art they could proudly hang on their wall, rather than the typical government plaque, and the end result was beautiful
    - Recipients were honoured through a number of regional events with local officials, and those events were well received by the winners and local media outlets
    - I know many were hoping for a centralized event where all of the recipients could be honoured together. We took this approach this year because:
      - It's important for my colleagues to have the opportunity to go out and meet their constituents and congratulate them on their achievements. The winners deserve the recognition!
    - We'll do some evaluations about how things went from government's perspective, and I invite you to also reach out to the child-care providers who received awards this year to find out what they think of their award and whether this process met their expectations
    - We now have two years to plan for the next awards cycle

- In addition, Early Childhood Education BC received \$500,000 in funding to administer the bursary program, bringing the total three-year Provincial investment to \$2.13M
- The need for more child care spaces in BC continues to be addressed through the Major Capital Funding program
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> intake is complete and the announcement of the successful applicants occurred on June 1st
  - With an investment of almost \$11.3 million, 1,818 new child care spaces will be created in 30 communities across BC, with nearly 450 spaces being created on school grounds
- MCFD recently launched a new Child Care Map, which will make it easier for parents to find child care options in their communities. The new map includes icons that identify vacancies, as well as improved information about the programs and services offered at each facility
- **The Provincial Office for the Early Years has continued to**
  - Support the roll out of BC Early Years Centres.
    - 21 new centres came into effect April 2016, bringing the total number of EYCs to 47.
  - In early May, the Early Years Office held a provincial seminar where there was an opportunity for BC Early Years Centres to share best practices and better define the services they should be providing; and
  - On May 18, 2016 the Early Years office released the Local Early Years Planning Review summary report ([www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early\\_years/pdf/final\\_consultation\\_report.pdf](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early_years/pdf/final_consultation_report.pdf)).
    - As you know, the purpose of the Review was to identify both the strengths and opportunities associated with local early years planning practices in BC, with the goal of identifying ways to strengthen planning to ensure that efforts result in improved outcomes for children.
- **Outdoor Play space:**
  - The last time we met, we discussed outdoor play space requirements for child care centres
    - I received the Council's recommendation, and government is now considering a slight reduction in the amount of outdoor play space per child.

Provincial Child Care Council – June 24, 2016  
Minister Stephanie Cadieux  
Speaking Notes

- **In closing, I'd like to thank the Council for all your work and advice. I value the recommendations and input that comes from this group. Moving forward, I am interested in new and innovative ways we can improve. I'd like to encourage the Council to:**
  - Continue to provide insight and support to the Ministry and the EYO through your working groups and:
    - Explore ways to increase accountability (CCOF), and streamline child care programs (Subsidy) for clients
    - Focus on “changing the conversation” to broaden the understanding of early learning and child care
    - Review and make recommendations for Family Child Care (FCC) training/educational requirements
    - Continue the conversation regarding increasing capacity for Infant/Toddler programs in communities.

**From:** Teng, Zita MCF:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2016 11:36 AM  
**To:** MacLean, Debbie MCF:EX  
**Subject:** PCCC follow up

Hi Deb,

Following our previous conversations, herer is the Feb. PCCC min excerpt that related to the issue of outdoor play space, approved by the Chair. The complete document is still waiting for final approvals, but the outdoor play space piece is approved. The PCCC carried the motion: "THAT subsequent to considerable debate and reflection the Provincial Child Care Council recommend the minister convey Council's desire that there be no reductions to outdoor play space and that the regulated 7 meters squared be maintained".

Zita

Licensing and Regulation WG – Wayne Robertson

- The WGs meeting time yesterday was spent on one issue; the issue of outdoor play space.

Discussion was based on national and international literature reviews, information from the regulatory change process and discussions with the Ministry of Health and MCFD. The WG proposed a recommendation with a minimum standard of 5 meters square. The motion did not pass. In the end the recommendation the committee agreed to has five parts:

The Licensing and Regulation Working Group provides the following recommendation for Provincial Child Care Council's consideration:

**M/S Schneider/Burke**

THAT in order to respond to discussion regarding minimum licensing standards for outdoor play space the Licensing and Regulation Working Group recommends to Provincial Child Care Council THAT

1. exemptions exist and that exemptions in extraordinary circumstances should continue
2. the ideal ratio should be 7 or more
3. with a minimum ratio of 6 sq. meters
4. minimum for infant and toddlers would be 5 sq. meters; the rationale being that this group needs less space (we know this is not a simple as just putting numbers on a page, we acknowledge that if you have mixed centres the with mixed ages that the 5 and 6 are going to meld into each other) and that
5. creativity be encouraged on the part of operators and regulators in terms of creative use being made. We had discussions on whether or not using outdoor space with a bunch of big contraptions was necessarily the best way or to be very simplistic about it were a bunch of balls better.

In favour 3  
Opposed 5  
Abstention 2  
**DEFEATED**

- Following further discussion a second motion was introduced:

**M/S COOPER/LOW**

THAT in order to respond to discussion regarding minimum licensing standards for outdoor play space the Licensing and Regulation Working Group recommends to Provincial Child Care Council

THAT subsequent to considerable debate and reflection the Provincial Child Care Council recommend the minister convey Council's desire that there be no reductions to outdoor play space and that the regulated 7 meters squared be maintained.

Provincial Child Care Council – November 13, 2015

Minister Stephanie Cadieux

Speaking Notes

- Great to see everyone again
- Reflecting on the meeting last November the discussion focused on
  - Quality enhancement actions
  - The need for ongoing child care spaces in BC
  - The goal to encourage spaces on or close to school grounds and in underserved areas
  - The question of whether every family chooses to access child care
  - How can we help the public understand the importance of the early years
  - How do we change the language from “it’s too expensive to put children in child care” to “the importance of the early years on children’s outcomes”
    - This shift will contribute to people’s understanding of the benefits in doing this right; and
  - I was also interested in learning more about your discussions on the outdoor play space requirements for child care
- We’ve made progress this past year
  - I know you were updated yesterday by ministry staff on our major activities in the early years
  - I am pleased that major capital projects have continued to focus on school grounds and underserved areas
  - The EY Office has continued to support the roll out of Early Years Centres
  - The parent survey released yesterday provides an answer to the question of whether every family chooses to access child care
  - Yesterday you discussed how to change the narrative around early learning
    - I am interested to hear how this session went
  - I have had discussions with Minister Lake on the issue of outdoor play space and the need to find the right balance between an ideal play area and an area that allows for a healthy amount of space that is still affordable for child care providers
  - I hear that the program reviews that are taking place – CCRRs, Children First, EYC, and FRPs – have made many anxious that there may be some changes to funding. This is not the intent and there will be no net reduction in EY funding as

a result of the reviews. But we are interested in knowing that the funds we have in place are having the desired impact.

- In 2016 I would like to see you
  - continue with your working groups
    - your time and efforts are appreciated, you are providing valuable input
    - I recognize that changes occur and projects shift with time
    - you have proven yourselves to be flexible, accommodating and resourceful

**From:** Cadieux, Stephanie MCF:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 12, 2015 11:30 AM  
**To:** Sandur, Parveen MCF:EX; Lalari, Terry MCF:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: Speaking Notes for PCCC Meeting Friday, Nov. 13 at 9:00am.

Please rework

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Sloane, Kari MCF:EX" <[Kari.Sloane@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kari.Sloane@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** November 12, 2015 at 10:39:53 AM PST  
**To:** "Cadieux, Stephanie MCF:EX" <[Stephanie.Cadieux@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Cadieux@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Speaking Notes for PCCC Meeting Friday, Nov. 13 at 9:00am.

Good morning Minister,

Please find attached SNs for your meeting with the PCCC tomorrow, Nov. 13.

The speaking notes have been added to the Calendar and to the Ipad.

Have a great day,  
Kari



**From:** Cadieux, Stephanie MCF:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 21, 2015 10:52 PM  
**To:** Sandur, Parveen MCF:EX  
**Subject:** Re: URGENT - 1041408 DBN for Minister Lake - Outdoor Play Space

I'm good with this

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2015, at 10:49 PM, "Sandur, Parveen MCF:EX" <[Parveen.Sandur@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Parveen.Sandur@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Minister,

Received from Health, these are the revised materials for the Oct 26<sup>th</sup> presentation to CCST (HLTH lead).

There was a concern regarding the 7m2 play space requirement. Health officials have revised the requirement to 6m2 in the largest group. Minister Lake is content with this and has signed off. The DBN play space note and the comparative analysis (appendix 1) are the most relevant documents.

Let me know if you have any concerns.

Thanks,

Parveen

<PPT for CCST Committee no speaking notes- Child Regulations (5).pptx>  
<PPT for CCST Committee with Speaking Notes - Child Regulations (5).pptx>  
<1041408 DBN Play Space (final).docx>  
<1041408 DBN Appendix 1 Outdoor Play Space Rqts across Canada.docx>  
<1041408 DBN Appendix 2 Play Space Comp based on 100 pre-school age.pptx>  
<1041408 DBN Appendix 3 Group size chart.docx>

**MINISTRY OF CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

**Cliff # 227775**

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Stephanie Cadieux, Minister– **FOR INFORMATION**

**TITLE:** Child Care Licensing Regulation Outdoor Play Space Requirement

**PURPOSE:** To advise of Provincial Child Care Council Recommendation Regarding Outdoor Play Space Requirements

**BACKGROUND:**

- The Child Care Licensing Regulation (CCLR), established under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health (MOH).
- The CCLR establishes health and safety requirements for child care facilities, including outdoor play space requirements.
- The CCLR requires 7m<sup>2</sup> of outdoor play space per child for all care types, except family care and occasional care. If a facility does not have sufficient space, a Medical Health Officer may grant an exemption so long as there is no increased risk to the health and safety of children.
- Minimum outdoor play space requirements vary across Canada from 4.6 m<sup>2</sup> (Alberta) to 7m<sup>2</sup>, depending on the age of the child and size of the group in the play space. Currently, five other provinces, in addition to British Columbia, require 7m<sup>2</sup> of outdoor play space per child.
- The Provincial Child Care Council (PCCC) is an appointed council established under the *Child Care BC Act* that provides advice to the Minister of Children and Family Development on policies and programs that affect the affordability, quality, stability and accessibility of child care.
- In November 2015, Minister Stephanie Cadieux requested a recommendation from PCCC regarding outdoor play space requirements for child care, taking into consideration the need to create more child care spaces in areas where the cost of land is prohibitive.

**DISCUSSION:**

- In February 2016, PCCC members discussed the issue of outdoor play space requirements. Stating concerns that any reduction to the minimum requirement for outdoor play space would negatively impact quality of care, PCCC intends to make a recommendation to the Minister of Children and Family Development to support maintaining the existing minimum outdoor play space requirements of 7m<sup>2</sup> per child. (Note: The formal recommendation is currently being finalized by the Council Chair and will be forwarded to the Minister Cadieux when received.)
- In fall 2015, MOH began drafting changes to the CCLR to reduce the minimum requirement for outdoor play space from 7m<sup>2</sup> to 6m<sup>2</sup>.

- MOH is preparing an Order in Council (OIC) for Cabinet's consideration in June 2016.
- MOH will be provided with the PCCC's recommendation.

**ADVICE:**

- Once Cabinet has considered the OIC, the Minister may wish to formally respond to PCCC's recommendation.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

N/A

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**Drafter:** Alys Pivetta, A/Director Early Years Policy

**Date:** April 25, 2016