



Report To:	Program Planning Committee
From:	Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services Ray Hannah, Children's Program Supervisor
Date:	June 27, 2012
Re:	New Child Care Centre in École St-Thomas Warren Sudbury East Child Care Update

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB assists Carrefour francophone de Sudbury with financial support to expand child care services in Sudbury East.

THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approve funding in the amount of \$13,387.47 to Carrefour francophone de Sudbury. These funds are to be issued in order to purchase start-up supplies for the Child Care Centre at École St-Thomas in Warren in order to comply with the Day Nurseries Act licensing requirements. This funding would come from the 2012 Childcare Budget under Program Development – Best Start Ongoing which is funded by the province at 100%.

### **Background**

According to the Best Start Phase 1 Plan, it was recognized that Sudbury East was identified as a community that would be able to accommodate a child care centre. Evidence of this was seen in the viability plan put forth by Carrefour francophone in 2011, in support of a centre in Noëlville. Carrefour francophone is now looking for the DSB support for a before and after school program in Warren.

The school board has developed a third party partnership with Carrefour francophone de Sudbury to operate a child care centre in École St-Thomas. The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has been encouraging these plans for child care in Warren and has reviewed the program viability with hopes to approve this expansion of services.

### **Objectives**

The Best Start vision includes the capacity to offer quality licensed child care within school settings to support families and communities. The objective of this report is to

help families in the Warren area have access to such care while supporting the provinces Best Start vision.

As indicated in last year's issue report, in support of child care in Noëlville, a memo from Assistant Deputy Minister Jim Grieve was distributed on January 13th, 2010 describing how the [Early Learning Program – Extended Day Component](#) will be implemented. This program will be fully implemented in all the schools in Ontario by 2015. Schools have the discretion to implement the Early Learning Program Child or have a third party agreement with a provider in order to offer the Extended Day component. In the Sudbury east region, school boards have chosen to develop third party relationships with Carrefour francophone in order to achieve the Best Start vision and Extended Day Component.

## **UPDATES**

### **Noëlville**

In November 2011, the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approved the support of a child care centre to open in Noëlville at St Antoine. St Antoine was selected to offer the Extended Day Early Learning Program in year three of the Full Day Kindergarten implementation. With this approval, Carrefour francophone planned to open the centre in the spring of 2012. However, the plans were delayed due to construction and they are now on schedule to open in September 2012.

### **Warren**

École St-Thomas, in Warren, has also been selected in year three to implement the Extended Day Early Learning Program. According to surveys completed in the Sudbury East community, they clearly demonstrate that there is a need for child care in the Warren area.

Carrefour francophone de Sudbury has been working with the school board toward an agreement to offer a before and after school program in Warren. Carrefour francophone's budget evaluation and viability plan, determined that this program should operate at 85% capacity. From our experience in having other centres open, it is normal to be viable at 75% capacity.

### **Markstay**

Carrefour francophone is also considering opening a centre in Markstay for the 2012 – 2013 school year. Since the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB already supports a child care centre in Markstay, and funding only exists to support one centre. Staff are currently in the process of reviewing a viability plan for a child care centre at Camille Perron in Markstay. For several years, the community of Markstay has been receiving child care services at a centre operated by the YMCA. This centre has been experiencing difficulties with viability and suffered some decline in attendance with the opening of a school board operated Extended Day program across the street at Camille Perron. It is possible that some of the decline in child attendance was a result of parents and children seeking care in the French Language. Since funds, and the number of children,

will not support two centres in Markstay, the DSB will work with both Child Care Providers, the School Boards and the community to ensure the provision of child care services in Markstay is maintained and that the child care centres are financially viable.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to:

- Ensure the expansion of child care centres in the Sudbury East area, and to support child care centres in moving forward in the transition of the Extended Day Early Learning Programming.
- Support the Best Start vision that daycare's and school's work collaboratively in order to provide the Extended Day programming to 4 and 5 year-olds.
- Financially support the need for child care in the Sudbury East area.
- Provide an update on child care service in the Sudbury East area.

## **Conclusion**

As per the [Noëlville Child Care - Issue Report](#) in November 2011, with respect to a day care opening in Noëlville, and in accordance to the surveys conducted in the Sudbury East community, there has always been an identified need for licensed care in the area. Previously, the main obstacle in achieving the Best Start vision, which includes child care in the school settings, was that there were no providers to operate a licensed child care centre. The Children's Services department has been working with Carrefour francophone de Sudbury and CSPGNO in order to ensure program viability in Markstay and to expand child care into the community of Warren.

At this time, we are recommending approval for \$13,387.47 to assist with the start-up costs associated with a before and after school program in Warren.