
Excitement grows as Thurber Street Child Care Centre in Smiths Falls reopens its doors for business on December 2, 2019

Through funding provided by the Government of Canada and the provincial Ministry of Education, the County of Lanark and the Town of Smiths Falls have created 34 new child care spaces. The child care centre which is located at 73 Thurber Street in Smiths Falls, is licensed for 24 preschool age children and 10 toddlers and will open its doors on December 2, 2019.

The creation of these new licensed child care spaces is made possible due to the County's shared commitment and partnership with the Town of Smiths Falls and Province of Ontario to provide investments in the early years aimed to increase quality, accessibility, affordability, flexibility and inclusivity. We are delighted to have the opportunity to increase the number of licensed child care spaces to meet the needs of our community.

In its 2019 Child Care and Early Years' Service Plan, Lanark County identified the need to increase child care spaces in high pressure areas. The new program will support The Town of Smiths Falls in addressing this issue. Families rely on infrastructure being in place to offer quality child care for their children to enable parents to work. The County's Children's Services department is committed to increasing access to child care for more families.

Lanark County Social Services (Children's Services Department) is the Service System Manager for the Early Years and Licensed Child Care services under the *Child Care and Early Years Act* (CCEYA). The responsibilities include service planning, supporting families and licensed child care providers, and overseeing delivery of EarlyON Child and Family Centres.

For more information about children's services in Lanark County, visit <http://lanarkcounty.ca/Page1993.aspx>

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