

April 3, 2020

Dear MCRC Families

In a matter of weeks, our world has been turned inside out by the COVID-19 global pandemic. In an effort to contain the spread of this virus, the provincial government has ordered many businesses and services, including child care centres, be shut down to ensure the effective practice of social and physical distancing. As a result, most MCRC programs have been shut down since March 16, 2020. As our Licensed Child Care programs are funded through the fees paid by parents, MCRC has lost significant self-generated revenue in the last three weeks.

COVID-19 has caused economic and health crises to a magnitude that most of us have never experienced. As we anticipated this was going to be a difficult time, we used our saved reserve to pay our staff over the last three weeks with the hope that we would soon be receiving some financial support from our Regional, Provincial or Federal government. Unfortunately, no funding has been confirmed at this time.

MCRC had hoped to open an emergency child care centre program to support our community's frontline health care workers, as well as to provide some paid work for our staff. However, we were unable to secure an appropriate level of funding and insurance coverage that we believed was essential to running this type of program. For these reasons, MCRC will not be operating an emergency child care centre.

As a result, we have to layoff 125 staff who are directly supported by our self-generated revenue programs.

We are actively reviewing all of the financial incentives that have been announced for not-for-profits and are determining our eligibility. We also continue to advocate for our sector on a Federal and Provincial level so that we can continue to provide essential service to the many families, children and staff that depend on us.

It is my hope that we will be able to recall laid off staff as soon as financially possible so that we are ready and prepared for when Halton residents go back to work.

In the meantime, please continue to practice physical distancing to protect your family and our community as a whole.

Stay home and stay healthy,



Rebecca Barrows-Vrankulj  
Executive Director