

TO: PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND FAMILY RESOURCE WORKERS

SUBJECT: UPDATE FROM THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO LIFTING OF HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES IN PROGRAMS

FROM: SUSAN NICHOLSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their ongoing dedication and commitment to keeping our participants safe, and for being innovative and creative and ensuring that our participants and their families still had access to excellent programming, food security, Infant Food Cupboard, monthly food gives, etc ... through virtual and outdoor programming, curb side delivery and outdoor programming.

Based on advice from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (OCMOH) and in alignment with community measures, the province is returning EarlyON Child and Family Programs and Family Resource Programs to a more normal learning environment, while still maintaining some protective measures.

It is important to note as we venture into the schools and community space to provide face to face programming, that staff, families and children who choose to wear a mask, will be supported and respected for their decision.

As we have many locations both urban and rural which are mostly outreach sites, and the fact that most of our sites are shared space, it will require a lot of coordination and planning. Our plan is to have at least one site per community ready to offer in person indoor programming within the next couple of weeks, however, to be fully operational by June 1st with a mix of indoor, outdoor and virtual programming. These openings will be advertised on our Facebook pages and site calendars from each community, so please stay tuned. For more information on our programs and services, please visit our website at www.ocof.net.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Management, I want to thank our Parents/Guardians for their patience and kindness over the last two years, and I want to thank our Managers and Staff, who have stepped up and have been very creative to ensure that their members/families received the supports needed during these most unusual times.

Please find attached information recently received from the Ministry with respect to returning programming to a more normal learning environment, while still maintain protective measures.

Respectfully,



Susan Nicholson
Executive Director