



Office of the Director of Education

March 27, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is pleased to inform you that the Province of Ontario has just confirmed funding for the **construction of a Child Care Centre at St. Margaret Catholic School**. The facility will include spaces for up to 10 infants (0 – 18 months of age), up to 15 toddlers (18 months – 30 months of age), and up to 24 preschool children (2.5 -3.8 years of age).

As you may be aware, purchase of a site on Baycrest Avenue from the TDSB is in progress and the Board has approved the construction of a new 500 pupil place school on this site using Proceeds of Disposition (POD), previously approved for a 642 pupil place school on Carmichael Avenue. This means there will be a surplus of approved funding, for which staff have requested written approval from the Ministry of Education to use towards a new gymnasium at St. Margaret, in conjunction with the Child Care project.

Further information will be shared with you as soon as more details about the project are available. TCDSB will continue to advocate for the needs of the St. Margaret community to the Ministry of Education.

The Province of Ontario is transforming the way we look at early education. At the TCDSB, we recognize the benefits of early learning which give children a stronger foundation in school and life. Additionally, we value Child Care within our schools as a support to our families and communities.

Ontario's goal, through the Ministry of Education, is to build a high quality child care system that is seamless and accessible for all children and families. The Province is modernizing Child Care through a multi-year plan designed to enhance programs and support for children from the ages of 0 - 12. Part of this plan includes capital funding to build new Child Care Centres to expand the number of spaces across Ontario.

For further information regarding "*Ontario's Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework, 2017*", refer to the link below:

http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/renewed_early_years_child_care_policy_framework_en.pdf

We look forward to future conversations about Child Care and other building improvements at St. Margaret Catholic School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rory McGuckin".

Rory McGuckin
Director of Education

CC. Peter Aguiar, Superintendent of Education
Maia Puccetti, Acting Associate Director Planning and Facilities
Dan Koenig, Associate Director of Academic Services
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