



**Newsletter**

**Management Team:**

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**The Transformation of York University  
Co- operative Daycare Centre-  
A Vision for a Better Tomorrow**

The Federal and Provincial governments are transforming daycare in Canada, making it more affordable, accessible, and inclusive. York University’s Co-operative Daycare Centre (YUCDC) has embraced these changes and wish to share with you what we have done to improve the present and build on our vision for a better tomorrow.

Since 1976, YUCDC has cared for the children of our greater community. Eighty percent of our children are from families of York students, staff, and faculty. Demand is growing, and accordingly we have been increasing the number of children we can accommodate by adding an additional Toddler and Preschool Program. By this fall, our enrolment capacity will have risen from 119 to 150.

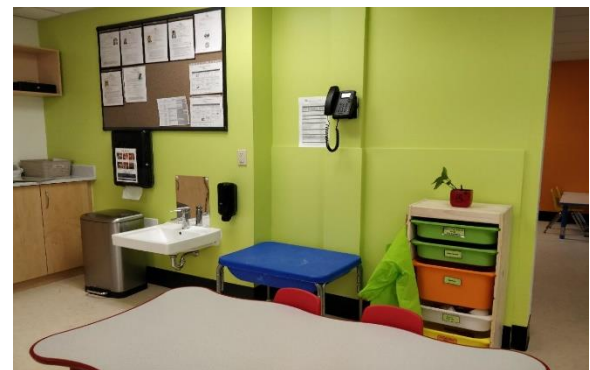
But we aren’t just getting bigger, we’re getting better. Working with the support of York University, and our governing partners in the city and province, we have procured over \$800,000 in grants which have allowed us to modernize our indoor play and learning spaces and facilities.

With a fresh new look, our Centre is becoming more accessible and the learning opportunities richer than ever before.

To this day, our journey continues. The federal government's *Canada Wide Early Learning Childcare System* “envisions an inclusion plan that supports childcare access for low-income children, vulnerable children, children from diverse communities, children with special needs, and Francophones and Indigenous children.” Consistent with this vision, we will be lining our halls with colourful murals highlighting the diversity of our community, and which will literally allow our children to see reflections of their and other cultures.

We have almost completed our indoor renovations and have now begun to work with York University’s Planning, Design and Construction Team to revitalize our outdoor play spaces. An Indigenous landscape architect has been hired to plan, design and construct outdoor play spaces that will reflect indigenous cultures and values. This new playscape will seek to be a physical and spiritual reminder of the original peoples with whom we share this country, and whose vision we seek to help us grow our appreciation of the outdoor spaces that connect us to nature and the world at large.

Join us in our journey! Check out some of the amazing things that we’ve done to create positive change and see some of the changes in real time when we re-open our doors. We believe that you’ll like what we’re doing!





We have many families who will be starting with us in the weeks and months to come. Please join us in welcoming them to YUCDC!

### **YUCDC is Rebuilding and Beginning to Return to Normalcy!**

YUCDC opened our doors to 35 children on August 2020, following the Provincial Mandated Closure due to COVID. Today, we have over 90 children enrolled in our programs. On behalf of the YUCDC Board of Directors and Staffing Team, thank you for your support and patience during the past two years as we navigated the pandemic together. *YUCDC continues to follow the guidance and screening practices of Toronto Public Health.*

On **Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**, YUCDC will be re-opening our doors for our parents to drop-off and pick-up their children. Management and members of our Joint Health and Safety Committee will be available in the morning and late afternoon to provide guidance and support to our families.



### **New Programs Coming to YUCDC!**

YUCDC will soon be the home to an additional 24 Preschoolers. Our new Toddler Program for 15 children is slated to start as early as September of 2022. The staffing for these programs will be announced shortly.



The above is a picture of one of the Preschool Program's new play spaces.

### **YUCDC Is Revitalizing Our Outdoor Play Spaces!**

Renovations to our Preschool, Kinder and School-Age play spaces have begun and are expected to be completed by the beginning of July. After twenty years of the same play structures, we are also looking forward to the revitalization of Infant and Toddler play and learning areas as well. We are anticipating the completion of this project by early fall!!

Details will follow shortly regarding the activities that we will be hosting to help raise some funds for the revitalization of our outdoor play spaces!



## **Canada Early Learning Childcare Agreement**

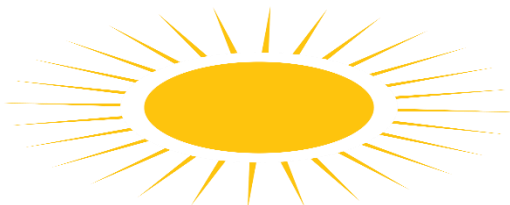
Ontario and Canada signed an agreement that will help to make childcare more affordable, accessible, and inclusive. Its plan is to deliver quality childcare at an average of \$10 a day childcare by September 2025. There remains to be some uncertainty as to how our Systems Manager, Toronto Children's Services, will be implementing the Canada Wide Early Learning Childcare Agreement. More details will follow in the weeks to come.



In the meantime, please continue to follow the payment schedule as per your personalized tuition fee plan. A copy for the period July until December will be sent out by the middle of July.

## **Interested in Sharing Your Time and Talents?**

YUCDC is seeking parents to share in the care-and-education of your child's program. If you have any time to share your talents and/or skills, please speak with either Mabel or Rewa or email them at [daycare@yorku.ca](mailto:daycare@yorku.ca).



## **Parking Services at York**

Just a reminder that the University's Parking Services moved to a virtual permit system during last year. This system requires you to provide the license plate(s) of the vehicle(s) that will be used when picking up and dropping off your child. Please ensure that you provide the YUCDC office with this information so that they may forward it to the York U's Parking Office.

Please note that you will be entitled to use the 20-minute daycare parking spaces which are located at the south end of the Atkinson building. It should be noted that should your visit exceed the 20-minute allotment, you may be subject to a City of Toronto parking violation.

## **The Return of On-Site Learning Opportunities to YUCDC's Summer Program**

Due to our continued need to manage COVID, our Before and After School Summer Camp Programs will not be participating in any off-campus excursions this year. However, we are planning to incorporate on-site enrichment learning opportunities back into all our programs for this summer. Please check your email during the week of June 20<sup>th</sup> for your child's summer program calendar!

## **And Lastly, Thank You!**

Please join the Management Team in sending out a huge applause to our York Administration, YUCDC's Board of Directors and Joint Health and Safety Committee and our Staffing Team who have worked tirelessly to ensure the health, safety and well being of our children, families, and York Community during the pandemic. Kudos to our unsung heroes!