

County adding hundreds of child-care spaces thanks to provincial funding ^[1]

'We have already allocated or approved 592 spaces for 2025. For 2025-2026, we now have 2,340 spaces to be able to create before the end of December 2026,' says official

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Excerpt

Simcoe County staff shared some “really good news” with councillors about what they called a significant increase in funding for its 2025 Ontario Child Care and Early Years Funding.

Otherwise known as the province’s “\$10-a-day child-care program,” the county recently learned it will receive an increase in infrastructure funding to support the creation of new non-profit child-care spaces in the amount of \$21.2 million over the 2025 funding allocations, according to Samantha Zuercher, the county’s director of early learning and child-care system management.

This news was released on March 31 by the Ministry of Education and will primarily impact the directed growth of the licensed child-care sector — allowing the number of Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) spaces that can be created in Simcoe County by the end of 2026 to increase by 1,778 — for a total of 4,859 spaces.

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