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EXCERPTS

Child care agencies in the Thunder Bay District continued their lobbying efforts today for a new national child care system. They presented their ideas on how the system should work on a number of toy blocks.

With the help of children from the Schoolhouse Playcare Centre, the blocks and petitions were presented to MPP Michael Gravelle.

It's part of a provincial campaign by the Association of Early Childhood Educators in Ontario called 'Building Blocks for Child care.' They're seeking a system that improves standards for both centres and staff.

Local representative Kelly Massaro-Joblin says they also want a system that's affordable for everyone.

Gravelle says he's support the efforts of the area's child care agencies and intends to present the blocks to the province's Children's and Youth Services Minister Marie Bountrogianni. He's also confident the agencies demands will be acknowledged in the development of the national child care system now underway.

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