



CI-6

December 18, 2015

Ref: 224653

His Worship Mayor Merlin Nichols and Council  
District of Chetwynd  
Box 357  
Chetwynd BC V0C 1J0

Dear Mayor Nichols and Council:

The Provincial Office for the Early Years (EYO) participated at the 2015 Union of BC Municipalities convention by hosting a table during the "Tools, Resources and Funding" session. The EYO table focused on sharing resources developed over the past year designed to support local governments to increase their capacity to undertake local planning, projects and development related to child care.

The Provincial Government of British Columbia strives to increase quality, affordability, and accessibility of child care through a variety of initiatives.

Over the past year, the EYO has worked with local governments to explore local government "policy tools" that can help ensure availability of quality child care spaces across British Columbia. This has culminated in a number of resources that can assist local governments in understanding their role and opportunities to exercise their unique levers to support local child care expansion.

One of the resources shared at the convention was the brochure "*Municipalities: Top 13 Actions to Support Local Child Care Needs*". This document was developed in collaboration with local government representatives and the local government division of the Ministry of Community, Sport, and Cultural Development. It provides a concise description of 13 actions that local governments can take to support child care in their community including streamlining. I have enclosed the pamphlet for your perusal. It can also be accessed on-line at: <http://goo.gl/9312iY> along with a number of other resources for local government.

Should you be interested in further information regarding the resources available to municipalities to support the expansion of child care programs in your community, please contact the EYO at 250 387-5942 or send your e-mail to: [EarlyYearsOffice@gov.bc.ca](mailto:EarlyYearsOffice@gov.bc.ca).

Sincerely,

  
Stephanie Cadieux  
Minister

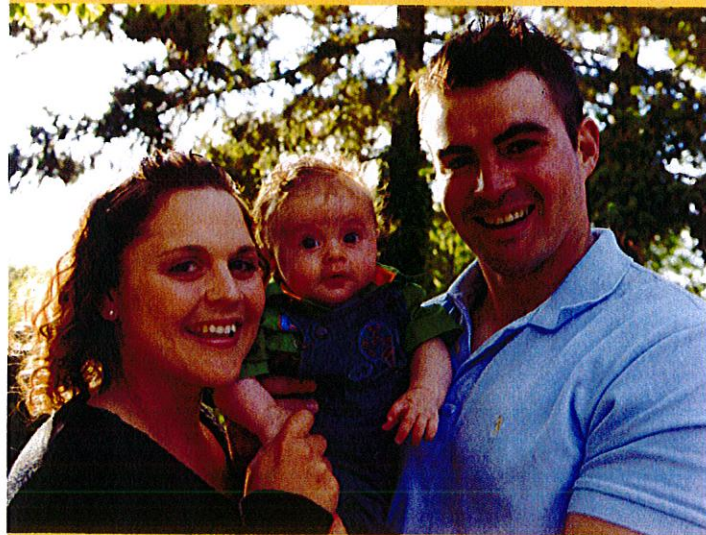
Attachments



## Provincial Office for the Early Years



The Provincial Office  
for the Early Years  
has resources and  
opportunities that  
may be of interest to  
local governments.





### ***Host a BC Early Years Centre***

Local governments are eligible to apply to host a BC Early Years Centre themselves or in partnership with other community organizations. For families with young children, BC Early Years Centres provide one-stop access to a range of programs, services, information and referrals (including child care) in their communities. Your parks and recreation department or local library staff may also be interested in participating. Learn more about the application process here: [www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early\\_years/](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early_years/)

### ***Child Care Actions for Municipalities***

In collaboration with local governments, the Provincial Office for the Early Years has developed a resource that describes 13 actions that local governments can take to help ensure there is an adequate supply of child care in their community. Find the resource here: [goo.gl/qzrPEF](http://goo.gl/qzrPEF).

### ***Local Government Requirements: A Handbook for Child Care Providers***

This guide is intended to help those interested in establishing a child care facility become familiar with the local government bylaws and processes that may affect their plans. Find the Handbook at: [goo.gl/eiQJgZ](http://goo.gl/eiQJgZ)). A one-page summary of the Handbook is also available at: [goo.gl/mk6KtI](http://goo.gl/mk6KtI). Please consider distributing this guide—or the link to this guide—at your local government office.

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