



CITY OF VANCOUVER

A13

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: June 10, 2008
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RTS No.: 7399
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Meeting Date: June 24, 2008

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Director of Social Planning
SUBJECT: 2008 Civic Child Care Grants - Allocation 2 of 3

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve 54 Childcare Enhancement Grants totalling \$750,030 as listed in Appendix A, with conditions as noted; source of funds to be 2008 Civic Childcare Grants Budget, 2008 Operating Budget.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Community Services RECOMMENDS approval of the foregoing.

COUNCIL POLICY

Council established the annual Civic Childcare Grants Program on October 23, 1990, as part of the Civic Childcare Strategy. The overall objectives of this grant program are:

- to support the viability, accessibility and quality of existing child care services;
- to assist child care initiatives in high need areas;
- to encourage and support efficient, coordinated administrative services required for a child care system in Vancouver;
- to lever other sources of child care funding whenever possible.

Council approved "Moving Forward" - Childcare: A Cornerstone of Childhood Development in April, 2002, which set out a strategic plan for child care and child development services for the City.

On June 14, 2005, Council approved combining the Inner City Sustaining, Program Enhancement and Inner City Bursary grants into one Childcare Enhancement grant to help offset operating costs, based on centre's licensed capacity for high need areas and tie to conditions of quality and affordability.

On June 29, 2006, Council approved revised criteria for the Childcare Enhancement grant.

On April 15, 2008, Council adopted the final 2008 Operating Budget with a 1% cost of living increase for a total budget of \$1,115,162 for Civic Childcare Grants.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

PURPOSE

This report recommends the allocations for the Childcare Enhancement Grant to 54 licensed non-profit child care programs that serve children in high need areas. Funding is provided on an annual basis: to assist in keeping parent fees below the city average, to offer hot breakfast/lunch and nutritious snack programs, to provide extra staff ratios in high need programs, to develop and implement continuous quality improvement, and to support co-ordinated administration.

This is the second of three reports regarding the 2008 Civic Childcare Grants Program.

BACKGROUND

Recognizing that child care is a Provincial mandate and primarily funded by parent fees, Councils, since 1990, have assisted children and families attending child care programs in high needs neighbourhoods in Vancouver. Vancouver City Council established the annual Civic Childcare Grants program on October 23, 1990, as part of the Civic Childcare Strategy. The purpose of the Child Care Civic Grants Program is to help support quality, affordable, and accessible child care in Vancouver. Grant funding specifically provides enhanced program quality without necessitating an increase in parent fees.

The purpose of the Childcare Enhancement grant is to:

- Support affordability by maintaining fees at or below city average,
- Provide a food supplement program (e.g. hot breakfast and lunch) including monthly menu plan based on sound nutritional planning and a staff schedule for food preparation to increase the nutrition of the children,
- Enhance staff ratios to better serve high-need children,
- Strengthen co-ordinated administration through the community hub model to increase administrative effectiveness among small non profits,
- Develop and implement a quality improvement plan to increase the quality of the care provided.

High need programs are identified in the client profile section by the percentage of:

- children from single parent families,
- children who receive Provincial subsidy,
- children from new immigrant or refugee families,
- children who speak English as a second language,

- Aboriginal children.

Staff also use neighbourhood level data such as the Early Development Instrument (EDI) and Census information to target grant funds. The EDI is a tool to gauge the school readiness of kindergarten children in neighbourhoods across the City.

Funding Amount

The grant allocation provides a consistent level of funding for all eligible programs based on the type of care and the number of hours and staff ratios required to deliver the service. A full-time equivalent space formula is applied.

The maximum eligible amount for this grant is \$27,000, which ensures a wider distribution of funding to a variety of programs.

DISCUSSION

In 2007, Council approved \$698,558 for the Childcare Enhancement Grants to support an estimated 51 childcare programs with 1,515 licensed spaces serving 1,664 children per month. This year staff are recommending approval of \$750,030 to support 54 programs with 1,675 licensed spaces serving 2,126 children per month - an increase of 160 spaces over last year. The grants will support licensed group care programs for infants, toddlers, three to five year olds, out-of-school age children, preschool and child minding programs.

This year staff received applications from 54 programs of which all were eligible. Applications were reviewed by Social Planning staff to assess eligibility, and to confirm that 2007 grant conditions were met. Staff conducted site visits at the organizations to meet with program staff and board members. Social Planning staff then applied a formula based on the type of care delivered to calculate allocations for eligible programs.

Of the 54 child care programs, 51 were located and/or serving families in the ten most at risk neighbourhoods based on any scale of the Early Development Instrument. The three remaining programs, while not located in high need areas, are serving high numbers of children from families at risk.

Affordability Objective

The costs of regulated child care in Canada are largely borne by parents and are often prohibitively expensive for families with more than one child in care and for families with low to moderate incomes. Parent fees account for approximately 85% of operating budgets, with the remaining 15% contributed from a patchwork of government programs. Low income families may receive subsidies, but the gap between the child care subsidy and the real cost of care effectively precludes many low income families from using regulated care.

One of the objectives of the Childcare Enhancement Grant is to support the affordability of childcare for families most in need. For example, the average fee in Vancouver for group child care for 3 to 5 year olds is \$668. The current average fee charged by Enhancement Grant recipients is \$622, which is 7% below the city average.

Quality Enhancement Objective

One of the aspects of quality care is the availability of nutritious food. The grant supports hot lunch and breakfast programs for the children who attend City-funded child care centres. For many children, these meals are their main meals for the day. One program operating in the Downtown Eastside wrote that:

“The hot lunches enhanced the children’s ability to learn and achieve development milestones. The children were able to stay focused for longer periods and their behaviour was greatly affected by both the food they received and the care and attention of the staff” .

In 2007, the Enhancement grants supported over 93,000 hot lunches, over 22,000 hot breakfasts, and over 63,000 meal supplement snacks for children in the programs. It is anticipated that this year’s grant will exceed these numbers.

Themes

Every year, child care staff and board members are asked to share themes, trends and issues or challenges they have experienced over the past year. This year key themes identified were:

- Increased pressure on child care centres related to staffing, funding and complexity of needs of children attending the programs;
- Challenges for school age programs from decreasing enrolment due to parents choosing unregulated programs or choosing to leave their children unsupervised;
- Neighbourhood level demographic changes such as gentrification in some areas and increases in single parent and aboriginal families in others;
- Food security issues for families and children attending the programs; and
- Increased family stresses from poverty, isolation, hunger, depression and overall lack of resources

For a complete summary of themes and trends identified from the grant process this year see APPENDIX B.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

On April 15, 2008, City Council adopted the final 2008 Operating Budget, which included a 1% general inflationary increase to the child care grant budget. The 2008 budget for the Civic Childcare Grants is \$1,115,162, of which an Administration of City-owned Childcare Facilities Grant of \$110,334 was approved for Vancouver Society of Children’s Centres and a City-wide Childcare Support Services Grant of \$224,220 was approved for Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre on May 1, 2008 (RTS #7324). Of the remaining \$780,608, staff recommend allocation of 54 Childcare Enhancement Grants totalling \$750,030 as per Appendix A with conditions as noted.

Below is a summary of the funding allocation to-date:

Program	2008 Proposed Budget	Approved Allocation (RTS #7324)	Recommended Allocation	2008 Remaining
Childcare Enhancement Grants	\$750,030*		\$750,030	0
Program Stabilization	\$10,000			\$10,000
Program Development	\$5,578*			\$5,578
Research & Innovation	\$15,000			\$15,000
City-Wide Support Services	\$224,220	\$224,220		0
Administration of City-Owned Facilities	\$110,334	\$110,334		0
Total	\$1,115,162	\$334,554	\$750,030	\$30,578

*These proposed amounts were different in the 2008 Civic Child Care-Allocation 1 of 3 Report because staff had not finalized allocations through the formula of the Child Care Enhancement Grant.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Cost of Living Indicators (“Worldwide Cost of Living Survey”) suggest that Vancouver is the second most expensive Canadian city to live in. Families with the median income of \$69,688 (2005), with one infant and one three-year old in child care would spend approximately \$20,844/year (2007 Westcoast Childcare Resource Centre Fee Survey) on child care fees, or roughly 30% of their annual income. For female lone parents that have the median income of \$39,573, such care would be unattainable.

While spending a significant percentage of income on child care fees is not unique to Vancouver, the additional high cost of living (housing, etc.) in Vancouver presents many challenges, especially for those families with low to moderate incomes. The support that is targeted by Council to low to moderate income families with children in child care helps to alleviate a portion of this financial burden.

CONCLUSION

This is the second of three reports related to the allocation of the 2008 Childcare Grants. Social Planning is recommending Council approval for:

- 54 Childcare Enhancement grants (\$750,030)

The Childcare Enhancement grant funding will support 1,675 spaces in 54 licensed group child care programs. This leaves a balance of \$30,578 in the Childcare Grants budget for Research and Innovation, Program Stabilization and Program Development grants to be allocated later this year.

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LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	OBJECTIVES	E&I G CONDITIONS
Brant Villa Day Care Society	Learning Tree Day Care	25- 3-5 yrs (incl. 3 sp. Needs) - Group Care	16,615	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios to better serve high-need children. Keeping fees at/or below City average.	
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Grandview Terrace Child Care Centre	25- 3-5 yrs Group Care	13,500	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Britannia Child Care Centre Out Of School	70- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	23,261	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Eagles in the Sky Association	30- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,969	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Eaglets Daycare	25- 3-5 Yrs. Group Care (PT only)	16,615	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model. To enhance staff ratios.	
Britannia Community Services Centre	Mount Pleasant Child Care Society	25- 3-5 yrs; 12 18mos-3 yrs Group Care	27,000	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	OBJECTIVES	E&I G CONDITIONS
Britannia Community Services Centre	Grandview Terrace Out of School Care	50- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	13,500	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Cedar Cottage Nbhd House	Queen Alexandra Out of School Care	25- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	8,307	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Cedar Cottage Nbhd House (ANH)	Lord Beaconsfield Out of School Care	30- 6-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,969	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Cedar Cottage Nbhd House (ANH)	Lord Selkirk Out of School Care	40- 6-12 yrs Out of School Care	13,292	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Collingwood Nbhd House	Duke Street Child Care Center	32- 3-5 yrs FT & PT	21,267	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios.	
Collingwood Nbhd House	Carleton School Age Program	30- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,969	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model.	
Collingwood Nbhd House	Collingwood-Norquay Out of School Care	30- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,969	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model. To enhance staff ratios.	
Developmental Disabilities Assoc. of Vancouver-Richmond	Waterside Child Development Centre/Children's Centre	12- 18 mos - 3 yrs; 8- 3-5 yrs	21,267	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Eastside Family Place Soc.	Eastside Family Place	15- 18mos-5yrs	3,323	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	OBJECTIVES	E&I G CONDITIONS
Frog Hollow Nbhd House (ANH)	Frog Hollow Nbhd House - Kids World	40- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	13,292	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	To submit Year End Financial Statements and Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
Frog Hollow Nbhd House (ANH)	Satellite Daycare	12- 18 mos-3 yrs; 25- 3-5 Yrs Group Care	27,000	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	To submit Year End Financial Statements and Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
Frog Hollow Nbhd House (ANH)	Nootka Out of School Care	30- 5-12 Yrs Out of School Care	9,969	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	To submit Year End Financial Statements and Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
Jericho Kids' Club Childcare Society	Jericho Kids Club 1(Bayview)-Out of School Care	83- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	27,000	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	To submit Year End Financial Statements and Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
Kiwassa Nbhd House	Kiwassa Longhouse Out of School Care	33- 5-12 yrs. Out of School Care	10,966	To strengthen and coordinate administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association	Kiwassa-Variety Club Day Care	25- 3-5 yrs (incl. 6 sp. Needs) Group Care	16,615	To strengthen and coordinate administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. Keeping fees at/or below City average.	
Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association - St. David's Preschool Society	St. David's Preschool	20- preschool	7,975	To strengthen and coordinate administration through the community hub model. Keeping fees at/or below City average.	
Little Mountain Nbhd House Soc.	Little Mountain Child Development Centre	15- 3-5 yrs; 9 sp. Needs Group Care	9,969	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	OBJECTIVES	E&I G CONDITIONS
Little Mountain Nbhd House Soc.	Little Mountain Out of School Care	30- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,969	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
McGregor Child Care Soc.	McGregor Child Care	12- 18mos-3 yrs; 25- 3-5 Yrs Group Care	27,000	To keep fees at/or below City average.	To submit Year End Financial Statements and Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
Mount Pleasant Nbhd House	Mount Pleasant Nbhd House Preschool	20- Preschool	8,839	To develop and implement a quality improvement plan. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Mount Pleasant Nbhd House (ANH)	Mount Pleasant Nbhd House Daycare	16- 3-5 Yrs Group Care	10,633	To develop and implement a quality improvement plan. To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Mt. Pleasant Nbhd House	Mount Pleasant Out of School Care	40- 5 12 Yrs.	13,292	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Ray Cam Co-operative Centre	Raymur Place Day Care Centre	20- 3-5 yrs Group Care	6,642	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Ray-Cam Co-op Association	Ray-Cam Daycare	20- 3-5 Yrs Group Care	6,642	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Ray-Cam Co-operative Center	Phil Bouvier Child Family Centre, Childcare Program	49- 18 mths - 5 yrs	20,250	To strengthen and coordinate administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	Grant prorated from April 2008.
Ray-Cam Co-operative Centre	Ray-Cam Preschool	20- Preschool (1day per week - Sat.)	432	To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Ray-Cam Co-operative Centre	Ray-Cam Out of School Care Program	70- 5-12 yrs	11,624	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	OBJECTIVES	E&I G CONDITIONS
Ray-Cam Co-operative Centre	Ray-Cam Childminding	15- 18mos-5 yrs Child Minding	1,661	To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Shannon Day Care Soc.	Shannon Day Care Centre	10- 18mos-3 yrs; 15- 3-5 Yrs. Group Care	23,261	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
South Vancouver Nbhd House (ANH)	South Vancouver Neighbourhood House Poppins Preschool	20- Preschool	7,111	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
South Vancouver Neighbourhood House	South Vancouver Neighbourhood Out of School Care	40- 5 - 12 Yrs Out of School Care	13,292	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Spare Time Child Care Soc.	Spare Time Challenge Club	60- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	19,937	To strengthen coordinated administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
St. Michael's Anglican Church Daycare	St. Michael's Anglican Church Day Care	25- 3-5 yrs Group Care	16,615	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	To submit Year End Financial Statements and Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
Strathcona C.C. Assoc.	Strathcona Community Centre Preschool 1	20- Preschool (3 sessions of 20 each)	8,640	To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Strathcona Community Center Association	Strathcona Preschool Center 2	10- Preschool (2 sessions of 10 each)	4,652	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Strathcona Community Centre Association	Strathcona Community Centre Out of School Care 1	35- 5-13 yrs Out of School Care	11,630	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	OBJECTIVES	E&I G CONDITIONS
Sunset Child Care Society	Sunset Child Care Society	25- 3-5 yrs (incl. 6 sp. Needs), Group Care	16,615	To strengthen and coordinate administration through the community hub model. To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Sunset Community Association	Sunset Preschool	37- Preschool	16,416	To develop and implement a quality improvement plan. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Sunset Community Centre Assoc.	Sunset Out of School Care	20- 6-12 yrs Out of School Care	6,646	To develop and implement a quality improvement plan. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Thunderbird Neighbourhood Association	Thunderbird Neighbourhood Centre Preschool	20- Preschool	7,975	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Thunderbird Neighbourhood Association	Thunderbird Neighbourhood Out of School Care	30- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,969	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Thunderbird Neighbourhood Association	Thunderbird Neighbourhood Out of School Care II	17- 5-7 yrs Out of School Care	5,648	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Center Society	Sundance Day Care Centre	25- 3-5 yrs Group Care	16,615	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
Vancouver Chinese Pentecostal Benevolent Society	Sunshine Corner Day Care	25- 3-5 yrs Group Care	16,615	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios.	
YMCA of Greater Van.	Nanook YMCA Day Care	25- 3-5 yrs (incl. 4 sp.needs) Group Care	16,615	To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	
YMCA of Greater Van.	Mount Pleasant YMCA Kids Club	40- 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	6,645	To keep fees at/or below City average.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	OBJECTIVES	E&I G CONDITIONS
Young Women's Christian Association	Citygate Child Care Centre	25- 3-5 yrs Group Care	16,615	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	To submit Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
Young Women's Christian Association	Emmas Child Care Centre	14- 6 wks-18mos; 14- 18mos-3 yrs Group Care	27,000	To provide a food supplement program. To enhance staff ratios. To keep fees at/or below City average.	To submit Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
Young Women's Christian Association	Crabtree Corner	24- 6wks-5 yrs Emergency Childcare	23,925	To provide a food supplement program. To keep fees at or below City average.	To submit Annual Report by July 31, 2008.
	TOTAL OF E-GRANT RECOMM.		750,030		

Themes and Trends

Staff and board members from the respective organizations were asked to share any themes, trends and issue or challenges they have experienced over the past year. They have reported the following trends:

Food Security

- City funded lunch programs makes a positive difference to the health of children
- Increase in children who require hot lunch programs with parents who can not afford the costs
- Families asking for leftover food from the child care centre, as it is difficult to provide ample food for their children
- Increased number of families requiring extra support with food security

Increased Family Stresses

- Families struggling to deal with bed bugs and lice
- Increased emotional and financial stress for families
- Increased disclosure of sexual abuse
- Increase in number of MCFD child protection interventions
- Continuing themes of poverty, isolation, hunger, depression and overall lack of resources for families
- Grandparents or other relatives are primary caregivers. Parents often forced to work long hours due to the high cost of living. As a result, children see little of their parents during the day. In the past couple of years, it appears children take a longer time to adapt to being left at daycare and have separation anxiety
- Increased number of families having difficulties maintaining permanent shelter
- Economic pressures and high cost of living in Vancouver means many parents are working multiple jobs, leaving little or no time for parent sponsored, and supported, extra curricular activities
- Families having difficulty accessing a continuum of services that are affordable, accessible and meet their everyday needs for healthy development

Issues in School Age Child Care

- Increase in children who are in need of care, but are not registered for Out-of-School care. More parents opting to let their children be unsupervised.
- Growing demand for Out-of-School care in some areas
- Decline of enrolment in school aged programs, as well as schools in other areas
- Low cost, non-licensed caregivers providing after school care for more than 10 children
- Increased obesity issues related to poor food choices and little physical activity for school age children
- Time and resource pressure on school system means marginalized children are falling through the cracks
- Difficulties in accessing dedicated space in public school facilities

Children attending the Child Care Centres

- Increase of younger children requiring care
- Higher number of children with developmental concerns

Pressures on Child Care Centres

- Staff recruitment and retention issues
- Unable to offer competitive hours and pay rates due to lack of funding
- Increased waitlists
- Increased maintenance and upgrade of ageing facilities
- Increased number of children registered who require greater levels of support to maintain appropriate behaviour
- Increased enrolment of high risk children with undiagnosed special needs and learning disabilities
- Provincial Child Care Operating Fund rates remain too low
- Difficulties in covering operating costs without increasing fees
- Access to childcare subsidy is difficult for many parents, and the increasing cost of living is putting significant pressures on the quality and availability of child care
- Lack of core funding for the community services sector is resulting in compromises, staff stress and difficulty in recruiting and retaining staff
- Rising food and gas prices will impact expenses
- Increased operating costs, higher rent and higher training costs for staff, due to new licensing regulation, all impact the bottom line
- More demand for drop-in or part-time care
- Greater demand for administrative time; in many cases, to respond to government cuts, to assist parents with subsidy, to report for various grants and to attend meetings
- Increased complexities in supporting vulnerable children - particularly immigrant and aboriginal children - in an inclusive environment
- Hub development and partnerships have increased the awareness of child care and early learning site required for this community
- Numerous inquiries from families and agents from other countries seeking childcare in Vancouver

Neighbourhood Changes

- Gentrification of the community changing the profile of families requiring child care
- Increased drug use between Broadway and 1st Avenue and a higher number of needles in surrounding neighbourhood
- An increase in single parent families and aboriginal families
- Increase in single dads