

MOTION ON NOTICE

5. Establish Joint Council on Childcare in By-law

MOVER: Councillor Reimer

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. Accessible, affordable and quality childcare is essential to the health and well-being of the city of Vancouver's children and families;
2. The Joint Council on Childcare (JCC) was originally established in 2004 as a joint initiative of the City, Park Board and School Board to advise City Council on how to accelerate the building of childcare on municipally-owned lands;
3. Over the years, the JCC has expanded to include membership from the Vancouver Public Library and Vancouver Coastal Health, as well as representatives from larger childcare operators, childcare resource hubs, unions that represent childcare workers, and the building sectors;
4. The primary function of the JCC has evolved to provide advice directly to staff that aids in their efforts to achieve the targeted number of new childcare spaces, and in ensuring the policy goals in Healthy City and other policy documents relating to early care & learning are met;
5. The JCC has successfully overseen the creation of 1,982 new spaces of childcare, the renovation of existing childcare spaces, and has been a key driver in informing recent provincial and national government childcare policy and funding changes;
6. Despite the current function of providing advice to staff, the JCC continues to be constituted as an advisory committee to Council;
7. Other committees providing advice to staff are created through by-law including the Vancouver Heritage Commission, Urban Design Panel and Development Permit Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward for enactment a by-law to establish a Joint Council on Childcare (JCC), generally in accordance with the previously approved Terms of Reference for the JCC, last approved by Council on December 16, 2014, in the motion entitled "Joint Council on Childcare", and set out below:

Overview	The purpose of the Joint Council on Childcare is to provide leadership in seeking resources, planning, development, and coordination, problem-solving and monitoring of childcare, and early care and learning. The Joint Council on Childcare will provide input and assistance on implementation challenges in childcare and child development services and advice on proposed policy and issue papers. While the focus of the
-----------------	--

	Joint Council on Childcare will be primarily childcare in publicly-owned facilities and/or land, consideration will be given to policies and practices that support the broader childcare system.
Mandate	The Joint Council on Childcare will be responsible for providing direction and leadership in the implementation of the actions set out in the protocol <i>Child Care – A Commitment from Local Government</i> approved by City Council in 2004. Where necessary, elected officials will take forward recommendations of the Joint Council on Childcare to their respective civic bodies.
Terms of Reference	<p>The Joint Council on Childcare will work on the following activities and will report to the City and the two Boards on their progress as required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish policies and practices which either facilitate childcare services or eliminate barriers to developing and sustaining childcare services across local governments. • Develop coordinated planning and delivery standards and practices for childcare across local governments (e.g. facility standards, costs, operating agreements, maintenance). • Identify opportunities to integrate childcare in future development and into local government Capital and Operating budget cycles to facilitate equitable child development hubs based on current planning, demographic data and research, and reduce or subsidize childcare operating costs • Advocate for a model of care and learning consistent with the framework set out in the Coalition for Child Care BC “A public system of integrated early care and learning” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish a relationship and mechanism to dialogue with municipalities across the province and the country for the purpose of improving childcare and more coordinated advocacy on senior government policy and funding for early care and learning.
Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One elected official from each of the City, Park and School Boards. ▪ One staff person with knowledge of issues related to children and their caregivers from the two Boards and the City. ▪ Three community non-profit child care operators and Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre. ▪ Chief medical health officer from VCH ▪ Representative from University of British Columbia – Human Early Learning Partnership. ▪ Other representatives as the Joint Council on Childcare deems appropriate

	<p>Members would be prepared to participate on the Joint Council on Childcare for the four-year term and would provide an informed replacement in the event of absence.</p> <p>Where necessary, other City and/or community partners will be invited to the meetings to aid in informing Vancouver City Council/School and Park Board members.</p>
Chair	The Joint Council on Childcare will be co-chaired by a City of Vancouver Senior Social Planner, or designate, and an elected official. Meetings will be supported by social policy staff and minuted.
Term	The Joint Council on Childcare will meet for a half day, a minimum of two times per year, for a four-year term coinciding with a civic election term.

* * * * *