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Sunflowerschool.ca

Date: 03/20/20

Dear Sunflower Families,

Today the Board and I have made the tough decision to close Sunflower Preschool and out of School Care programs and cancel all events. This will remain our status indefinitely, until the extraordinary health directives currently in place end.

In the absence of a specific directive regarding childcare, we have considered the current social distancing guidelines mandated by Provincial Health against our preschool program. The safety of our children and staff is our number one priority. Realistically, we are unable to maintain consistent adherence to the strict social distancing guidelines, which we know are so important during this public health emergency. We have also considered the nature of our programming. Provincial Health has cited, as a primary reason that it has not (yet) mandated childcare centres to close, the important role that childcare centres play in allowing parents fulfilling necessary services to go to work. Our preschool classes do not fulfill this function. Additionally, the classes gather and part at a set time, making it even more difficult for teachers and families to maintain the mandated social distance.

If you will be struggling for childcare and still must go to work in a position of a critical nature at this time, please let us know. Based on your responses, we can see what we're able to do to help.

We will put a hold on all fee payments (no fees will be withdrawn for April onward, until we reopen), and at this time any places reserved for September in any of our programs will remain.

We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you all for your patience and understanding during this challenging time. We feel so lucky to be a part of such a caring and resilient community.

Our aim is to come out of this better and stronger than before!

Sincerely,

Sarah Dempsey

Executive Director, Sunflower Early Learning Society