

News Release
**Town signs MOU with ECDA, invests in
Construction of a New Child Care Facility**
For Immediate Release
August 22, 2017

Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL – The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Early Childhood Development Association (ECDA) held an official Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing today at Pumpkin House Nursery to solidify its partnership with the construction of a new Child-Care Facility for ECDA.

As part of the event, the town made a \$100,000 funding announcement for the construction of a new child-care facility along with MOU for protection of green space development.

“It was heartening when Council unanimously supported this MOU and investment with the ECDA. The new daycare is vital for young families in the region, and it is a perfect complement to the additional 60 spots planned for in the Labrador Wellness Centre Project. I am hopeful that future councils will continue to invest in new infrastructure and ensure the municipal level of Government takes a leadership position. It’s such an important factor in our quality of life, and our overall health and well-being”, said Mayor Snook.

“On behalf of ECDA’s board and parents, I would like to express our appreciation to the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay for their support of our new non-profit community child-care facility. ECDA’s current child-care programs are at full capacity with an extensive waitlist. Given the age and layout of ECDA’s current building, the contribution by the Happy Valley-Goose Bay Town will support our efforts to construct a new child-care centre, including an adjacent community green space area. With construction planned to start in late 2017, the new centre will assist in addressing our highest need areas for working aged parents seeking child-care services, while creating an inclusive and inviting atmosphere to assist program delivery by our staff,” said Colin O’Brien, VP-ECDA

The Town’s contribution will go toward the construction of a new child-care centre. In addition to the facility, this partnership will protect & enhance green space development at the new ECDA site located on 60 Churchill Street. Construction is expected to begin fall of 2017 and to be completed in 2018.

ECDA continues to advance its efforts to construct a new 88 space child care centre in Happy Valley – Goose Bay which will be comprised of 58 spaces for daycare and 30 for after school. When finished, ECDA will have a new facility capable of providing child-care services and after-school programs under one roof. The MOU reserves the land

adjacent to the construction site for future green space development. The intent is to not only compliment child-care services but to also encourage healthy living and recreation within the community.

In June, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador confirmed \$441,000.00 towards the ECDA's child care capacity project. To date, the ECDA has secured over \$500,000 in support of the new child-care centre from community and corporate partners, including Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay; Happy Valley-Goose Bay Rotary/Co-op 50/50 Fund; Woodward Group of Companies; Newfoundland and Labrador Building Construction Trades Council; Eagle River Credit Union; PAL/Air Borealis; Terrington Consumers Co-operative Society Ltd; International Grenfell Association; Royal Bank of Canada; NunatuKavut Community Council; Labrador North Chamber of Commerce; Serco Canada; Barnard Pennecon; and RE/MAX Realty.

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