



May 11, 2017

Dear Patrons of Dunbar Community Centre:

Re: Upcoming Changes to Childminding Services

The Dunbar Community Centre Association (DCCA) has offered Childminding Services on weekday mornings for many years. We have considered this to be an important service to enable parents to use the centre, and as such, have always financially subsidized the program. However, due to the increasing costs of offering this service, Dunbar is now the only community centre in Vancouver that still offers childminding.

While childminding has always been subsidized, the amount of this subsidy is now at a level that is just too great to sustain. In 2016 the net financial loss for Childminding was \$16,855. These results are due to a combination of a trending decline in enrollment and a corresponding increase in costs, which have been occurring for several years.

With regret, changes to staffing levels and fees will be brought in to mitigate this loss.

As of June 1st, 2017, the following changes will be made:

1. Most days, staffing will be reduced from two to one childminder. From our review of the number of children using the service, we anticipate that one staff member will usually be able to accommodate the number of children using the service.
2. Rate will increase to \$9/hr per child, \$6/hr for sibling(s).

As of July, we reduce to our normal summer schedule of Childminding on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. The operating hours of 8:45am-12:30pm will remain the same.

It is unfortunate that we need to bring in these two changes, but the financial cost of subsidizing Childminding at the current level is too great. These changes, including the rate increase, may still not cover the costs, and the DCCA will continue to subsidize this service.

As the summer progresses, we will continue to review the sustainability of Childminding. If further changes are made for the Fall they will be reflected in the Fall Program Guide which comes out in early August.

Should you have any questions or concerns about these changes, please direct them to the Association Board at dcca@dunbarcentre.org.

Yours truly,

Kathy Mullen
Vice President, Operations
Dunbar Community Centre Association

cc: Kristi Douglas, CRS