
SURREY COMMUNITY CHILD CARE ACTION PLAN

PREPARED BY THE SURREY COMMUNITY
CHILD CARE TASK FORCE & THE CITY OF SURREY



FOREWORD

The Child Care Action Plan was created through a grant received from the Community Child Care Planning Program, which provides funding for local governments to engage in child care planning activities. Through partnerships and engagement, the project collected information regarding the child care needs of the community; created an inventory of existing child care spaces; identified space creation targets over the next 10 years; and identified actions that could be taken to meet those space creation targets. The information gathered was shared with the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development, and may inform future investments in child care space creation that the Government of British Columbia may provide the community through funding programs such as the Child Care BC New Spaces Fund.

CO-CHAIRS OF THE SURREY COMMUNITY CHILD CARE TASK FORCE



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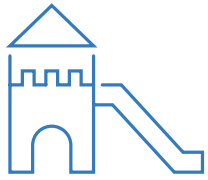


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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Surrey Child Care Action Plan provides an overview of the landscape of child care in Surrey during 2020-2021. Surrey is a large, growing community and child care is a topic that matters significantly to both families, and the overall economy. There is an opportunity to improve child care in Surrey by increasing the number of spaces, and by ensuring that high quality, affordable, and inclusive child care is available to families. The following data highlights the existing gaps in Surrey over different measurements.

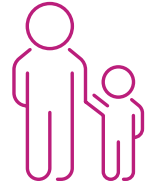


Surrey has

14.9

licensed child care spaces per

100 CHILDREN



475

Child Care Providers

Surrey needs over

20,000 SPACES



to meet the
Canadian National Average of

27.2 licensed child care spaces per 100 children.

Surrey has

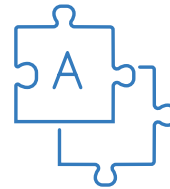
11,301



licensed child care spaces¹

FOR 70,000 CHILDREN²

Only
9%



of child care providers in
Surrey are operated by
non-profit organizations.

235 Universal Child Care prototype spaces⁴



In Surrey, 35% or 1773 kindergarten children, are vulnerable on at least one area of development as measured by the EDI in Wave 7 compared to the current provincial vulnerability rate of 33.4%.⁵

¹Child Care Options CCRR. (2020).

²Statistics Canada. (2016).

³Child Care Options CCRR. (2020).

⁴Province of British Columbia Universal Child Care Prototype Sites. (2021).

⁵EDI Wave 7, collected between 2016–2019 for children Vulnerable on One or More Scales.

⁶Statistics Canada. (2016).

INTRODUCTION

Surrey is a unique and diverse community of over 517,000 residents . Our city is one of the fastest growing, culturally diverse cities in Canada, as well as the largest city in land area in the Metro Vancouver area. Surrey is situated on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Salish Peoples, including the ǫíćəý (Katzie), ǫʷɑ:ńłəń (Kwantlen), Semiahma (Semiahmoo) land-based nations, and NOVA Métis Heritage Association. The City of Surrey and community partners are committed to developing a complete community that balances a high-quality living environment with a diverse, vibrant, and sustainable local economy. Our strong economy generates a wide range of stable jobs for Surrey residents, supports a robust and stable tax base to fund essential community services, and provides wide access to consumer goods, services, and business investment opportunities.

Part of developing a strong economy is ensuring that there are enough child care spaces to meet demand. Surrey is currently well below the Canadian National Average of 27.2 spaces per 100 children. A gap analysis completed in 2020 showed that there are 14.9 licensed child care spaces for every 100 children requiring care for children between the ages of 0-12. The data was analyzed using 2016 population statistics compared to the number of licensed child care spaces in 2020. Therefore, the average of 14.9 licensed child care spaces is a generous estimate as the current number of children is higher than the data used. The number of child care spaces needs to increase significantly to meet demand. Non-profit child care operators also contribute to a sustainable economy by providing affordable, wrap-around supports for families. However, with the very low number of non-profit child care operators in Surrey, they are stretched to meet this overwhelming demand for care. Data collected in 2020 shows that Surrey has a total of 475 child care providers. Only 9%, or 42 of these, are operated by non-profit organizations.

Regardless of the gaps, Surrey is strong and there is hope for the future. With funding from the Provincial and Federal Governments, the City of Surrey and the Surrey Community Child Care Task Force are well-informed and positioned to support key and significant investments.

The Value of the Community Child Care Action Plan

In March 2019, Surrey was one of 70 BC Municipalities that received a grant through the Community Child Care Planning Program. The information gathered through these plans is shared with the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and informs future investments that the Government of British Columbia may provide Surrey through funding programs such as the Child Care BC New Spaces Fund. Surrey received \$25,000 through this grant, and a draft child care action plan was created. In 2020, Surrey's Child Care Task Force reapplied for the grant and received an additional \$25,000 for work to continue. The City assigned an internal staff lead to support the coordination of the final plan on behalf of the Surrey Community Child Care Task Force. Members of the Surrey Child Care Task Force also contributed and provided input to the plan.

The Surrey Community Child Care Task Force (SCCTF) incited the creation of the Child Care Action Plan that will be used to tell the story of child care in Surrey. The perspectives shared within will do more than shine a light on the current and future needs, but also give insight into the unique challenges that are experienced. Additionally, child care operators seeking funding will use the plan to document community need.



METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

Primary and Secondary data collection methods were used when compiling the child care action plan. Primary data collection included interviews, surveys, and focus groups. Interviews were used when collecting information on the programs and services available to vulnerable demographics in Surrey. The interview method was also used to record experiences of non-profit child care operators. These experiences were shared with City Planners and helped inform the Bylaw and Policy review, as well as the creation of new resources for child care operators. Phone interviews were used when collecting data on the number of child care operators. Staff at Child Care Options CCRR conducted phone interviews using a standard set of questions to determine if the centers were opened, closed, and any other pertinent information. Secondary data collection was used when compiling sections on demographics, statistics, and the neighbourhood summaries.

A survey was done with large non-profit child care operators as a preamble to a focus group that occurred in November 2020. The survey focused on answering two big questions that were: “what processes within other municipalities have you observed that are helpful to expedite space creation,” and “what barriers have you observed or experienced that prevented licensed child care space creation?” Subsequently, a series of stakeholder engagement sessions were held in May and June: one for private child care operators and one for non-profit child care operators. Questions in these focus groups were centered around physical space requirements (commercial vs. in-home space), parking, outdoor play space, the application process, and grants and funding.

⁷ Appendix 1: Planning and Policy Review Focus Group Questions

THE SURREY COMMUNITY AND THE LANDSCAPE OF CHILD CARE

The Surrey Community Child Care Task Force

The City of Surrey and the Centre for Child Development are co-chairs for the Surrey Community Child Care Task Force (SCCTF). The SCCTF supports collective actions that will utilize research and data to advance policy and licensed child care program expansion. In 2015, Non-profit community partners called on the City of Surrey to create a Surrey Community Child Care Task Force. Since then, highlights include the Task Force gathering data and making recommendations to the City of Surrey and the BC Government in 2018. In addition, the SCCTF has applied for and received two UBCM Community Child Care Planning Grants as noted.

In the 2018 SCCTF report, the Task Force made three major recommendations:

1

Invest in local child care resources and support services to families, child care providers, and employers through additional funding to the Child Care Resource and Referral Program (CCRR) to meet growth needs and provide one-time support for local government to develop an immediate space creation plan with a focus on building capacity of the non-profit sector.

2

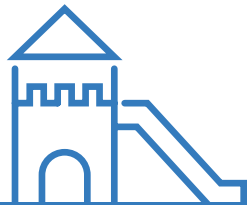
Invest in local ECE training spaces in partnership with high quality public educational providers in Surrey (e.g., explore potential opportunities with Surrey School District SD36, with the City of Surrey as a partner).

3

Invest in increased Fraser Health Authority quality control licensing resources to facilitate and keep up with the continuing growth in child care licensing applications and support regulatory functions to mitigate pressures on child care quality and reduce risks to children in child care.

The SCCTF maintains a shared terms of reference, and members choose to work together and support underlying values and beliefs to improve and increase child care in Surrey. The SCCTF also looks for patterns created by deeper systemic processes, which include how child care is funded and how programs are developed and delivered. Together, the diverse membership of the SCCTF will drive Surrey towards the progress that is needed to ensure there is adequate child care coverage and support for families.

The SCCTF provides information to members that link to internal mandates of each organization and promote the work of child care expansion in Surrey. The role of each member within the SCCTF varies.



The diverse membership of the SCCTF will drive Surrey towards the progress needed to ensure there is adequate child care coverage and support for families.

As a municipality, the City of Surrey has the authority, scope, and responsibility for bylaws, as well as planning and development relating to child care. The City of Surrey also operates extended hours preschool programs for ages 3-5. Finally, the City of Surrey is working to increase the number of licensed spaces in Surrey by renovating existing spaces and adding new buildings and that are purpose built for child care. Non-profit organizations have service provision authority and, in some cases, land for child care development. Some non-profit organizations also apply for child care space creation grants to increase the number of licensed spaces in Surrey by renovating existing spaces and adding new buildings and that are purpose built for child care.

The SCCTF meets monthly and has driven the Child Care Action Plan to date. There are 16 members from a variety of organizations and levels of government. Here is an overview of the current Task Force members in 2021.

SURREY COMMUNITY CHILD CARE TASK FORCE MEMBERS, 2021

Organization	Name	Title
Alexandra Neighbourhood House	R. Hubbard	Director, Youth & Family Programs
Child Care Options CCRR	M. Davies	Manager
Child Care Options CCRR	K. Saito	Senior Manager for Early Years
City of Surrey	S. Rennie	Early Years Manager
City of Surrey	K. Ali	Project Manager
City of Surrey	C. Elliott	Recreation Operations Manager
Fraser Health Licensing	J. Mischuda	Licensing Officer/Practice Consultant
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	A. Begalka	Dean, The Faculty of Academic and Career Advancement
Métis Nation British Columbia	S. Wedel	Metis Early Years Manager
The Centre for Child Development	D. Gill-Badesha	Vice President, Community Health & Child Care Partnerships
The Children's Foundation	M. Pouliot	Program Manager, Early and Middle Years Child Care
Surrey Schools	C. Northway	Assistant Superintendent
YMCA of Greater Vancouver	K. Adamson	General Manager, Early Years and Family Development
Ministry of Children and Family Development	V. Hickman	Early Years Program Specialist
DIVERSECity Community Resources Society	Z. Al-Zaim	Assistant Manager of Child and Family
Government of British Columbia	M. Kirby	Manager of Engagement, Childcare BC



A Spotlight on Surrey's Communities

Surrey is the largest city by land area and the second most populated in Metro Vancouver. Surrey is one of the fastest growing and most culturally diverse cities in Canada. As a large and geographically diverse city, Surrey is made up of seven distinct neighbourhoods. In the past 20 years, Surrey has experienced a significant demographic shift. The City welcomes approximately 800 new residents each month and the population is projected to increase by an additional 250,000 people in the next 30 years. In 2020, there were 5228 babies born with an average of 434 babies each month.⁸ By 2041, one in five Metro Vancouver residents will call Surrey home. Of the new Surrey residents, many are recent immigrants. Currently, over 95% of recent immigrants are visible minorities. Surrey has the largest Urban Indigenous population in BC. The young and growing Urban Indigenous population is expected to grow exponentially over the next 15 years.⁹

The changes in demographics and rapid increase in population have contributed to a child care crisis in Surrey. In 2018, David Macdonald, a Senior Economist with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives found that the number of 0-4-year-old children in Surrey totalled 28,680, with just 25%¹⁰ having access to licensed child care. Surrey's population is projected to continue to grow another 12-16% in the next twenty years which will further compound the critical child care shortage.¹¹

As mentioned, Surrey is composed of seven distinct neighbourhoods which are City Centre, Whalley, Guildford, Newton, Fleetwood, Cloverdale, and South Surrey. An overview of each neighbourhood follows with a highlight on statistics related to child care.

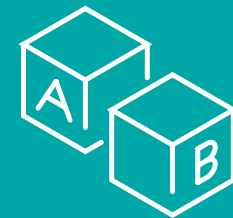
⁸ BC Vital Statistics. (2021).

⁹ Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee. (2016).

¹⁰ Macdonald, D. Child Care Deserts in Canada. (2018).

¹¹ Surrey Population Projections and Estimates. (2019).

The changes in demographics and rapid increase in population have contributed to a child care crisis in Surrey.



CITY CENTRE AND WHALLEY

The City Centre neighbourhood is in the midst of a significant transformation. What was once a suburban town centre is developing into a walkable, transit oriented, downtown core for business, culture, and entertainment. In 2016, the population of City Centre was 26,945, or 5% of Surrey's total population with 17% of those residents being under the age of 19. The breakdown of family sizes in City Centre was quite different than the breakdown for Surrey. 55% of families in City Centre consisted of two people, which is much higher than the percentage citywide at 42%. City Centre's population grew by 18% between 2011 and 2016, and this was much higher than the rate of growth citywide, which grew 11% between 2011 and 2016. In 2015, about 1 in 4 people in City Centre were low income, which is higher than the percentage for the overall city. There is a lower number of recent immigrants living in City Centre, with only 2,085 of 36,335 living in Surrey. The top place of origin of recent immigrants to City Centre was the Philippines. By comparison, the top place of origin of recent immigrants to the City was India. There were 13,460 people that identified as aboriginal living in Surrey, and 1,230 or 5% lived in City Centre.¹²

Close to, and surrounding City Centre is Whalley. Whalley is one of Surrey's oldest neighbourhoods. Whalley is home to 15% of Surrey's total population and 25% of the population is under 19 years of age. Whalley's population

grew by 5% between 2011 and 2016, which was much lower than the rate of growth citywide. Recent immigrants accounted for 6,210 of Whalley's residents. The top place of origin of recent immigrants to Whalley was India. There were 2,280 people who identified as aboriginal living in Whalley.¹³ In 2015, 16% of the residents in Whalley were considered low income.

When reviewing Early Development Instrument (EDI) data, Whalley North stands out as an area of high vulnerability. In Surrey, 35% of children are vulnerable on at least one area of development as measured by the EDI in Wave 7, but in Whalley North, 49% of children are considered vulnerable.¹⁴ Whalley North is considerably higher than the city-wide average and has the most vulnerable children that are documented. In terms of licensed child care spaces, Whalley, including City Centre, only has 8.3 spaces per 100 children¹⁵ which is the lowest coverage in the City. Whalley can benefit from the expansion of every type of child care for all ages 0-12 considering that the children showing high levels of vulnerability as measured in the EDI, live here and there is the lowest amount of child care.

¹² City of Surrey City Centre Neighbourhood Profile. (2016).

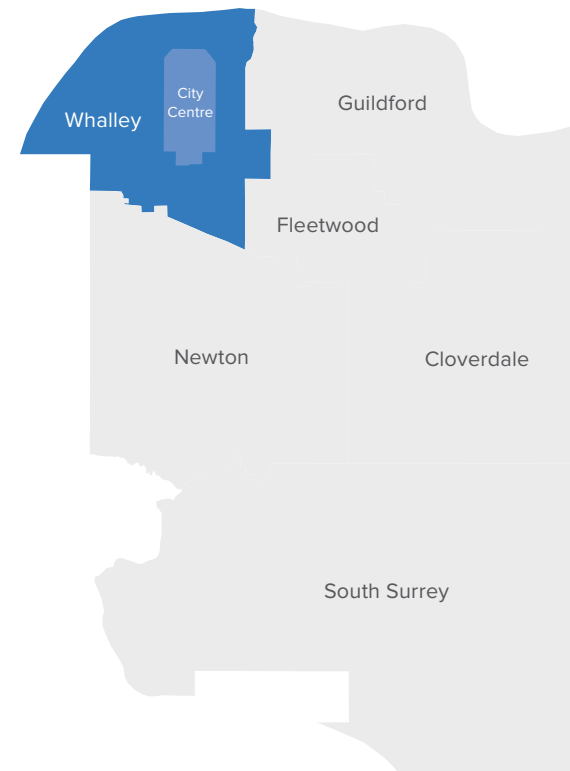
¹³ City of Surrey Whalley Neighbourhood Profile. (2016).

¹⁴ EDI Wave 7 Community Profile Surrey School District. (2019).

¹⁵ Census statistics 2016 and a review of total child care programs in 2020 by CCRR.

Whalley (including City Centre)	Population 0 - 36 Months	Population 3-5 years	Preschool Program 2-5	Population 6-12 years	Multi Age Centres	In Home Multi Age	Licensed Family	Licence Not Required
	3255	3345		7975				
# of Spaces	180	371	157	277	86	86	48	10
# of Programs	15	19	8	13	11	11	6	5

In City Centre and Whalley, the most needed type of child care is for children aged 6-12 years, as there are currently only 3.5 licensed spaces per 100 children. Closely following this is a need for ages 0-36 months at 5.5 licensed spaces per 100 children. Ultimately, as noted above, every age group in the City Centre and Whalley is well below the Canadian National Average of 27.2 licensed child care spaces per 100 children. City Centre and Whalley continue to grow, and the Average Annual Population Growth Rate (2020 to 2031) is above the city wide average at 2.2%. The need for child care spaces in City Centre and Whalley will continue to increase.



Whalley (including City Centre)	
Total Number of Children	14,580
Total Number of Spaces	1215
Space Deficit	13,365
Spaces per 100 Children	8.3

GUILDFORD

Guildford is comprised of mature urban neighbourhoods, as well as the newer Fraser Heights subdivision which slopes down toward the Fraser River. Tynehead and Surrey Bend Regional Parks are some of the significant natural environments in Guildford. In 2016, the population of Guildford was 60,745 with 24% of residents being under the age of 19. In 2016, 5,285 of Guildford's residents were considered recent immigrants having immigrated to Canada between 2011 and 2016. The top place of origin of recent immigrants to Guildford was the Philippines. In the same time period, there were 13,460 people that identified as aboriginal living in Surrey. Of those, 1,575 or 12% lived in Guildford.¹⁶ In 2015, the average household income in Guildford was \$87,256, which was lower than the city's average income and about 1 in 5, or 20%, of the people in Guildford were considered low income. Guildford also has the highest growth rate in the entire city at 3.9% for the Average Annual Population Growth Rate (2020 to 2031).

In terms of child care spaces, Guildford falls below the city-wide average of 14.9 licensed child care spaces per 100 children, coming in slightly lower at 11.9 spaces. Guildford Centre was identified as having a higher percentage of children as vulnerable on at least one area of development as measured by the EDI in Wave 7, at 43% of children.¹⁷ In Guildford, the most needed types of child care are for ages 0-36 months and ages 6-12 years. The rate per 100 children for ages 0-36 months is 5.1 licensed spaces per 100, and 5.4 licensed spaces per 100 for ages 6-12. All types of child care are needed in Guildford due to the growth rate, and the fact that every age group is well below the Canadian National Average of 27.2 licensed child care spaces per 100 children.

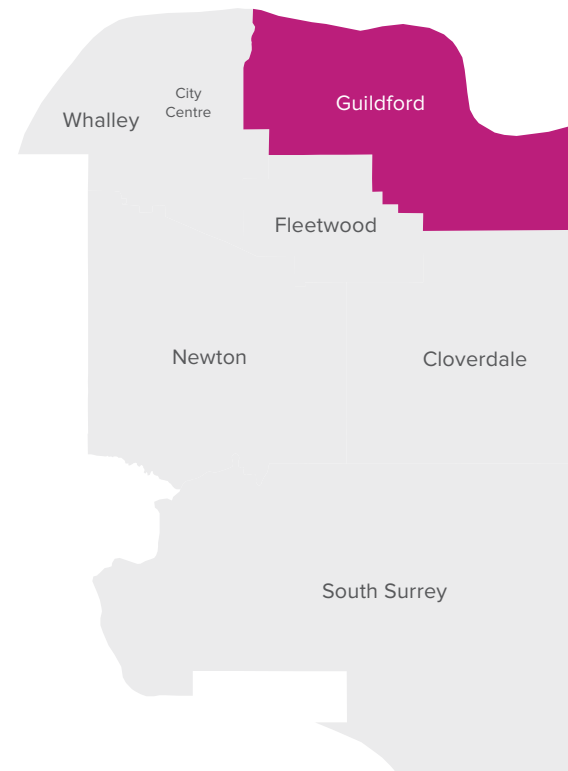
¹⁶ City of Surrey Guildford Neighbourhood Profile, (2016).

¹⁷ EDI Wave 7 Community Profile Surrey School District (2019).

Guildford	Population 0 - 36 Months	Population 3-5 years	Preschool Program 2-5	Population 6-12 years	Multi Age Centres	In Home Multi Age	Licensed Family	Licence Not Required
	1685	1905		5015				
# of Spaces	86	445	304	271	136	120	91	24
# of Programs	5	21	21	13	16	16	13	12

Guildford	
Total Number of Children	8605
Total Number of Spaces	1032
Space Deficit	7573
Spaces per 100 Children	11.9

In Guildford, the most needed types of child care are for ages 0-36 months and ages 6-12 years.



NEWTON

Newton is a vibrant and culturally diverse community that is home to the region's largest South Asian community. As of 2016, the population of Newton was 149,040 or 29% of Surrey's total population. Newton's population grew by 12% between 2011 and 2016, with 26% of residents under the age of 19.¹⁸ Newton has a large population of recent immigrants. As of 2016, approximately one third of all recent immigrants in Surrey live in Newton. The top place of origin of recent immigrants to Newton is India and 54% of Newton residents spoke English at home, which is lower than the citywide average. In terms of the Urban Indigenous population, 25% of the total population in Surrey live in Newton.¹⁹ Lastly, in 2015, 15% of Newton's population were considered low income.

In terms of licensed child care spaces, Newton has 11.1 spaces per 100 children²⁰ which is lower than the city wide average. Newton can benefit from the expansion of every type of child care, for all ages 0-12. Newton also has the highest number of children ages 0-12 compared to other Surrey communities. Although Newton has the most children, it also has the lowest Average Annual Population Growth Rate (2020 to 2031) in the City at 0.8%. Newton North West is the second highest area in Surrey with the most children who are vulnerable on at least one area of development, as measured by the EDI in Wave 7, at 45%.²¹

In Newton, the most needed type of child care is for ages 0-36 months as there are only 6 licensed spaces per 100 children in this age group. Every type of child care is needed in Newton, and all age groups are below the Canadian National Average of 27.2 licensed child care spaces per 100 children.

¹⁸ City of Surrey Newton Neighbourhood Profile. (2016).

¹⁹ City of Surrey Newton Neighbourhood Profile. (2016).

²⁰ Census statistics 2016 and a review of total child care programs in 2020 by CCRR.

²¹ EDI Wave 7 Community Profile Surrey School District. (2019).

Newton	Population 0 - 36 Months	Population 3-5 years	Preschool Program 2-5	Population 6-12 years	Multi Age Centres	In Home Multi Age	Licensed Family	Licence Not Required
	5405	5830		3605				
# of Spaces	326	708	563	497	408	86	110	64
# of Programs	19	30	33	24	47	11	16	32

Newton	
Total Number of Children	24,840
Total Number of Spaces	2762
Space Deficit	22,078
Spaces per 100 Children	11.1



In Newton, the most needed type of child care is for ages 0-36 months as there are only 6 licensed spaces per 100 children in this age group.

FLEETWOOD

The Fleetwood neighbourhood is centrally located in the northern area of Surrey. Fleetwood is the smallest town centre in Surrey and is one of the more recently developed but fastest growing areas. The neighbourhood is a diverse residential area comprised of mostly single-family dwellings. The planned SkyTrain extension will connect Fleetwood to the rest of the city. In 2016, the population of Fleetwood was 62,735 or 12% of Surrey's total population with 25% of the population consisting of people 19 and younger. Fleetwood's residents include 4,160 recent immigrants having arrived in Canada between 2011 and 2016. The top place of origin of recent immigrants to Fleetwood was India. In 2016, there were 13,460 people that identified as Indigenous living in Surrey. Of those 1,240 lived in Fleetwood.²² In 2015, Fleetwood had the third highest average household income of all seven Surrey communities and 13% of the population in Fleetwood was considered low income. The Average Annual Population Growth Rate (2020 to 2031) in Fleetwood is lower than the citywide average at 1.2%.

No areas in Fleetwood exceed the citywide average of children who are vulnerable as measured by the EDI in Wave 7. Although well below the Canadian National Average of 27.2 licensed spaces per 100 children, Fleetwood is above the citywide average of 14.9 spaces per 100 children at 17.8 spaces.

In Fleetwood, the most needed type of child care is for ages 6-12 years as there are only 6.8 licensed spaces per 100 children. The second most needed type of child care closely follows at 8.6 spaces per 100 children for ages 0-36 months. In Fleetwood, all age groups are below the Canadian National Average of 27.2 licensed child care spaces per 100 children, and child care spaces need to increase to meet the need.

²² City of Surrey Fleetwood Neighbourhood Profile. (2016).

Fleetwood	Population 0 - 36 Months	Population 3-5 years	Preschool Program 2-5	Population 6-12 years	Multi Age Centres	In Home Multi Age	Licensed Family	Licence Not Required
	1745	1970		5430				
# of Spaces	150	331	418	368	203	79	77	8
# of Programs	7	15	17	14	26	10	11	4

Fleetwood	
Total Number of Children	9145
Total Number of Spaces	1634
Space Deficit	7511
Spaces per 100 Children	17.8



In Fleetwood, the most needed type of child care is for ages 6-12 years as there are only 6.8 licensed spaces per 100 children.

CLOVERDALE

Cloverdale is the third largest community in Surrey. Areas within the Cloverdale Town Centre like Clayton Heights have gone through significant growth to develop newer residential areas. To support area residents, new facilities and amenities are being added, including the Clayton Community Centre. In 2016, the population of Cloverdale was 65,645 with 27% of those residents being under the age of 19. Cloverdale's population grew by 21% between 2011 and 2016. This was much higher than the overall city growth rate of 11%. The Average Annual Population Growth Rate (2020 to 2031) in Cloverdale is 2.7%, which is higher than the citywide average. In 2015, Cloverdale had the second highest average household income of all Surrey communities, and only 8% of the population in Cloverdale was considered low income.²³

In Cloverdale, the Cloverdale North area is identified as the highest in the town centre for having children who are vulnerable on at least one area of development as measured by the EDI in Wave 7, at 33%.²⁴ The Cloverdale North area is below the citywide average of 35% of children in Surrey who are vulnerable on at least one area of development. The number of licensed spaces in Cloverdale are near the citywide average of 14.9 spaces, at 15.8 licensed child care spaces per 100 children in Cloverdale.

In Cloverdale, the most needed type of child care is for ages 6-12, as there are only 6.9 licensed spaces per 100 children. The second most needed type of child care is for ages 0-36 months at 10.4 licensed spaces per 100 children. In Cloverdale, every type of child care is needed, and all age groups are under the Canadian National Average of 27.2 licensed child care spaces per 100 children.

²² City of Surrey Cloverdale Neighbourhood Profile. (2016).

²³ EDI Wave 7 Community Profile Surrey School District. (2019).

Cloverdale	Population 0 - 36 Months	Population 3-5 years	Preschool Program 2-5	Population 6-12 years	Multi Age Centres	In Home Multi Age	Licensed Family	Licence Not Required
	2680	2850		6385				
# of Spaces	280	542	203	470	199	72	96	26
# of Programs	12	21	10	17	25	9	14	13

Cloverdale	
Total Number of Children	11,915
Total Number of Spaces	1888
Space Deficit	10,027
Spaces per 100 Children	15.8



In Cloverdale, the most needed type of child care is for ages 6-12, as there are only 6.9 licensed spaces per 100 children.

SOUTH SURREY

South Surrey is a vibrant area with many recent developments and rapid growth. In 2016, the population of South Surrey was 77,170, with residents under the age of 19 comprising 22% of the population. South Surrey's population grew by 12% between 2011 and 2016. The Average Annual Population Growth Rate (2020 to 2031) for South Surrey is 3.1% which is higher than the citywide average. In 2016, 3,850 South Surrey residents were considered recent immigrants having immigrated to Canada between 2011 and 2016. The top place of origin of recent immigrants to South Surrey was China. 84% of South Surrey residents spoke English at home, which is much higher than the percentage for the city. In 2015, South Surrey had the highest average household income of all seven Surrey communities.²⁵

In South Surrey, the Rosemary Heights area is identified as having 36% of children vulnerable on at least one area of development as measured by the EDI in Wave 7²⁶, which is slightly higher than the citywide average of 35%. South Surrey is the closest to achieving the number of spaces for licensed child care compared to the Canadian National Average of 27.2 licensed spaces per 100 children; South Surrey has 23.2 licensed spaces per 100 children.

In South Surrey, the most needed type of child care is for ages 6-12 as there are only 8.5 spaces per 100 children. All types of child care are needed in South Surrey and all age groups are below the Canadian National Average of 27.2 licensed child care spaces per 100 children.

²⁵ City of Surrey South Surrey Neighbourhood Profile. (2016).

²⁶ EDI Wave 7 Community Profile Surrey School District. (2019).

In South Surrey, the most needed type of child care is for ages 6-12 as there are only 8.5 spaces per 100 children.

South Surrey	Population 0 - 36 Months	Population 3-5 years	Preschool Program 2-5	Population 6-12 years	Multi Age Centres	In Home Multi Age	Licensed Family	Licence Not Required
	1955	2200		5825				
# of Spaces	425	884	341	496	39	48	90	2
# of Programs	14	31	17	21	5	6	12	1

South Surrey	
Total Number of Children	9985
Total Number of Spaces	2325
Space Deficit	7660
Spaces per 100 Children	23.2



Surrey Child Care Space Inventory and Map

Child Care Options Resource and Referral staff created an updated map of child care types and locations in 2020. See the interactive map here: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1PKgpEIDZ4XTOLSENBh9tx04II-KGjT8S&ll=49.11129262958666%2C-122.80255&z=11>

Referrals for Child Care

Child Care Options Resource and Referral staff reported that between September – December 2019, there were 13,759 online referrals. In 2020 during the same period from September – December, there were 54,576 online referrals.²⁷ The fall of 2020 saw a large increase in online referrals.

²⁷ Child Care Options CRR. (2020).



Meeting the Needs of Underserved Populations in Surrey

A review was completed in 2021 that looked at all non-profit child care operators, as well as other support organizations in Surrey and the programs and services they provide.²⁸ Surrey is fortunate to have many organizations that work to deliver and connect residents to high quality licenced child care providers. While reviewing the existing programs and policies, gaps were identified in supports for underserved populations. We are defining underserved populations as including children who have extra support needs, Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit) children and families, low-income families, young parents under the age of 25, children and families from minority cultures and language groups, immigrant and refugee children and families, and francophone families.

Low-income families are supported by Child Care Options Resource and Referral, DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society, Alexandra Neighbourhood House, the Children's Foundation, the YMCA, and the Centre for Child Development. Young Parents can access support through the City of Surrey, Child Care Options Resource and Referral, and Alexandra Neighbourhood house where specific young parent programs are available. Children and families from diverse cultures and language groups can find programming through City of Surrey, DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society, Alexandra Neighbourhood house, and the Centre for Child

Development. New immigrants and refugee's child care, and culturally sensitive and safety training through the City of Surrey, DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society, and Alexandra Neighbourhood house. There are few specific resources for LGBTQ families. MNBC's Métis Family Connections is for Métis families with children birth to 8 years. Métis Family Connections is focused on helping families build a network of support that provides children with opportunities for early learning and childhood development.

The City of Surrey and its community partners are committed to providing child care and other services to underserved populations. The City has applied in Fall 2021 to the Province of BC New Spaces Fund for several sites to expand child care. The focus is on neighbourhoods with the highest need, and services for vulnerable populations. Partnerships are being forged with non-profit operators who will provide wrap around supports to vulnerable children and families with a focus on children who have extra support needs, Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit) children and families, and low-income families. The funding from the Government of BC, in collaboration with the City of Surrey contributing facility space, has the potential to rapidly expand child care services to vulnerable populations by hundreds of spaces.

²⁸ Appendix 1 - Resources for Under-served Populations in Surrey

In the summer and fall of 2021, the City of Surrey worked on Request for Expression of Interest (RFEOI) processes to select non-profit operators with an expertise in providing services to vulnerable populations. The City of Surrey has developed an internal team with staff from Community Recreation Services, Planning and Development, Corporate Services, Investment and Intergovernmental Relations, City Managers Office, Engineering, and Finance to collaboratively work on increasing child care in Surrey.

As noted, a new Child Care Policy is also being developed in fall 2021 for Surrey, and components of this plan will speak to supporting vulnerable populations.

The City of Surrey and the SCCTF have identified several areas of focus related to improving services to vulnerable populations that are listed in the Strategic Directions and Actions, and these will be worked on collaboratively by the membership of the SCCTF.

The City of Surrey and the SCCTF have identified, and are actively and immediately, working on building new child care spaces. A complete list of current sites and timelines can be seen in Appendix 6. The City of Surrey, as well as many of the non-profit operators that are part of the SCCTF, will be applying for the Fall 2021 intake of the Child Care BC New Spaces Fund. All applications that the City of Surrey and members of the SCCTF submit will include a focus on supporting underserved populations. Many of the sites will hold spaces for underserved populations, Indigenous children (First Nations, Métis and Inuit).



A new Child Care Policy is being developed in for Surrey, and components of this plan will speak to supporting vulnerable populations.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The Voices of Child Care Providers in Surrey

For-profit child care provides the bulk of licensed options in Surrey. These take the form of large centre-based daycares, home based programs, Montessori programs and pre-school programs. These centres are not focused on the currently identified underserved populations in Surrey but instead are focused on the public at large. Several large for-profit providers have subsidy programs that assist with the cost for low-income families, and most licensed providers allow applications to the provincial government subsidy programs. Some programs fully integrate children with special needs; however, many commercial centres are unwilling or unable to accept children with special needs. As mentioned, only 9% of child care providers in Surrey are operated by non-profit organizations. Non-profit organizations provide essential wrap-around support for families and often have specific programs that assist vulnerable populations.

Written by R. Hubbard, Director, Youth & Family Programs, Alexandra Neighbourhood House

Over the past few years, as child care has become an increasing priority for Federal, Provincial, and municipal governments, local non-profit (NP) agencies in Surrey have continued to look for ways to support families around their child care needs. The City of Surrey and Surrey school district have prioritized their support for non-profit agencies to provide child care services versus supporting commercial for-profit operators. This is a significant shift in trying to address the disparity between the high number of commercial for-profit operators and the local NP operators in Surrey. NP operators can provide more comprehensive supports to the community with additional social structure and wrap around supports for families. This support from the public partners assists in building the capacity of NP agencies to support the growing community.

While NP agencies are willing to step up and provide care to the growing community, a key challenge has been locating sufficient space to provide quality programs, which includes both quality indoor and outdoor space. Currently, NP's do this additional work "off the side of their desks" in a real estate market that is operating at a rapid pace and peak capacity. The City of Surrey and the Surrey School District have done inventory reviews, however, due to the growth of the community, they are also extremely limited in community space that might be available to NP operators.

Once space has been identified by public partners, the next step is to choose an operator that could provide the service. At this time there is no formal process from either the city or school district to determine who can access the available space. Over the years the NP operators working in Surrey have acknowledged that there is a lot of work that needs to be done to support the growing community and we have worked closely to identify which agency might be best suited to provide which service and in which area of Surrey it is most needed. Having open conversations between the city, school district and NP partners to determine which agency may be the best fit for the location and programs, would be of benefit to everyone. If these conversations are not had, then a detailed RFP process should be determined so that agencies are able to work with one another to meet the needs of the community. With such a significant need for child care in Surrey, it will take multiple agencies to meet the growing community need.

While the city and school district have been reviewing processes and policies that may hinder or delay the opening of child care programs, it will be essential to have a plan that is specific to the creation of new spaces that can be worked on collaboratively by all partners. The plan should include strategies for the identification of potential child care space, identification of NP agencies that are able to provide quality child care programs for children 0-12yrs, and additional strategies that would address the need for quality Early Childhood Educators to staff the centres.

At this time, NP agencies would also benefit from ongoing advocacy from public partners to the provincial and federal governments around the significant child care needs of Surrey families, especially when these governments have a strong desire to see universal child care as a focus to supporting families. Advocacy should be focused on additional funding for public post-secondary institutions who will take on the work of providing additional Early Childhood Education programs that are offered in Surrey, and funding for NP operators to plan and establish new child care spaces versus commercial for-profit operators. In working together, both public and NP partners may also benefit from a joint marketing strategy as "Live in Surrey, Learn in Surrey and Work in Surrey" which would focus child care programs to local neighbourhoods where the residents live, learn and work. Without these supports, Surrey will continue to be challenged to offer quality child care programs in their growing community.

Here is an overview of the number of child care providers in Surrey, as of December 2020.

Type of Child Care Provider	Total Number of Providers	Percentage of Providers
For-Profit	407	86%
Non-Profit	42	9%
Public Sector	26	5%
Total	475	

Research shows that children and families benefit from wrap-around support, and this type of support is available through the non-profit sector. We are concerned about upcoming need for wrap-around support and our Surrey non-profit capacity to meet these needs, from the early years on. Operating non-profit child care centers is increasingly difficult due to staff and other costs, and the difficulty will contribute to a growing gap of care available by the non-profit sector, decrease choices available to families, and reduce governments' capacity to invest in a public and sustainable infrastructure.

Child Care Operator Engagement

In spring 2021, the City contracted CO:LAB Planning & Design to conduct a planning, policy and regulation review of the existing barriers to the creation of new child care facilities in Surrey. As part of this review, a series of stakeholder engagement sessions were held in May and June 2021. Interviews were conducted with City of Surrey staff from Building, Area Planning, Trees and Landscaping, Transportation Engineering and Parks, Recreation and Culture. An interview was also conducted with the co-chairs of the SCCTF. Additionally, interviews were conducted with external stakeholders, including Options Child Care Resource and Referral, and Fraser Health Child Care Licensing. Two separate focus groups were also held in June: one for private child care operators and one for non-profit child care operators. Questions in these focus groups were centered around physical space requirements (commercial vs in-home space), parking, outdoor play space, the application process and grants and funding.

PLANS FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2019, the SCCTF engaged SPARC BC to develop a community engagement outline. A snapshot of the outline shows some of the actions that will be completed in the coming years to engage parents, operators, and other stakeholders across Surrey.

Group for Engagement	Expected Outcomes and Evidence of Completion	Activities/Actions
Engagement with Child Care Practitioners (front-line service providers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECE staff • Family Child Care Providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand what they see as priority needs for child care, what is working well, what is not working, what are the challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out a child care provider focused Online Survey through CCRR, Licensing, Child Care Task Force Members
Engagement with non-profit agencies and public support services Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health • Settlement /Immigration agencies • CCR& R, Options, YMCA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand what they see as priority needs for child care, what is working well, what is not working, what are the challenges • Explore how they see their role in child care now and in the future • Explore partnership opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out an Online Survey • Consider one focus group for this sector to gain a deeper understanding of priorities and opportunities
Engagement with Child Care Operators, Owners, Managers, Licensees (not front-line staff, or those working directly with children)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand what they see as priority needs for child care, what is working well, what is not working, what are the challenges • Explore any plans for expansion • Seek input into priorities for the child care plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out an Online Survey • Discuss having a focus group or doing one on one interviews to allow for conversations
Engagement with Parents/ Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand what they see as priority needs for child care, what is working well, what is not working, what are the challenges • Explore any plans for expansion • Seek input into priorities for the child care plan • Understand their needs for child care, what is working well, what is not working, what are the challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out an Online Survey • In person at drop in /existing programs asking 2-3 key questions

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS

Strategic Directions Identified by the SCCTF Short-, Medium-, and Long-Term Actions

The strategic directions were created in a collaborative process with all members of the Surrey Community Child Care Task force having the opportunity for co-creation. All the directions build on previous work done by the SCCTF and align with current local and provincial government goals.

The four areas of focus are to: provide high quality child care, increase accessibility and affordability of child care spaces, increase inclusive practices and vulnerable population services, and prioritize coordination and build capacity. The lead organizations listed in the table are all members of the Surrey Community Child Care Task force.

Provide High Quality Child Care

Quality early child care experiences can “determine whether a child’s developing brain architecture provides a strong or weak foundation for all future learning, behavior, and health.”³⁰ Additionally, for children from low-income families, “participation in very high-quality... early education programs has been demonstrated to enhance child cognitive and social development.”³¹ Due to the lasting importance of early childhood supports in a child’s life, ensuring that child care is high quality is listed first.

³⁰ Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University. A Science-Based Framework for Early Childhood Policy. (2007)
³¹ Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University. A Science-Based Framework for Early Childhood Policy. (2007)

... participation in very high-quality ... early education programs has been demonstrated to enhance child cognitive and social development.

Provide High Quality Child Care		Timeline	Lead Organization(s)
1.1	Provide child care services which are child focused, family centred, culturally competent, inclusive, and integrated into the broader network of child and family support services.	Short	All
1.2	Provide child care services that demonstrate evidence based on early childhood and middle childhood development best practice and are aligned with the BC Early Learning Framework and MCM's Five Dimensions for Assessing the Well Being of Children Aged 6-12, and the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework.	Short	All
1.3	Increase programs and resources that provide caregiver education, involvement and engagement that are easily accessible.	Short	All
1.4	Invest in professional development for ECE staff, as well as networking for staff between agencies.	Short	All
1.5	Establish a lead to coordinate discussions regarding a local ECE training centre for Surrey and use the outcome of discussions to inform strategic planning for the development of an ECE training centre.	Short	KPU
1.6	Determine a strategy or an understanding on how Task Force members will share recruitment and retention practices for the ECE sector.	Short	All
1.7	Collate information, data, and experiences from Surrey agencies and inform Government of ECE recruitment challenges.	Medium	All



Increase Accessibility and Affordability of Child Care Spaces

Child care fees remain unaffordable for many families. Lack of affordable child care is creating economic hardship for many low- and middle-income families. In Surrey, the average monthly fees for group child care are over \$1,000 per month for children ages 0-3, and nearly \$1,000 for children ages 3-5 years. The cost of school age child care is around \$500.³² Considering that many children are from low-income or single parent homes, the cost of child care is unaffordable for many families. A full summary of child care fees in Surrey for 2021 can be read in Appendix 2, Fee Survey 2021. With a recent announcement from the Government of BC to increase the number of \$10 per day prototype sites, child care providers in Surrey have applied. This is a unique time in history when the federal and provincial governments agree that the cost of child care and access to quality spaces is a priority to support our children and families.

³² Appendix 2 Fee Survey 2021

Increase Accessibility and Affordability of Child Care Spaces		Timeline	Lead Organization(s)
2.1	Achieve target of 40 spaces per 100 children by 2030. Investing in the creation of child care spaces will ensure capacity keeps up with population growth, and current shortages are addressed.	Long	All
2.2	Develop a Child Care Policy for Surrey.	Short	City of Surrey
2.3	Follow Recommendations from the Planning and Policy Review, 2021.	Short	City of Surrey
2.4	Prioritize and expand Non-Profit operators into City and School District owned child care building infrastructure.	Medium	City, School District and Non-Profits
2.5	Increase low and no cost services by participating in Provincial programs (i.e., prototype sites, ACCB) and strive to remove or minimize financial barriers for all families.	Short	All Non-Profits
2.6	Complete an initial, benchmark inventory of non-standard hours programs and services.	Short	CCRR
2.7	Develop a strategy to investigate how non-standard hours of care can be increased. These services must be viable for the child care provider.	Medium	All

Increase Inclusive Practices and Vulnerable Population Services

Surrey is a very diverse community and there are gaps in service to many vulnerable populations. The specific needs of families for child care varies across the city but in all areas, there is an insufficient number of spaces, and low- and middle-income families for whom child care is unaffordable. Additionally, new immigrants, refugees and Indigenous residents cannot access culturally specific or sensitive programming, and young parents have limited options for programming. The need for child care is vast: however, the specific populations discussed above are often our most vulnerable residents.

Surrey’s Urban Indigenous population is the fastest growing in British Columbia. The Urban Indigenous community in Surrey also experiences one of the highest child and youth poverty rates in the region. There is currently only one early education centre for Indigenous specific pre-school in North Surrey. Métis Family Services is the only agency providing wraparound support and resources specifically for Métis families. Métis Family Services offers inclusive, culturally competent, trauma-informed Early Years programming. Quality early childhood experiences for young Indigenous children that are culturally relevant can be a powerful equalizer to ensuring that they are given the best chances to thrive later in life. The creation of additional spaces specifically for the Indigenous population is also needed.

Increase Inclusive Practices and Vulnerable Population Services		Timeline	Lead Organization(s)
3.1	Work with Indigenous partners and Elders to ensure the needs of Indigenous children are met with cultural sensitivity.	Short	All
3.2	Learn and share information, through a survey or town hall, that would meaningfully address the needs of at-risk families requiring additional help, children with special needs to be included as much as possible, and new immigrants and refugees.	Medium	City of Surrey
3.3	Gather stories that will personalize the challenges that families have in accessing safe, quality, child care. Share these stories as part of advocacy work.	Short	All



Prioritize Coordination and Build Capacity

There are insufficient services to support children with special needs. At the Centre for Child Development, they have 37 spaces to meet the needs of the approximately 12,000 children with special needs. Options has a program for children with extra support needs,³³ but inclusive child care programs are extremely overburdened and often located in one specific geographic region. The lack of support exacerbates existing barriers, and inevitably this leaves many families and children without access to these essential services.

By 2022, we want to see an investment that, at minimum, meets the Canadian Average of 27.2 spaces per 100 children ages 0-12 years old for every Town Centre in Surrey.

Space Creation Targets

As mentioned throughout the report, according to the data gathered in 2020, the access rate for licensed child care spaces in Surrey is 14.9 spaces per 100 children ages 0-12 years old. The SCCTF and the City of Surrey has set reasonable and aspirational goals for the next 3-5 years.

By 2022, we want to see an investment that, at minimum, meets that Canadian Average of 27.2 spaces per 100 children ages 0-12 years old for every Town Centre in Surrey.

By 2024, we want to see every Town Centre, at minimum is 40 spaces per 100 children, including the relative growth rates for each neighbourhood.

To summarize, there are 12,540 new child care spaces needed by 2022, an additional 13,250 new child care spaces by 2024, and a further 28,570 new child care spaces by 2026 to meet targets for all ages and town centres in Surrey.

³³ Child Care Options CCRR. Services for Children with Special Needs. (2021).

Increase Inclusive Practices and Vulnerable Population Services		Timeline	Lead Organization(s)
4.1	Continue the Surrey Community Child Care Task Force, which is a community table focused on child care planning that works to enhance, expand, and support the long-term sustainability of high quality, accessible, affordable, and comprehensive child care services for Surrey families with children up to age 12 years.	Long	All
4.2	Continue advocacy at all levels of government: municipal, provincial, and federal to ensure the needs of Surrey families and children are met.	Short	All
4.3	Implement the child care community engagement plan to allow for input and feedback from community.	Medium	City of Surrey
4.4	Collect and integrate additional data from the City and School District #36 into the existing Phase 1 map of data from Child Care Resource & Referral (“CCRR”) and Licensing Branch (Fraser Health).	Medium	City of Surrey SD 36 Fraser Health
4.5	Create a plan to increase accessible spaces for inclusion and vulnerable populations.	Short	City of Surrey
4.6	Providing support and endorsement for Indigenous organizations to accessing funds, space, and resources to build capacity.	Short	City of Surrey All
4.7	Provide training and support for non-indigenous child care providers and staff on decolonization and reconciliation.	Short	All

CONCLUSION

Monitoring, Implementing, and Reporting

Through the process of child care planning, members of the SCCTF affirmed the significant gap for child care spaces in Surrey, the depth of structural and financial constraints amongst Surrey operators and organizations to address the current deep child care shortage, and the significant investment needed to even come close to maintaining the current shortfall of licensed child care spaces.

The City of Surrey has a Sustainability Charter that will aid staff to monitor and report on child care. Surrey's Sustainability Charter 2.0³⁴ is an ambitious vision for sustainability in Surrey and the Charter guides all City decisions. The measurements for the Sustainability Charter are tracked in the Sustainability Dashboard 2.0 which is an important tool in the implementation of the Sustainability Charter. The specific areas of the Sustainability Charter 2.0 that speak to child care fall under the themes of Inclusion, Education, and Culture, and Health and Wellness.

³⁴ Surrey's Sustainability Charter 2.0

Specifically, the initiatives support the following Desired Outcomes (DO) and Strategic Directions (SD):

- Diversity and Accessibility DO1: Surrey welcomes, includes, embraces and values the diversity of people who live here;
- Diversity and Accessibility DO2: Surrey is a caring and compassionate City that supports its residents of all backgrounds, demographics and life experiences;
- Learning DO3: Meaningful and accessible early childhood learning opportunities are in place for children and families;
- Diversity and Accessibility DO7: Surrey's Urban Aboriginal community is thriving with high educational outcomes, meaningful employment, and opportunities for cultural connections;
- Age Friendly Community DO17: Families have access to affordable and quality local child care;
- Age Friendly Community SD14: Ensure sufficient high-quality child-care spaces are available in the City;
- Health Services and Program SD5: Support access to high quality child care services and facilities.

The City of Surrey also uses the Surrey Excels Dashboard to track, measure, and report on work relating to child care as listed in the Surrey Excels³⁵ tiered plans. Surrey Excels is the City's strategic framework, and guides staff in achieving the vision of a thriving, green, inclusive city. Measurements and reporting for child care show up in the 2021 Tier 2 plan for Parks, Recreation, and Culture, as well as Planning and Development. In Parks, Recreation and Culture, there is a key measure that monitors the number of licensed child care spaces. There is also a key strategic initiative to work with the Province to secure additional child care spaces and grants (B2). Measurements and reporting for child care are also included in the Tier 2 plan Planning and Development and is listed as a key strategic initiative to work with Parks, Recreation and Culture and the Province on additional child care spaces and grants (A3). The strategic initiatives in Surrey Excels are measured ongoing through the dashboard and are updated annually.

³⁵ Surrey Excels, 2021

A Commitment to the Children and Families of Surrey

The community of Surrey is growing, and the need is great. Currently there are only 14.9 licensed child care spaces for every 100 children, so Surrey must work diligently to reach 20,000 quality child care spaces to attain the national average of 27.2 spaces for every 100 children. While this is a daunting task, if even 10,000 spaces are created over the next three years, we will be well on our way to meeting the needs of families that live and work in Surrey.

Our non-profit agencies are best suited to provide those child care spaces, as research shows that they are better suited to provide “better ratios, better health and safety conditions; to provide caregiving that is more sensitive, developmentally appropriate, and less harsh; to have lower staff turnover and stress; better trained staff, and better wages and working conditions.”³⁶ Efforts should be made to support these non-profit agencies working in Surrey to provide additional wrap-around family supports that will enable children and families to thrive.

The federal and provincial governments have committed to funding quality, affordable and accessible childcare like never before, and it will be essential for all Surrey community partners to work together to access this funding and advocate for additional funds for the services that the children and families living in Surrey deserve.

³⁶ Child Care Canada, Childcare Resource and Research Unit (2007)

To do this, the following actions should be undertaken immediately:

- Advocate for additional funding allocations from the provincial and federal governments for Surrey to create new quality child care spaces and get us closer to the national average of 27.2 spaces for every 100 children.
- Advocate for additional funding for underserved groups and those who need wrap-around services, such as families with special needs.
- Advocate for additional provincial Universal Child Care Prototype spaces for Surrey to be operated by non-profit agencies so that they can ensure that families have access to affordable and accessible child care spaces.
- Conduct space inventories of public agencies and institutions to see where additional child care spaces may be able to coexist with other services and programs that focus on the needs of children and families.
- City and public partners continue to ensure key staff are engaged in the Surrey Community Child Care Task Force so the work to date continues and additional child care spaces are created.
- Focus funding provision on non-profit agencies to assist them in developing their infrastructure to operate additional quality child care spaces.



With these actions, Surrey will be on the road to establishing affordable, accessible, and quality child care spaces that provide fun and creative opportunities for children to thrive and at the same time provide broader support for families living and working in Surrey. As the African proverb states: “It takes a Village to raise a child,” and if there ever were a time for the City of Surrey, its public partners, public institutions, and non-profit agencies to be a “Village,” it is now. The children and families of Surrey deserve better. The importance of providing quality child care services in our community is apparent and aligned with federal, provincial and City of Surrey initiatives. The creation of new quality child care spaces is a huge task that cannot be done in isolation and will require the attention and support of many community partners. Together, we can do this.

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APPENDIX

Appendix 1

Resources for Under-served Populations in Surrey

Appendix 2

Fee Survey

Appendix 3

Sites Identified for the Development of Child Care

Appendix 4

Child Population and Child Care Spaces Overview



APPENDIX 4

	Guildford	Newton	Cloverdale	Whalley	South Surrey	Fleetwood	Total
Population 0 - 36 Months	1685	5405	2680	3255	1955	1745	16725
Spaces	86	326	280	180	425	150	1447
# of Programs	5	19	12	15	14	7	72
Population 3-5 years	1905	5830	2850	3345	2200	1970	18100
Spaces	445	708	542	371	884	331	3281
# of Programs	21	30	21	19	31	15	137
Preschool Program 2-5							
Spaces	304	563	203	157	341	418	1986
# of Programs	21	33	10	8	17	17	106
Population 6-12 years	5015	3605	6385	7975	5825	5430	34235
Spaces	271	497	470	277	496	368	2379
# of Programs	13	24	17	13	21	14	102
Multi Age Centres							
Spaces	136	408	199	86	39	203	1071
# of Programs	16	47	25	11	5	26	130

	Guildford	Newton	Cloverdale	Whalley	South Surrey	Fleetwood	Total
In Home Multi Age							
Spaces	120	86	72	86	48	79	491
# of Programs	16	11	9	11	6	10	63
Licensed Family							
Spaces	91	110	96	48	90	77	512
# of Programs	13	16	14	6	12	11	72
Register Licence Not Required							
Spaces	24	64	26	10	2	8	134
# of Programs	12	32	13	5	1	4	67
Total Number of Children	8605	24840	11915	14580	9985	9145	69060
Total Number of Spaces	1032	2762	1888	1215	2325	1634	11301
Space Deficit	7573	22078	10027	13365	7660	7511	57759
Spaces per 100 Children	11.9	11.1	15.8	8.3	23.2	17.8	16.3

**SURREY
COMMUNITY
CHILD
CARE**
ACTION PLAN

PREPARED BY THE SURREY COMMUNITY
CHILD CARE TASK FORCE & THE CITY OF SURREY

