

City of Richmond Child Care Development Advisory Committee 2022 Annual Report

Highlights of the Child Care Development Advisory Committee (CCDAC) meetings and events are outlined below:

1. “Supporting Richmond’s Children: A Symposium Celebrating Child Care Month for Early Childhood Educators, Child Care Providers and Parents”, took place online on May 7, 2022. This event, which was planned by the committee to celebrate Child Care Month in May, featured presentations on ‘The Current State of Richmond’s Children’, ‘Resilience for Child Care Providers’ and ‘Nurturing and Responsive Relationships’. The Symposium was introduced with a short video from Mayor Brodie to proclaim May as Child Care Month.
2. A Children’s Art Exhibition to celebrate Child Care Month was held in the Brighthouse Branch of the Richmond Public Library from May 1–22, 2022. A total of eighteen child care programs participated. The art was created by children, ranging in age from two to twelve years old.
3. CCDAC members provided feedback on the implementation of community programming for Sprouts Early Childhood Development Hub and Seedlings Early Childhood Development Hub, and received regular updates on the progress of Hummingbird Child Care Centre during its construction in 2022.
4. The CCDAC reviewed and monitored several changes to child care legislation and funding programs initiated by senior levels of government to support child care initiatives. These included updates to the ChildCareBC New Spaces funding program, the \$10 a Day Child Care funding program and the Fee Reduction Initiative.
5. The CCDAC offered input to the CCDAC staff liaison on the strategies and actions being initiated from the 2017–2022 Richmond Child Care Needs Assessment and Strategy and the planning for the development of a new 10-year child care strategy in 2023.
6. The CCDAC reviewed the applications submitted for the City’s 2023 Child Care Grant Program and made recommendations to City Council on awarding the grants.

Members of the 2022 Child Care Development Advisory Committee

Voting:

1. Chantelle Pereira (Chair)
2. Jarrod Connolly (Vice Chair)
3. Kevin Ching
4. Karen Jensen
5. Tania Lam
6. Diana Ma
7. Aaron Manalo
8. Rowena Raber
9. Gordon Surgeson
10. William Tsai
11. Zolzaya Tuguldar
12. Elana van Veen

External Organizations (Non-voting):

1. Jocelyn Wong (Richmond Child Care Resource and Referral)

Council Representative (Non-Voting)

1. Councillor Carol Day

School Board Liaison (Non-Voting)

1. Trustee Ken Hamaguchi

Staff Liaison (Non-Voting)

1. Chris Duggan, Program Manager, Child Care and Youth

Recording Secretary (Non-voting)

1. Vacant

2022 CCDAC Budget

CCDAC received an operating budget of \$4,000.00 for 2022. Due to the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, only \$500.00 of this was utilized in 2022.

Closing Comments

The CCDAC has continued to successfully deliver the activities identified in the 2022 Work Program and, despite the ongoing use of virtual platforms to meet, has maintained a strong commitment to continuity and connection. The committee successfully hosted a virtual child care symposium, participated in the City's Child Care Grant Program process, and monitored child care related initiatives and activities at the municipal, provincial and federal levels. CCDAC

members have continued to demonstrate flexibility and dedication to the committee and its valuable work.

Committee members shared feedback on their experience as CCDAC members over the past year during the December meeting. All members present described their experience as positive. The following quotes are a sample of the overall comments about the role of the CCDAC and the member's involvement:

- “By participating in the committee, I have been able to receive valuable insight and stay up to date on information regarding new childcare spaces in the community, information on funding, subsidy, government announcements and initiatives in a timely manner.”
- “I have enjoyed being part of this team. It has enlightened me to what is available for child care services in Richmond. I have learned a lot about the resources available.”
- “Although COVID has affected meeting in person, the virtual meetings have been efficient and effective.”
- “Presentations to the committee on various aspects of child care planning, policy and funding have been informative and insightful.”
- "The opportunity to tour and celebrate the opening of the Early Childhood Development Hubs was a highlight of 2022.”
- “I’m very proud of what Richmond has to offer in this area and impressed with the reports and extensive research done to fulfill the needs of the community.”

The CCDAC continues to benefit from representation from a wide range of members who are operators; parents who use child care services in Richmond; community members; and service providers who support the provision of child care, including Supported Child Development and the Richmond Child Care Resource and Referral. We appreciate the willingness and enthusiasm of the members to share their own perspectives as we benefit from the sharing of experiences and expertise. This willingness to contribute enhances our discussions and increases awareness of the resources, needs and priorities of the Early Childhood Education sector, which helps the committee to provide meaningful input and identify ways to support the development of a comprehensive child care system in Richmond.

The CCDAC appreciates the participation and support of Councillor Carol Day and Trustee Hamaguchi as the City Council and School Board liaisons, respectively. Councillor Day shared information and kept the committee informed on matters related to child care involving City Council which was valuable and helpful to the committee's discussions. The committee also benefited from Trustee Hamaguchi's regular updates from the School Board particularly regarding the School Board's plans for facility rentals and plans for new child care spaces in schools within our district and updates on their long-term planning.

Chris Duggan, staff liaison, has been a fantastic resource and support for this committee. We appreciate her sharing her valuable insight through presentations, her coordination of the opening of two child care centres, Sprouts and Seedlings, and the work she put into Child Care month and its art display and symposium. CCDAC benefits greatly from her organizational skills and her heart for children and families and her work to support the development of child care in our community. We also appreciate the time she takes to share information regarding updates on

child care issues, initiatives and priorities and her timely distribution of press releases related to developments in the child care sector. She keeps our committee up to date and ensures that all new members are onboarded successfully and that the meetings are set up for success. On behalf of all the committee members, we express our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for all her hard work.

It has been my pleasure to serve as Chair of the CCDAC this past year. It has brought me great joy to serve alongside such wonderful members who care for their community and strive to ensure that we can work together to support the development of child care in our city. I value the opportunity to contribute and would like to thank the Mayor and Councillors for your support and for prioritizing child care. We look forward to 2023 and continuing to work to support children, families and programs across our city as we invest in our future leaders.

Prepared by:

Chantelle Pereira. Chair

Child Care Development Advisory Committee, December 2022