July 24, 2019

Re: 19th Annual Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day, October 24, 2019

To Ontario mayors and councils,

The Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care (OCBCC), the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) and other labour and community partners around Ontario have announced Thursday, October 24, 2019 as the 19th annual Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day, a day of recognition for the many people who work providing early learning and child care services in your community.

Our theme again this year is: Champions for Children.

This annual awareness day recognizes the education, skills, commitment and dedication of Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) and child care staff, and each year is proclaimed by municipalities and school boards across Ontario. Many groups are recognized by way of municipal resolution. Such a day allows us to acknowledge the important contributions of child care workers and ECEs.

We are writing to ask that you and your Council consider proclaiming Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day in your municipality. A sample proclamation is attached.

Even if your council does not issue official proclamations, there are many ways for your municipality to participate in celebrating this special day:
- Your council could sponsor a public announcement;
- Display our posters and distribute our buttons;
- Many municipalities organize events and contests for the day or have councilors or the mayor participate in events hosted by child care centres within the municipality.
- A document of further ideas and examples is attached.

We would love to acknowledge those municipalities celebrating child care workers and ECEs across Ontario on October 24, 2019. Let us know how your municipality is participating in the recognition day and we will add your municipality to our list of proclamations and celebrations.

Please direct any correspondence on proclamations and/or celebration activities to the attention of Carolyn Ferns, by mail: Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, 489 College St., Suite 206, Toronto, ON M6G 1A5, by fax at 416-538-6737, or by email at: carolyn@childcareontario.org.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sheila Olam-Maclean
President, Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care

Fred Hahn
President, CUPE Ontario Division