

**COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE
SERVICES COMMITTEE
REPORT 20
JUNE 23, 2021**

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**COMITÉ DES SERVICES
COMMUNAUTAIRES ET DE
PROTECTION RAPPORT 20
LE 23 JUIN 2021**

**EXTRACT OF DRAFT MINUTES 20
COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE
SERVICES COMMITTEE
JUNE 17, 2021**

**EXTRAIT DE L'ÉBAUCHE
DU PROCÈS-VERBAL 20
COMITÉ DES SERVICES
COMMUNAUTAIRES ET DE
PROTECTION
LE 17 JUIN 2021**

2. MUNICIPAL CHILD CARE CENTRE REVIEW

ACS2021-CSS-GEN-0008

CITY WIDE

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Community and Protective Services Committee recommend Council:

- 1. Receive the Municipal Child Care Centre Review report (Document 1) as outlined in this report.**
- 2. Transition the municipally run Centre éducatif Pinocchio child care services to a high needs area in accordance with the strategic priorities in the Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2019-2023, using evidence based-data, and in consideration of the availability of land and budget as outlined in this report.**
- 3. Direct staff to develop a business case and capital funding plan to facilitate the transition of Centre éducatif Pinocchio to a high needs area and to address the operational challenges at Foster Farm Child Care Centre as outlined in this report and report back for Council approval in Q1 of 2023.**
- 4. Direct staff to prioritize and work with the Centre éducatif Pinocchio landlord and a not-for-profit child care provider to maintain and seamlessly transition these critical**

francophone child care services at the Centre éducatif Pinocchio location.

Jason Sabourin, Director, Children's Services and Tracy Gierman, Program Manager, Child Care System Planning and Program Support gave a PowerPoint on items 1 and 2 in tandem. A copy of their PowerPoint is held on file with the City Clerk's office.

Following the presentation, the Committee heard from the following delegations:

1. Christine Constantin – As a parent of a child at Pinocchio she is very much against the recommendations of this report. Will share comments and petition with committee members shortly. The report was shared with parents on June 9, only five days before this meeting. Despite short timeline, drafted a letter and signed petition. Please consider their comments and provide us with time to engage in these discussions that will affect our children. Better communication with families is key. Want to ensure continued quality is provided even though it is changing hands.
2. Andrea Talarico - Daughter attends this centre. This closure would not affect them directly as daughter will go to school next year but here to speak to ensure this service continues. They believe the report speaks to inequalities to working women. Parents have a choice, put kids in private daycare or city run daycare.
3. Khadija Marfouk - Parent with subsidy. It took her 20 months to wait to have space for daughter at a French daycare. Praise Pinocchio for exceptional service. What are action plan and can it be shared with them? Is there a way to reach out to families that are being affected?
4. Charlotte Landry - Main concerns are regarding the transition to new providers and that the fees would increase and quality will decrease. \$65/day currently but once transition, how do they know that service and fees will stay the same. Feels staff did not do their homework. They skipped to an easy solution by passing it off. Can't understand how come other considerations were not considered. Please reconsider.

5. Sarah Desrochers – Had signed up to speak but stated that most of the previous speakers had given her points.

Following the delegations Committee members had a variety of questions as listed below but not limited to the following:

- How much time did parents have to digest this report and prepare comments? Staff stated that they will continue to consult with parents in the next year and come back to council with needs. Also taking the time to transition, which could take five years.
- No intention to close out this service, correct? The report are only findings and sets out a plan. Staff intends to work with current landlord to add another space in there.
- When new daycare goes there (Sussex) then ensure they have francophone services? Staff said yes.
- What percentage of families are using Pinocchio are subsidized? Last 3 years percentage is lower.
- We need to think about the need of childcare and where is it going. Listening to staff this morning, a lot more funding going into childcare. Why take it out of that location...why not keep it? Is there not room for both? Staff will come back with plan in Q1 2023 so there is time to look into the options and reconsider the plan.

Councillor Fleury had a Direction to Staff as noted below.

The recommendations were CARRIED as presented.

Direction to Staff:

That staff be directed to include within the business case and capital funding plan and with working with the landlord and a not-for-profit provider to seamlessly facilitate a transition of spaces assess the ability to keep the Pinocchio name to remain at the Sussex location, support the spaces at the current Pinocchio location to remain Francophone with a similar fee structure, and ensure that the new location for the city services continue to provide dedicated francophone childcare services.