

8 May 2020



To all families, service users and students enrolled in Mothercraft programs:

As the week comes to a close, everyone at Mothercraft is thinking about all of the mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers and aunties who will be celebrated this weekend. Like other big events that have taken place during the pandemic, I hope everyone is able to enjoy the day as best they can. For those who have lost a mom or who are unable to be with their mothers, due to distance or lockdown or both, may you find time reflect on happy memories or connect some way, somehow.

We continue to deliver our virtual programs and appreciate the feedback we have been receiving from all of you. Please reach out to your program manager with any questions, concerns or ideas you may have about ways we can do so more effectively.

This week the Ministry of Education issued a renewal of its closure orders for child care centres and EarlyON programs to May 19th and, as you know, Ontario's state of emergency is currently in effect to May 12th. Given the easing of some restrictions on business operations in the province starting late last week, we will be monitoring updates regarding the legislation closely on Monday and Tuesday, however, we do not expect significant changes to the conditions affecting our operations any time soon. To read more about the government's framework for re-opening the province, click [here](#).

Internal discussions about how we will approach a return to service have begun. Given the highly regulated nature of what we do across the organization, there are limits to how far we can go in terms of these preparations until we receive guidelines from our various regulators. What I can tell you, though, is that we will be guided by the advice of public health authorities and make our decisions based on government directives as well as research and evidence. I fully expect that any return to service will be very gradual and that a full resumption of services will be in the order of months once restrictions begin to ease further. In the days and weeks to come, we will share any information we receive that has relevance to Mothercraft's operations and solicit your input as required and/or appropriate.

As always, should have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to our program managers. You can also find all of my previous communication – which include many links to important resources for children and parents/caregivers – on the Mothercraft website. Take good care.

Sincerely,

Michele Lupa
Executive Director

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