



PRESS RELEASE

County of Dufferin
55 Zina Street
Orangeville, ON L9W 1E5

For Immediate Release: January 11th, 2018

From Early Years to EarlyON – Province rebrands the Ontario Early Years Centres

Dufferin – In February 2016, the Ministry of Education announced its intention to transform Ministry funded child and family programming into an increasingly integrated, cohesive system of services and supports for children 0-6 and their parents/caregivers. This transformation is known as EarlyON Child and Family Centres.

Following the minister's announcement the County of Dufferin conducted a needs assessment to determine how this new mandate from the province could benefit the residents who use the Ontario Early Years Centres. With input from parents, caregivers, children, school boards, staff, and many community partners Dufferin County developed a local EarlyON plan.

Since 2002, the County of Dufferin has been directly operating Ontario Early Years Centres at the following locations:

30 Centre Street, Orangeville Ontario
167 Centre Street, Shelburne Ontario
90 Main Street North, Grand Valley Ontario

On January 1st, 2018 the County of Dufferin became responsible for the local management of the newly rebranded EarlyON Child and Family Centres. Keith Palmer, the County's Director of Community Services said that "The residents of Dufferin will still have everything they have come to expect from the Ontario Early Years Centres and more with the switch to the EarlyON Child and Family Centres".

This name change marks a significant milestone in the multi-year strategy to modernize and transform the child care and early years sector and stems from the collaborative work between the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario, the County of Dufferin and community partners.

Quotes:

Ontario's vision for the Early Years and Child Care: All children and families have access to a range of high-quality, inclusive and affordable early years and child care programs and services that are child- and family-centred and contribute to children's learning, development and well-being" (Ontario's Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework 2017).

For more information, please contact:

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