

**Ministry of Education
Early Years Division**

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**Ministère de l'Éducation
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MEMORANDUM TO: Service System Managers

FROM: Ragaven Sabaratnam
A/Director
Early Years Policy and Program Branch

DATE: May 3, 2017

SUBJECT: Authorized Recreational and Skill Building Program
Resource

As you know, as part of the regulatory changes under the CCEYA that were filed in May 2016, service system managers have a discretionary power to **authorize recreational and skill building programs** within their designated service area.

Authorized recreational and skill building programs may provide up to three hours of care, once a day, for children aged 6 and up without a child care licence in accordance with the Act and regulations.

Where there is a need, service system managers may choose to authorize a recreational and skill building program to offer up to 3 hours of care for children aged 6 and up (e.g. after school) to address this need. For example, service system managers may wish to consider authorizing programs delivered by Friendship Centres or not-for-profit community organizations.

Service system managers are not required to authorize recreational and skill building programs. This is one of many care options available, including: licensed and unlicensed child care; extended day programs operated by school boards; and existing authorized recreational and skill building programs (e.g. operated by municipalities, the YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, MTCS After School Programs).

The attached document is intended to serve as a resource for service system managers that choose to authorize recreational and skill building programs. The document:

- Provides an overview of how authorized recreational and skill building programs fit into the CCEYA legislative and regulatory framework

- Provides elements for consideration where a service system manager is assessing programs to become authorized recreational and skill building programs.

Additional resources related to compliance and licensing are also included in the attached.

The information provided in this document is intended only to provide guidance and considerations for service system managers. If assistance is required with respect to the interpretation of the legislation and its potential application in specific circumstances, please contact your legal counsel.

Service system managers may also direct inquiries to their local Child Care Advisor for more information.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in supporting the child care and early years needs of families in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Ragaven Sabaratnam, A/Director
Early Years Policy and Program Branch