

April 6, 2020

Dear CCRR Partners,

I'm writing on behalf of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) to provide you with an update regarding the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) Application For Funding (Solicitation Number XCN2019086AFF).

As you know, the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) program has been in operation since 1971. You have been key in providing referrals and resource supports to families looking for child care service in the province of British Columbia. You have also been important in providing additional resources to child care providers including lending libraries, workshops and consults.

In 2019/2020 the provincial CCRR program received an additional \$5M through the Child Care BC Plan for service enhancement. In support of the increased funding, a full solicitation process was launched and an Application for Funding (AFF) was posted to BCBid from October 17 to November 28, 2019.

The current pandemic situation has caused a significant disruption to the province and the world at large. The Ministry has identified child care as a critical need to support essential workers in their ability to continue providing crucial services to our province. The CCRRs have been tasked with the pivotal role of coordinating child care for essential service workers for children ages 0-5. This work is integral to the province's COVID response and is a priority for the CCRR Program. **Due to this reason, the Application for Funding is cancelled effective immediately.** This will allow us to focus our efforts on the immediate priority of providing essential child care. We will follow up with more information about extending the term of the existing contracts in the coming week.

We recognize the hours that were put in to preparing and applying for this Application for Funding. We appreciate the time and resources that were invested in to completing application response requirements. During this time of upheaval and uncertainty, it is important to keep the continuation of services as a top priority and focus our efforts on providing emergency care.

The CCRR Program provides fundamental support for the province, and this support is even more important than ever during these unprecedented times. We want to thank you again for the efforts made for this project and acknowledge your constant dedication to championing the further success of the CCRRs and of the child care sector in the province. Once the current crisis we all find ourselves in has passed, we will update you on the next steps.

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If you have any immediate questions regarding this change, please contact Kevena Hall, Executive Director responsible for the Child Care Resource and Referral program, at Kevena.Hall@gov.bc.ca_

Sincerely,

Christine Massey

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Assistant Deputy Minister

Early Years and Inclusion Division