

NAKUSP CHILDCARE HUB OPERATIONS

1. DIRECTION

District staff is seeking direction from School District 10 Board of Education regarding the operation of the Nakusp Childcare Hub.

2. SUMMARY BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. Grant Application

- ✚ In 2020, The district applied and received a New Spaces grant from MCFD and CBT to build a childcare hub in Nakusp that can provide up to 96 licensed childcare spaces.
- ✚ As part of the initial grant application, two local non-profit organizations were approached to determine if a partnership could be formed for operating the centre. Both organizations declined at that time.
- ✚ The approved grant application includes a budget amount allocated for a Project Manager, a position which could support either district operations or the potential development of an NPO.

B. Board Consultation

- ✚ At the September 28, 2020, Special Regular Meeting of the Board, the Board approved the authorization of funding agreements with Columbia Basin and Trust, and Ministry of Children and Family Development to build a Child Care Centre in Nakusp. The Board passed a second motion acknowledging that operational funding for the future Nakusp Child Care Centre would not be subsidized by K-12 operating funding budgets.
- ✚ At the September 21, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board, the Board requested that District staff gather additional information to support their considerations for future operating plans including an analysis of other district childcare operating structures and following up once again with local NPOs.
- ✚ At the October 19, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board, after receiving updated information, the Board called a Special Regular Meeting for the purposes of continuing their considerations for the future operating plans of the Nakusp Childcare HUB

C. District Process

- ✚ District staff consulted with several school districts who are currently providing child care through before/after school care, pre K, and infant toddler programs, to gather feedback on operating structures and their views on respective benefits and challenges.
- ✚ District staff followed up with the two previous NPOs to determine if there has been any change in circumstances, possibly favoring a future collaboration. To date, no interest has been received.
- ✚ The District has received feedback from their CUPE Local regarding being in favor of the child care hub being District operated. The rationale is that a district operated centre would allow more employment opportunities including full time employment.