

MEDIA BACKGROUND

PREMIER TO ANNOUNCE ALLOCATION OF 550 NEW CHILD CARE SPACES FOR 2007-08 AT CONFEDERATION PARK CHILDCARE COOPERATIVE

- Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) continues to be a priority for the provincial government. Saskatchewan's commitment to Early Learning and Child Care is demonstrated through the \$11.6M, 37% increase in the 2007-08 budget. The budget provides \$1.4M for new licensed child care spaces. This will mean 550 new child care spaces, bringing the total new centre spaces opened in the last five years to nearly 2,000.
- Licensed child care services provide Saskatchewan families with regulated safe and reliable non-parental child care, and the potential to provide quality early learning opportunities for children.
- Saskatchewan Learning's ELCC vision is to develop an integrated system that focuses on early childhood development and positive outcomes for children. This system is built through strong partnerships with education and access to services for parents who choose to use them.
- Expansion of Saskatchewan's licensed child care system since 2003 has served to generate more community interest in the development of new child care centre spaces, such that space development priorities were developed in the spring of 2006.
- The approval of new licensed child care spaces is determined by allocating the spaces based on corporate priorities of the province and the Department of Learning.
- All priorities assume that spaces being allocated are primarily for children 0 to 6 years of age. Priorities reflect school-linked services, support for immigrant families, northern and rural development, non-standard hours of services and links to post-secondary education.
- Factors related to all priorities include the ability and readiness to develop and open spaces in the 2007-08 fiscal year as well as overall geographic equity.
- The following **550** spaces have been approved for development with funding for 2007-08:

NAME	LOCATION	# OF SPACES	CONTACT INFO
Play Fair Day Care Inc.	Moosomin	22	Murray Gray, President Play Fair Day Care Inc. 435-3367 (Work)
Canora Community Child Care Centre Inc.	Canora	25	Leanna Beblow 563-5503
Theodore ABC	Theodore	Expansion of	Colleen Bilokreli, Chairperson

Daycare Center Inc.		3	647-2155 (Work) 647-2822 (Home)
Community Group in Kamsack	Kamsack	33	Paul Mayer 542-3755 (Home)
Community Group in Saltcoats	Saltcoats	26	Rosalyn Cockerill Yellowhead REDA 743-5177 (Work)
Town of Arcola	Arcola	21	Rob James 455-2584
Kids First Day Care Centre	Adult Learning Campus, Regina	41	Sue Burns, Chairperson Kids First Day Care Centre 791-8407
Regina Open Door Society Child Care Centre	Regina	10	Darcy Dietrich Executive Director Regina Open Door Society 352-3500 or Tracey Peterson Director of Operations Regina Open Door Society 352-3500
Town of Bengough	Bengough	16	Katrina McCaug 268-2930 (Work) 268-4486 (Home)
L'Ecole Ducharme	Moose Jaw	28	Paulette Doucette Conseil de Ecole Fransaskoise de Moose Jaw 694-2107 (Home)
Prairie Literacy Awareness Network	Coronach	25	Colleen Christopherson-Cote Executive Director Prairie Literacy Awareness Network 267-2368 (Home)
Town of Strasbourg	Strasbourg	25	Carol Schultz Mayor of Strasbourg 725-3505 (Work)
Ile a la Crosse	Ile a la Crosse	32	Dr. Bill Duffy Director of Education Ile a la Crosse School Division 833-2141
Wesmor Community High School	Prince Albert	12	Dr. Shelley Storey Principal Wesmor Community High School 764-5233
Lakeland Preschool Co-operative	Christopher Lake	Expansion of 5	Tonya Gee Director Lakeland Preschool Cooperative

			982-2133
Duck Lake Primary Health Team	Duck Lake	30	Howard Weiler Community School Coordinator Stobart Elementary School 467-2228 232-2016
Recplex Day Care Centre	Tisdale	18	Shelley Cressman Director Recplex Day Care Centre 873-3090
W.P. Bate School	Saskatoon	50	Karen Anderson Saskatoon Public Schools Phone 683-8215
Confederation Park Child Care	Fairhaven School Saskatoon	45	Jennifer Pirot Director Confederation Park Childcare Coop 978-2223
Le Centre Educatif Felix le Chat	Saskatoon	Expansion of 6	Gabrielle Lepage-Lavoie Chair - Parent Association Le Centre Educatif Felix le Chat 931-4873
Royal West Early Learning Centre	Saskatoon	Expansion of 9	Jane Wallace-Brown Director Sharon Van Cleave Child Care Centre 683-8383
Keyano Oma	Saskatoon	18	Kim Melnychuk Director Keyano Oma Early Learning Centre 683-2622
Saskatoon Tribal Council	Saskatoon	50	Tribal Chief Joe Quewezance Saskatoon Tribal Council Phone 956-6100