

DATE:	Thursday, June 23, 2016
TO:	Centre #6 Parents & UVic Child Care Parents
FROM:	Jim Forbes, Director, Campus Services
RE:	Converting Centre 6 to full day care for 3-5 year olds from the current After School Care (ASC) program.

Background

On April 20, 2016, UVic Child Care Services received approval and funding (\$1,685,000) for a major renewal of the Child Care facilities.

Strategy and Benefits

There has long been a demand and increasing need from students, faculty and staff to provide additional full-time child care for 3 to 5-year-olds. Given this continuing need and the funding now available for renewal of the existing centre, Child Care Services has developed a strategy to convert Centre #6 – which has been used for After School Care (ASC) for part of the day – into full-day care spaces.

The planned renovations provide an opportunity to convert programs at a critical renewal period for the facility and create 40 new **full day** child care spaces that are in high demand by students, faculty, and staff at our university. This represents an increase of 80% in capacity for this age group.

The benefits of creating new 3 to 5-year-old spaces and discontinuing the ASC program are as follows:

- Meets institutional demand from students, staff and faculty for 3 to 5-year-old care;
- Greater benefit to the university community in caring for children over a longer period of time
*Full day care: 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. vs. ASC: 3 to 5:30 p.m.;
- Fulfills long-term commitment to expand access for students with children as the majority of students require 3 to 5 year old (full day) child care spaces as opposed to after school care;
- Opportunity to construct new spaces at a time when facility is in need of renovation;
- Provides an opportunity to research new care models including multi-age care **inclusive of additional toddler spaces.**

As a result of these renovations, the After School Care (ASC) program (45 spaces) will be discontinued **as of June 30, 2017**. We are providing this lengthy notice period so that parents can make other arrangements for children currently enrolled in the after-school care program at UVic.



Parent Advisory Board Feedback

Through a series of meetings in May and June, the UVic Child Care Parent Advisory Board (PAB) provided extensive feedback on the recommendation to convert the ASC program to 3 to 5-year-old care programs. The Child Care Parent Advisory Board is commended for its forthright feedback, which was critical in establishing a year's notice period to families currently enrolled in the ASC program.

Construction and Renewal Schedule

In order to provide families with a year's notice period, the closure of Centre #6 on June 30, 2017 will be the starting date of a \$1,685,000 multi-phased construction plan for **the renewal of all Child Care facilities**. Once the construction and renewal schedule is determined, an open house for the UVic Child Care community will be scheduled to share the details, timelines, scope of construction and renderings of the renewed spaces for the children.

Registration for After School Care (ASC) for 2016/17 School Year

Registration for current and wait-listed families for the 2016/17 school year will be confirmed by Child Care Services by July 1, 2016.

Contact Information

If you would like to further discuss the strategy, next steps or for additional information, please contact Jim Forbes, Director, Campus Services at 250-721-8310 or by e-mail at jdforbes@uvic.ca. If you would prefer to schedule an appointment, please contact Rayael Michalski at 250-721-6421 or by e-mail at staf2@uvic.ca.

