

CWELCC updates teleconference

Centre-based child care providers
Early Years and Child Care Services

June 9, 2025

Housekeeping

This meeting is being **recorded** and will be shared with the presentation. Your microphone will be muted unless called upon during the question period. Use the Q&A feature to post your questions. You can also email us at

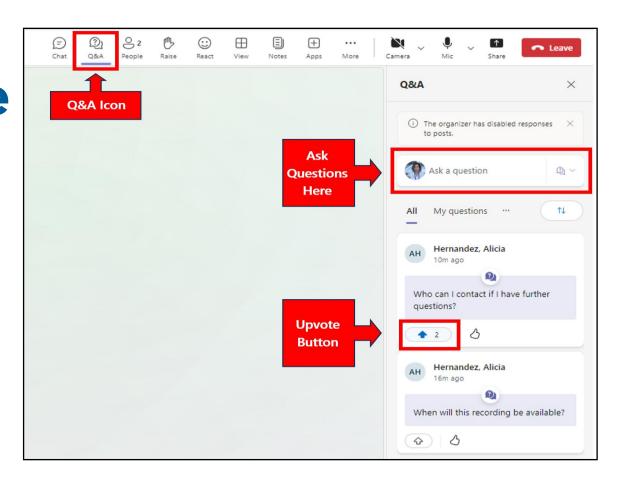
<u>earlyyearssystemdivision@peelregion.ca</u> or contact your Early Years Specialist.

The personal information collected during this meeting is collected under the authority of the <u>Municipal Act S.O. 2001</u>, <u>c.25</u>. The information will be used for future reference for purposes of the Region of Peel's Human Services Department, Early Years and Child Care Services Division.

Questions about the collection of personal information and information collected should be directed to <u>earlyyearssystemdivision@peelregion.ca</u>.

Disclaimer: This slide deck is shared for informational purposes only and does not replace the requirements and rules set out in the <u>Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014</u>, its <u>regulations</u>, your service agreement, the CWELCC guideline (updated in July) and/or the service provider handbook.

How to use the **Microsoft Teams** A&Q feature





Agenda

- 1. Closure day policy
- 2. Q&A
- 3. Reminders:
 - Spring CWELCC updates and Workforce Innovation Funding
 - Upcoming CWELCC guideline updates



CWELCC closure day policy

What are closure days?

Any days on which child care services are not available to children. Closure days may be:

PLANNED:

 Any days your centre is scheduled to be closed, such as public holidays, vacation/breaks, PD day/staff training, open houses, parent-teacher interviews, planned repairs, etc.

FEES PAID BY FAMILIES

 Closure days where your centre charges fees to families.

The provincial cap of up to 20 days applies to planned paid closure days

UNPLANNED

 Days your centre must close due to circumstances out of their control. For example, a major weather event where Peel school boards close.

FEES NOT PAID BY FAMILIES

- Closure days where centres do not charge fees.
- Unpaid closure days are not service days and therefore impact CWELCC funding.

CWELCC maximum number of paid closed days

What is the same:

- The maximum: 2 consecutive weeks, 4 weeks in the calendar year.
- Maximum only applies to closure days for which fees are charged (unless you have to close due to events out of your control).

What changed:

• <u>2025 provincial guideline</u> clarified that **statutory holidays count** towards the maximum (page 13).

Peel's transition plan - calendar year

Purpose: Support providers who have more than 20 closure days by giving them extra time to meet the provincial requirements **if they need it**.

If you operate in a calendar year...

Timeline	Requirement (including statutory holidays)
January 1- December 31, 2025	 You can have the lower of: 26 planned paid closure days, or The number of planned paid closure days you had in 2024.
Beginning January 1, 2026	You must comply with annual maximum of 20 planned paid closure days from January 1 to December 31 of each year.

You do not have to wait to comply but have extra time if you need it.

Peel's transition plan - academic year

Purpose: Support providers who have more than 20 closure days by giving them extra time to meet the provincial requirements **if they need it**.

If you operate in an academic year...

Timeline	Requirement (including statutory holidays)
January 1- August 31, 2025	You can have up to 19 planned paid closure days.
Beginning September 1, 2025	You must comply with the annual maximum of 20 planned paid closure days from September 1 to August 31 of each year.

You do not have to wait to comply but have extra time if you need it.

Options to comply

If you charge families for more than 20 paid closure days (including statutory holidays), you must take one of the following actions:

- Reduce the number of closure days (open for more days) to ensure you have 20 or less planned paid closure days; or
- 2. Stop charging parents a fee for any closure days that exceed the up to 20 paid closure days cap; or
 - This will reduce your CWELCC funding as unpaid closure days are not service days and are not funded in CWELCC funding formula calculation.
- 3. A mix of the above.

Goal: You must not exceed 20 planned paid closure days per year.



Payments to staff*

Public (statutory) holidays

- Are not vacation or unpaid leave days.
- At minimum, you must meet <u>Employment</u>
 <u>Standards Act</u> public holiday pay requirements.
- If your HR policies have different rules, you must pay the higher amount.

Professional activity/learning days:

- Are regular working days.
- You must pay staff their regular wages.

* This does not constitute legal advice. Your legal obligations may be more than the minimum outlined. We encourage you to seek legal advice before implementing changes to your benefits and/or compensation packages.



Payments to staff* (cont. 2)

Unplanned paid closure days:

 You must pay staff scheduled to work, the wages they were expected to get for the day. For example, if a staff was scheduled to work 6 hours, they would get paid 6 hours, if the staff was scheduled to work 8 hours, they would get paid 8 hours.

* This does not constitute legal advice. Your legal obligations may be more than the minimum outlined. We encourage you to seek legal advice before implementing changes to your benefits and/or compensation packages.

Payments to staff* (cont. 3)

Other closure days:

• If you paid staff for other planned paid closure days in 2023, you **must** continue to pay.

 If you did not pay staff for other planned paid closure days in 2023, you are encouraged to pay staff within their CWELCC program allocation.

* This does not constitute legal advice. Your legal obligations may be more than the minimum outlined. We encourage you to seek legal advice before implementing changes to your benefits and/or compensation packages.



Coming soon: GovGrants update task

This winter, we will collect in GovGrants:

- ✓ Your 2026 parent handbooks.
- ✓ The days you close and charge families.
- ✓ The days you close and do not charge families.
- ✓ Your service days.
- ✓ Your operating hours.
- ✓ 2025 staff & wages information.



Next steps

- Notify us before increasing your closure days (mailbox or EYS).
- Update your parent handbook by
 September 1 with service days and closure information and whether fees are charged.
- Report your updated closure day data and upload your 2026 parent handbook in GovGrants when requested.
- Updated CWELCC guideline will be shared in early July.

Questions?

Email us at earlyyearssystemdivision@peelregion.ca.



Reminders:

Spring CWELCC updates
Workforce Innovation Funding
Requirements

Spring CWELCC funding updates

Workforce Innovation Funding (WIF) and Enhanced Program Support (EPS):

- GovGrants allocations have been updated for all CWELCC providers to include updated Workforce Innovation Funding (planning time and Professional Development funding) as well as Enhanced Program Support
- We updated your 2023 reconciliation amounts to reflect 2025 operating levels and 2025 policy requirements.

Workforce Innovation Funding (WIF) components

1) Paid planning time (mandatory) - No change

• You must provide eligible staff with planning time. This can be implemented as one hour of paid planning time per week or up to 4 hours per month.

WIF components cont'd

2) NEW! Paid professional learning (optional to staff)

- Provides funding to support eligible staff professional learning between January 1 to December 31, 2025.
- Each eligible staff member can access up to \$500 for professional learning.
- By July 18, 2025, you must:
 - Share this funding opportunity with your eligible staff (template will be provided); and
 - Develop an internal policy outlining the process for accessing professional learning funding (if your organization does not already have one).

Upcoming CWELCC guideline updates

Upcoming Guideline updates

- 1) Closure requirements
- 2) Workforce Innovation Funding
- 3) One-time emergency funding

We anticipate that an updated CWELCC guideline will be released in **July.**

→ Additional details regarding reconciliation and reporting requirements (timing TBD)





Other questions?

Contact your Early Years
 Specialist (EYS)

 Email us at <u>earlyyearssystemdivision@peelr</u> <u>egion.ca</u>.



Appendix 1

How did Peel get to 26 closure days? (providers who operate in a calendar year)

26 days is the sum of:

• 19 days: We prorated 29 days for 8 months (January to August 2025) to keep the rules the same.

- This is the same number of days that providers who operate in an academic year have.
- 7 days: We prorated 20 days for the remaining 4 months of the year (September to December)



How did Peel get to 19 closure days from January to August 2025?

To get to our transitional approach, we prorated 29 days for 8 months (January to August 2025) to keep the rules the same.

