



THE DISTRICT OF THUNDER BAY  
SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD

# Funding Guidelines Planning Time

---

## POSITION PAPER

**January 2024**

**Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) Conference**

Prepared by:

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board

Prepared for:

Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education

# Brief

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) urges the Ministry of Education to provide child care and early years funding guidelines and benchmarks early in 2024 for the September 2024 school year in order to facilitate planning.

## Summary

To ensure smooth transitions for stakeholders with regards to program and funding changes, TBDSSAB recommends including service managers in the planning process and increasing communication regarding funding changes.

## Background

In April 2023, TBDSSAB received the Canada-Wide Early Learning Child Care 2024 Child Care Funding Formula Discussion Paper from the Ministry of Education, outlining the proposed funding formulas for 2024 and requesting feedback. In late September 2023, TBDSSAB received a memo explaining there will not be a change in funding until at least September 2024. Currently, TBDSSAB has not received the benchmarks necessary to analyze the impacts of future funding changes on the local child care and early years system.

TBDSSAB understands the work required to produce funding formulas and guideline documents, however, it is important that service managers are provided information about future funding allotments with ample time to allow for planning and communication of program modifications to continue to provide quality child care and early years services. With this in mind, TBDSSAB urges the Ministry of Education to

provide updated guidelines, funding formulas, and benchmarks with more lead time in order to facilitate the planning and implementation of child care and early years programming.

Therefore, TBDSSAB urges the Ministry of Education to provide child care and early years funding guidelines and benchmarks early in 2024 for the September 2024 school year in order to facilitate planning.