



On behalf of the Child & Community Resources (CCR) Board of Directors and our team we would like to thank you, our families and partners, for continuing to work together with us to ensure that families have access to quality services in their home community.

The CCR Board and staff team has the privilege of working in partnership with numerous families, groups and community partners throughout the region. It is clear that our families require a specific strategy for the North or many children and youth will go without. It is already evident that for many families, costs exceed what parents can afford, and many providers do not provide services outside of urban areas.

**As such, the CCR Board of Directors has reached out to Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) to offer our support in the selection of participants for the Advisory Committee.**

The North region has a large variety of parents, professionals and skilled Board Members interested in contributing to the process. It is our hope that as the government prepares for the next phase of the evolution of OAP, the North has a broader representation.

Providing insight about the needs of the North cannot rest on the shoulders of one or two individuals. Developing a strategy for the North will require creativity and **we strongly recommended developing a task force** to specifically address the unique challenges and maximize the opportunities.

We have yet to receive a response from MCCSS. As soon as we do, we will share it with you so that you are up-to-date on our efforts to support the creation of an effective strategy for the North.

On April 11, 2019 the Ontario Budget was released. In addition to the changes to the Ontario Autism Program, it was announced that further reductions will come to the Children's and Social Services sector. At this time we have not received any information regarding the amount of the reductions or the services that may be impacted. As soon as we do, we will share the information with you as part of our ongoing commitment to keep you informed during this transitional time.

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