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*Bringing care and community together / Jumeler soins et collectivité*

March 1st, 2010



Dear Early Years Centre participants,

Our programs and services are changing.

The Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre's Ontario Early Years Centre – Carleton (OEYC) spent this past year looking at our programs and our budgets. We know that our programs and services provide support to you and your child(ren) and we know that there are other changes coming with the Early Learning Programs. On the back of this letter is a new program calendar that shows you what programs are available, where and when they are running. Please read the calendar carefully as some of our programs have been cancelled.

Since 2002 OEYC – Carleton has not received funding increases from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS), the provincial government ministry that funds our program. Program costs which include materials, expenses, salaries and training have gone up since 2002 and we can no longer operate the OEYC program as we have in the past.

Beginning April 1, 2010 the OEYC will be reducing staff and therefore making changes to programs and services. As the program calendar on the back of this letter shows you, we will be continuing to provide drop-in programs, story time and some workshops but fewer than we did last year. Some of our programs will be offered in schools throughout our communities. Other changes include the service reductions of the Kinburn Toy Library, the Corkery drop-in, the Saturday morning, Monday afternoon drop-in and Tuesday drop-ins.

We encourage you to ask a Family Resource Worker about how to begin a playgroup in your neighbourhood. We are excited about working more closely with local schools to continue to deliver programs with our partners.

If you have questions please contact Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre at (613) 591-3686.

Sincerely,

Cathy Jordan,  
Executive Director