



## Mississippi Mills Childcare Expansion Project

- Mississippi Mills Childcare Services has been a cornerstone of early childhood education in the community since 1972, operating from its main location at 208 State Street in Almonte. It is licensed through the Ministry of Education for 10 infants, 15 toddlers and 48 preschool children (73 childcare spaces).
- **October 2024:** Council approved reallocating \$27,000 to engage an architect for a design brief to replace the aging State Street facility.
- **December 2024:** Staff were directed to apply for Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) funding through Lanark County, the consolidated municipal service manager.
- **January 2025:** Municipality of Mississippi Mills receives \$704,400 in funding through CWELCC Start-up Grant for the expansion of its childcare program. This funding will create 78 new licensed childcare spaces for toddlers and preschoolers, bringing total licensed capacity to 151 CWELCC spaces.
- **April 2025:** Council approves funding of the childcare expansion project with a budget of \$10.5 million and awards the project to Chandos Construction.
- **June 2025:** Municipality of Mississippi Mills receives \$2,130,705 from the Canada-Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Infrastructure Fund for the construction of a new childcare centre.
- **August 2025:** Groundbreaking to kick off the project. The new Mississippi Mills Childcare Services facility will be built at 111 Menzie Street in Almonte, replacing the current State Street location. It will expand to offer 151 licensed CWELCC spaces (doubling the current capacity), provide additional room for future growth in a modernized building and learning environment.
- **Fall 2026:** Project completion.