

## **Public Statement by Ontario YMCAs**

**Ontario YMCAs are excited to announce that we will sign on to the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system.**

YMCAs are the largest licensed child care provider in Ontario, with a 55-year history of delivering high-quality child care and early learning across urban, rural and suburban communities. We have long advocated for a high-quality licensed child care system that is affordable and accessible. As experts in early learning and child care, we have developed and honed a research-based early learning curriculum that is now delivered across Canada. We know that high-quality early learning and child care can set a powerful trajectory for lifelong learning, resiliency and well-being.

CWELCC is a transformational opportunity to build a stronger publicly-managed early years system that will benefit children and their families for years to come. While considerable work remains to address workforce shortages and to improve equity, inclusion and accessibility, we look forward to working alongside government and community partners to support its successful implementation and future growth.