

**CSRC Childcare
1002 Station Street**

DP Comments from CCFL

Section 4

- Ensure that the indoor spaces of the childcare centre are designed to maximize opportunities for healthy child development while ensuring a functional and licensable facility for the non-profit operator;
 - i. Test fit is required to ensure Child Care Licensing Regulations (CCLR) and Director of Licensing Standards of Practice, function and desired capacities can be supported, in particular gross motor/nap areas (room for mats or cribs, storage for mats/bedding and gross motor play equipment), washrooms (change tables, toilets, storage) and cubby areas (children's cubbies and storage for staff items).
 - ii. Provide additional information about the kitchen between the infant and toddler rooms; drawings appear to be missing walls and counters/gate.
 - iii. Kitchen design should allow staff to supervise children in the activity room while in the kitchen. Provide improved kitchen access for infant care such as by adding a pass-through window with counter space, or, if this is not possible, by adding millwork next to the kitchen within the infant eating area, if there is sufficient space.
 - iv. Note that the space between the infant washroom, staff washroom, and gross motor/nap room may be considered dead space and not be included by CCFL in activity area.
 - v. Childcare staff should be able to visually supervise washroom entrances from main activity areas. Consider relocating the entrance to the infant washroom. Its current location directly across from the eating area will impact children's privacy and eating experience.
 - vi. Provide art sinks with clay traps and at least 1.0 m of counter space with closed cupboards above and below in each of the three program areas.
 - vii. Kitchens may be shared between two programs and are to be readily accessible to all programs; provide a kitchen in the 3-5 area.

- Ensure each licensed childcare program has required outdoor play space, to maximize opportunities for healthy child development while ensuring a functional and licensable facility for the non-profit operator;
 - i. Ground coverings that minimize heat retention are recommended in exposed areas, especially for children aged 0-3. PIP rubber surfacing may radiate heat and may be slippery when wet or icy. Consider alternate surfacing material for the pathway.
 - ii. It is recommended that the Sand and Water Zones be located away from Physical Zones. In the 0-3 outdoor play area, the use of sand under the feature play piece may lead to conflict between children engaging in sand play and those using the play feature.

- iii. Provide storage shed dimensions and consider enlarging the outdoor storage area. Refer to COV Childcare Technical Guidelines and additional resources.
- iv. The wood round ground cover is aesthetically pleasing and offers a sensory experience by foot; however, depending on installation and maintenance, rounds can settle unevenly and result in tripping hazard. Exposed wood rounds may also decompose at a faster rate than where located under cover. Consider the use of alternate sensory-based surfacing materials.
- v. Fencing is to meet COV Childcare Technical Guidelines and should incorporate opportunities for children to view their surroundings and the world below. Provide specification of fencing and consider the addition of spaces to support children's views. Also consider changes to remove possible conflict between children stopping to peer down and children using the wheeled toy path.
- vi. Provide outdoor lighting placement, including to support use of pathways and play areas in the early morning and late afternoon, and for the storage shed.
- vii. Hose bibs are located in proximity to a number of wood features. All wood in contact with soil or moisture is to be pressure treated; exposed wood to be handled by children should not be pressure treated.
- viii. Two hose bibs are to be provided in each outdoor play area, one at the building and one near the sand play areas. The addition of hose bibs against the building would support function. If only one hose bib is to be provided for each play area, it is recommended that they be relocated against the building rather than in the play areas; staff can attach hoses to bring water to play areas.
- ix. Natural elements are to be included everywhere throughout the outdoor play area. Four trees are included in the plans; consider adding trees to increase experience of nature.