

## Ontario Investing in New and Improved Schools, More Licensed Child Care in Waterloo Region

Province Supporting Local Students and Families

**NEWS**

October 30, 2015

Ontario is investing in three new schools and one school improvement project in the Waterloo Region.

The new projects, which are the result of a nearly \$40 million local investment from the Ontario government in the Waterloo Region District School Board and the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, include:

- St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School in Cambridge — A new 550 pupil place elementary school for Kindergarten to Grade 8 students that will also include 5 new licensed child care rooms and 88 new child care spaces.
- St. Brigid Catholic Elementary School in Ayr — A new 222 pupil place elementary school for Kindergarten to Grade 8 students that will also include 5 new licensed child care rooms and 88 new child care spaces.
- West Kitchener (Rosenberg 3) in Kitchener — A new 663 pupil place elementary school for Kindergarten to Grade 8 students that will also include 5 new licensed child care rooms and 88 new child care spaces.
- Sir Adam Beck Public School in Baden — A 92 pupil place addition to the existing building.

The investment will provide improved facilities and enhanced learning opportunities for more than a thousand students in the Waterloo Region. Families will also benefit from increased access to safe, high-quality licensed child care with 15 new child care rooms, resulting in 264 new licensed spaces for infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers.

Ontario is providing school boards across the province with more than \$11 billion over 10 years to help build new schools in areas of high growth, improve the condition of existing schools and invest in projects to reduce surplus space through school consolidations.

Ontario is also creating more licensed child care spaces in local schools to give children the opportunity to transition from child care into full-day kindergarten at the same location, making for an easier adjustment. The new spaces are being built in areas where there is significant demand, giving families more options when it comes to quality licensed child care that is close to home.

Giving students the best possible learning environment is part of the government's plan for Ontario. The four-part plan is building Ontario up by investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history, creating a dynamic, innovative environment where business thrives, and building a secure savings plan.

## QUOTES

“Our government has heard local families loud and clear. They want improved schools and better access to licensed child care that will provide a seamless transition into full-day kindergarten. This is an important investment for Ayr, Cambridge and all Waterloo Region students and their families.”

— Kathryn McGarry, MPP Cambridge

“Our government is proud to invest in capital projects that are improving students’ learning environment and increasing access to high-quality licensed child care.”

— Liz Sandals, Minister of Education

“St. Vincent de Paul and St. Brigid were built many years ago as ‘temporary’ schools to meet the needs of the two growing school communities. We’re very excited the time has come for both schools to put down firm, permanent roots in their neighbourhoods -- and we thank the government for its confidence in these two great school communities.”

— Loretta Notten, Director of Education, Waterloo Catholic District School Board

“Creating engaging learning environments for our students is vital to their success. We would like to thank the Ministry of Education for their continued support, and funding of our capital priorities.”

— John Bryant, Director of Education, Waterloo Region District School Board

## QUICK FACTS

- Since 2003, the province has invested about \$13.4 billion in local school infrastructure, including 755 new schools and more than 720 additions and renovations.
- Since 2003, the number of licensed child care spaces in Ontario has grown to nearly 351,000 – an increase of 87 per cent.
- In April 2015, the province announced \$120 million in new funding dedicated to [building safe, high-quality, licensed child care spaces in schools](#) across the province.
- New child care rooms built through this investment will accommodate children from birth until they are ready to enter full-day kindergarten.
- Offering more licensed child care spaces in schools aligns with the government’s commitment to support [community hubs](#) in offering client-focused, co-ordinated services such as child care, education, health care and social services.

## LEARN MORE

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Office of MPP Kathryn McGarry, 516-623-5852  
Alessandra Fusco, Minister’s Office, 416-212-3758  
Gary Wheeler, Communications Branch, 416-325-2454  
Public Inquiries, 416-325-2929 or 1-800-387-5514  
TTY 1-800-268-7095

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