

September 4, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Premier's Office Room 281 Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education 15<sup>th</sup> Floor 438 University Avenue Toronto, ON M7A 2A5

via email: <u>premier@ontario.ca</u> minister.edu@ontario.ca

## **RE: Closure of Before and After School Programs**

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Calandra.

The Council of the Municipality of Bluewater passed the following resolution at their September 2, 2025 regular meeting:

MOVED: Councillor Harris SECONDED: Councillor Whetstone

WHEREAS on August 19, 2025, London Bridge Child Care Services Inc. advised that they will be closing all London Bridge Huron County Before and After School Programs, which affects Bluewater Coast Elementary School, Exeter Elementary School, and Precious Blood Catholic School; and

**WHEREAS** London Bridge Child Care Services Inc. sites ongoing staffing shortages in Huron County and across the province as the reason for this closure; and

WHEREAS the closure of the London Bridge Before and After School Programs, along with the Preschool Program at Bluewater Coast Elementary School, are creating a significant and immediate challenge for families with young children; and

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Municipality of Bluewater recognizes the importance of before and after school programs which provide a trusted, safe, and consistent environment for children outside of regular school hours – support that many working parents and guardians rely on to balance their jobs and family responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS** the Avon Maitland District School Board and the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board do not operate licensed childcare programs, but partner with childcare providers to make use of school spaces where possible;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Municipality of Bluewater urges the Province of Ontario to immediately implement other service delivery models that are being successfully modeled elsewhere in the province to address the Early Childhood Educator shortage.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education, and all Ontario Municipalities. **CARRIED.** 

Sincerely,

Chandra Alexander

Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

cc: All Ontario Municipalities

Alexander