



**MEDIA RELEASE
STATE OF EMERGENCY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 25, 2020

Smiths Falls childcare centre to open at St. Francis de Sales beginning June 29

Smiths Falls – The Town of Smiths Falls is pleased to announce re-opening of municipal childcare at St. Francis de Sales Catholic School effective Monday, June 29.

“We are pleased to report we have received Health Unit approval to open St. Francis as a childcare centre as of Monday,” said Art Manhire, Director of Community Services for the Town of Smiths Falls. “We are working hard to ensure the appropriate health and safety protocols are in place to keep children and staff safe.”

In response to the provincial State of Emergency the Thurber Street Child Development Centre was closed on March 18. On June 9, the province of Ontario announced daycare centres would be permitted to re-open across the province. Since then Town staff have been working around the clock to put into place the health measures and provincial requirements needed before re-opening the municipal daycare.

As of June 25, St. Francis de Sales has received Health Unit approval to open as a temporary childcare centre location in Smiths Falls. There will be limited space available at this location.

Municipal staff have been reaching out to families and a call for registrations will be made immediately. More information on the re-opening of the Child Development Centre will be announced as it becomes available.

“At the moment we are working to re-open the Thurber Street centre. We understand parents need to have access to daycare in order to return to work and are doing everything we can to facilitate this,” said Manhire. “More information will be released as soon as it’s available and we ask residents to remain patient for the time being.”

To register for a space at the daycare please email jarthur@smithsfalls.ca or call 613-284-8425 for registration information.

For more information about the State of Emergency in Smiths Falls and actions taken by the Town of Smiths Falls in response to Stage 1 and 2 re-opening, please visit the Town website at: www.smithsfalls.ca/covid-19-coronavirus/town-of-smithsfalls-news-releases.

For additional information on COVID-19, please contact the Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit at 1-800-660-5853 or visit their website at www.healthunit.org/coronavirus.

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For further information, please contact:

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