

[Date]

Hon. Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
438 University Avenue
7th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

Dear Minister Parsa,

Thank you for your recent visit to Lansdowne Children's Centre in Brantford. Lansdowne is a cornerstone of our community and your visit demonstrates your commitment to delivering the quality of care that Ontario's children and youth deserve.

Your visit also fills us and our community with excitement that Lansdowne is one step closer to obtaining Stage 1 planning approval to advance the construction of a new state-of-the-art facility to replace their aging building. Lansdowne's dedicated team has optimized the space available to them and adopted virtual services where available, allowing them to accommodate triple the number of children and doubling their onsite staff. However, the demand from the 2,449 children and families on Lansdowne's waitlist is beyond what the centre can physically accommodate.

As you know, children cannot afford to wait. Thousands of children and youth in our community are missing developmental milestones, and many are at risk of significant long-term health problems. Without expansion, children will continue to sit on the waitlist and miss critical care windows; the challenges they face will compound as they age and become more difficult to address.

Lansdowne began planning its expansion over a decade ago, working closely with the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services every step of the way. Not only has Lansdowne demonstrated a tireless commitment to the children and families of our community, but they have also set an example through collaboration, discussion, and teamwork with your Ministry to refine and finalize a suitable Business Case.

For this reason, I am proud to offer my support for Lansdowne's request for Stage 1 planning approval, and respectfully ask that you prioritize Lansdowne through your Ministry's results-based planning process later this year.

Thank you again for your time and commitment to the children and youth of our community. Together, we will make Lansdowne's vision a reality.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title]