

## **Information for Caregivers and Parents about Child Care Under the *Day Nurseries Act***

The *Day Nurseries Act* (DNA) is the law governing child care in Ontario.

The DNA allows a person to care for a maximum of five unrelated children (other than their own children, if the care is provided in the home of the children) under the age of 10 without a licence. This is the maximum number of children who can be in care at any time without a licence, regardless of the number of adults present.

The DNA includes the authority for a program adviser to enter and inspect a home where it is believed that child care is being provided to more than five children without a licence. The DNA also sets out the authority for a program adviser to inspect and collect information including enrolment records of the children being received into care

Representatives from the Ministry of Education (list region here) Regional Office visited this location today. Based on today's observations, care was being provided to more than five children under the age of 10 years.

The caregiver has been advised to reduce the number of children in care under ten years, not of common parentage, to no more than five.

If one caregiver brings the children in their care to the home of another caregiver so that there are more than five children under ten years of age in the one home, who are not of common parentage, a licence would be required under the DNA.

### **Licensed Child Care:**

The DNA states that no person shall establish, operate or maintain a day nursery (child care centre) without the authority of a licence. Day nurseries must meet all relevant requirements of the DNA and ministry policy to be licensed.

### **Obtaining Information about licensed child care:**

#### **a) Via the internet:**

1. The *Day Nurseries Act* is available at:

[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_90d02\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90d02_e.htm)

Regulation 262 under the DNA is available at:

[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regq/english/elaws\\_regs\\_900262\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regq/english/elaws_regs_900262_e.htm)

2. General information about licensed child care in Ontario: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/index.html>

3. Information about licensed child care programs is available at Ontario's Licensed Child Care Website:

<http://www.iaccess.gov.on.ca/LCCWWeb/childcare/search.xhtml>

#### **b) By phone:**

Ministry of Education, Child Care Quality Assurance and Licensing, X Region at: XXX

**Complaints:**

The ministry follows up on complaints about possible violations of the DNA. Any person convicted of operating a day nursery (child care centre) or private-home daycare agency without the authority of a licence is liable to a fine of not more than \$2,000 for each day of operation and/or imprisonment for up to one year.

If you have questions about the requirements of the DNA contact the Ministry's XX Regional Office, Child Care Quality Assurance and Licensing, at XX.