

# Andrew Fleck Children's Services Intergenerational Early Learning Centre at Perley Health

## Frequently Asked Questions

February 24, 2026

### General Information

#### What is the Andrew Fleck Children's Services Intergenerational Early Learning Centre at Perley Health?

It is a licensed child care centre that will bring together young children and seniors in a shared environment designed to foster meaningful intergenerational connections. It is operated by Andrew Fleck Children's Services (AFCS), an experienced not-for-profit agency.

#### Who can apply?

Perley Health employees who are the parent or legal guardian of a child, or currently expecting, who may require child care.

#### What is different about this centre?

The Intergenerational Early Learning Centre features intergenerational programming, where children and seniors interact and build meaningful relationships. This approach enriches experiences for all generations by promoting social connection and learning.

#### Where will the centre be located?

The Intergenerational Early Learning Centre will be situated on the first floor of Perley Centre, directly across from the pharmacy.

#### What changes are taking place at Perley Health to construct the child care centre?

In July 2025, construction started on the Intergenerational Early Learning Centre. It is being created by renovating and expanding existing space in Perley Centre (across from the pharmacy and near Deborah's Gift Boutique), extending into the courtyard between the Ottawa Residence and Rideau Veterans Residence.

#### When is the Intergenerational Early Learning Centre expected to open?

The planned opening is Spring 2026.

#### What are the proven benefits of intergenerational programs?

Research shows that these programs offer numerous benefits to both seniors and children, including improved physical and cognitive health, increased social engagement, and enhanced emotional well-being.

#### How is the Perley Health Foundation involved?

The Foundation's "Bridging Generations" campaign is raising \$2 million to expand and enhance the intergenerational program, creating dedicated, purpose-built spaces to foster meaningful connections.

# The Role of the Centre of Excellence

## How is the Perley Health Centre of Excellence in Frailty-Informed Care™ involved?

The Centre of Excellence will play a pivotal role in researching and supporting the Intergenerational Early Learning Centre.

### What will the research focus on?

The Centre of Excellence will take a structured approach to evaluate:

- Facility design and its impact on interactions.
- Individual participation and engagement levels.

### What is a “frailty-informed care lens”?

By applying this lens, the Centre of Excellence ensures that the program is safe, meaningful, and tailored to the unique needs of older adults and children.

## Operations, Capacity, and Facilities

### What is the total licensed capacity?

The Intergenerational Early Learning Centre will be licensed for 49 spaces, separated into the following cohorts:

- **Infant spaces:** 10
- **Toddler spaces:** 15
- **Preschool spaces:** 24

### What are the hours of operation?

The program is expected to operate Monday to Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Will weekend or overnight care be available?

The Intergenerational Early Learning Centre will not be offering overnight child care. Weekend hours may be possible in the future, subject to additional funding.

### Will the Intergenerational Early Learning Centre offer bilingual or multilingual child care?

While the Intergenerational Early Learning Centre anticipates having some French-speaking staff, it will not offer fully bilingual or multilingual child care programs.

### Will the new centre be accessible and support children with special needs?

Yes, the Intergenerational Early Learning Centre will be fully accessible, including wide doorways to accommodate wheelchairs and mobility devices. AFCS program facilitators are committed to inclusivity and are trained to provide comprehensive care for children with a wide range of needs.

### Will there be an outdoor play area?

Yes, the Intergenerational Early Learning Centre will include dedicated outdoor play areas.

### What is the impact on the adjacent courtyard?

The building expansion will have some impact on the existing courtyard. We are working to minimize disruption while enhancing the space for everyone.

# Activities and Staffing

## What intergenerational activities are planned?

The Intergenerational Early Learning Centre will offer daily opportunities for interaction, including shared reading, art projects, puzzles, outdoor play, and lunch in the cafeteria.

## Will children visit long-term care resident units?

Yes, children will visit resident units at scheduled times.

## What are the staffing plans for the Intergenerational Early Learning Centre?

The team will include three Registered Early Childhood Educators in each of the three program rooms, plus an assistant and an onsite Program Coordinator.

# Cost and Fee Subsidy

## How much will the care cost?

Cost will be determined under the Canada-Wide Early Learning & Child Care (CWELCC) System.

## Will the Child Care Fee Subsidy be available?

Yes, the Child Care Fee Subsidy will be available for families that are eligible.

## Is the fee subsidy available to staff residing in Quebec?

Perley Health staff and their families living in Quebec are eligible to use the centre for the same daily rate as Ottawa residents. However, the additional City of Ottawa Child Care Fee Subsidy is only available to residents of Ottawa.

# Eligibility and Registration

## Who has priority for a child care space?

Perley Health permanent staff (Full-Time, Part-Time, and Casual) will have priority access. Temporary employees are not eligible for priority access.

## What is the current status of staff registration?

The first registration period has closed. We thank the community for their interest.

- **Applicants between Nov 14 – Jan 9:** You will be contacted in March regarding space availability.
- **Waitlist Status:** All families must add their child to the City of Ottawa waitlist once it is available. You will maintain your original waitlist position based on your application.

## How is priority for spaces determined?

- **Initial Cohort (Nov to Jan):** Spaces were prioritized by the staff member's seniority (Date of Hire).
- **Future Applications:** All future applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis based on the date of the application to register.
- **Hierarchy:** If staff members share the same date of hire, priority is given to Permanent Full-Time (PFT), then Permanent Part-Time (PPT), then Casual. Full-time child care spots are prioritized to avoid unfilled spaces.

## What if I don't receive a space during the initial period?

Applicants will remain on the waiting list, and spaces will continue to be offered based on their position.

# Attendance and Withdrawal

## What is the requirement for starting attendance after a space is accepted?

Parents must begin attendance within two weeks of the agreed-upon start date. The parent must also be actively employed by Perley Health within 14 days of the child's first day of care.

## What if I don't need a space right away?

If offered a space you are not ready for, you may pass but keep your waitlist position for a potential future offer.

## What happens if my employment at Perley Health ends after my child is enrolled?

The child will lose priority access and will be withdrawn if a waitlist exists for that age group (with 60 days' advance notice).

## Can I keep my child in care while I am on parental leave?

Yes, families can choose to keep their child in care if they plan to return to work at Perley Health after their leave.

## How much notice is required for voluntary withdrawal?

Families must provide a minimum of 15 business days' written notice.

## How does the public get considered?

If spaces remain after eligible staff requests are fulfilled, they are offered to the public based on their application date on the Centralized Wait List.

# Updates and Contacts

## How can I stay connected and receive updates?

Visit [PerleyHealth.ca/generations-connected](https://PerleyHealth.ca/generations-connected). We are planning a formal registration process and will share details regarding an open house as we get closer to the opening date.

## Who should I contact with further questions?

- **Waitlist/Registration:** Contact the AFCS Parent Navigator, Nicole, at [PN@afchildrensservices.ca](mailto:PN@afchildrensservices.ca).
- **General Questions:** Contact [info@perleyhealth.ca](mailto:info@perleyhealth.ca).