



November 21, 2017

Dear Parents –

Family Services Ottawa is pleased to be offering the group for parents of gender creative/gender independent children. As some of you know, this is a relatively new group that has seen the demand for service grow considerably in a short time. When we began a few years ago, there were between 8 – 10 parents who attended each month. Most recently, we are seeing over 20 parents attend on a regular basis.

At this point we would like to review the design of the group and make some changes so that we can more effectively meet the needs of parents with gender creative/gender independent children. In order to do this, we will take a short pause on delivering the group. This means that there will be no group on December 11 and December 19. We plan to resume the group in January 2018.

The December pause will include research, consultation with parents (possibly through focus groups), colleagues and other organizations. If you would like to contribute your thoughts to our redesign, please send me your contact information.

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In the meantime, the Rainbow Families group will continue – the next event is Saturday December 2 at Mothercraft. It will be a special seasonal event, and I hope that you are able to attend with your child (ren). The youth group, Transcend will also continue - the next meeting is Monday November 27 here at Family Services Ottawa. In addition to the group, Family Services provides individual and family counselling through our counselling programs. If you are interested in this service, please call and ask to speak to our intake worker 613 725-3601.

Thank you for being part of such an important program, and I am looking forward to continuing to work with you. Please watch our website for updates.

Laurie Rektor

Director, Community Programs

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