



## Health Benefits Plan Update

### Upcoming Changes to Your Claims Platform

As of June 1, your health benefits plan will use a new platform! There will be no change to your plan, only the platform in which you submit your claims and view your plan information is changing. You will be able to access your claim forms booklets and benefit information all in one place – and this is all easily accessible wherever you are, on any device. Electronic claims submission will also be available at health practitioners including physio, chiropractor, massage, and more.

### Renewal

Offering an industry leading benefits package to members is very important to the OCBCC. It provides protection for your employees, makes it easier for you to attract and retain qualified staff, and also helps to grow the coalition's membership base. As the membership base grows, our ability to advocate strongly and effectively on behalf of our sector grows as well. We are truly stronger together.

We are pleased to report that the April 1, 2018 OCBCC Benefits Plan renewal turned out as anticipated once again. There is predictability and stability that comes from being a part of a larger group, as well as a broad range of coverages, flexibility and buying power.

The average increase to plan was 6.4% - in contrast with an average increase across most carriers of 12% amidst inflationary pressures. We are pleased to continue to provide strong value to OCBCC members and we thank you for your support.

### More Members Experience More Value

The plan continues to grow and there are now more centres and staff participating than ever before. Since February 1, 2016 the number of childcare workers covered through the OCBCC health benefits program has grown by 114%, equal to approximately 679 new members on the plan.

### OCBCC UPDATE:

- Health Benefits Plan Update
- Happy International Women's Day!
- 2019 Provincial Budget
- Three Big Ideas

## Your Benefits Plan Comes with More

The OCBCC knows you take pride in your employees. That's why we are proud to continue to offer members one of the most comprehensive and cost-effective employee benefit plans in Canada.

Our benefit plan includes the standard coverage your employees expect, with additional unique features that emphasize value and protection. A few examples are:



### Serious Illness & Critical Disease Coverage

Your plan members (under age 65) are protected with a tax-free lump sum benefit in the event of a serious illness like cancer, heart attack, stroke, or kidney failure.



### LifeWorks - Employee & Family Assistance Program

LifeWorks is your plan's Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP). Your employees have access to certified counselling and support through life's challenges.



### Travel Cancellation Coverage

There are many reasons a trip could be cancelled unexpectedly. Travel cancellation insurance allows plan members to regain lost expenses related to cancelling a trip.



### Disability Management Services

Receive support through complex disability claims. Disability experts work with your employees to manage the claims process and get your employees back to work safely, and quickly.

## Adding new employees to your plan is now easier than ever

The OCBCC plan is one of the first in Canada to offer online enrolment for you and your staff. Included as part of your plan, online enrolment is quick, easy, and secure. Your staff can enroll from anywhere, using any device, in minutes. Save time and enjoy the convenience and accuracy of online benefit enrolment today.

## Happy International Women's Day!

International Women's Day is a great chance to point to the importance of child care to achieve women's equality and gender justice, and to call for equal pay for the child care workforce. On March 9th, 2019, the OCBCC worked with partners to organize a strong child care brigade at this year's International Women's Day March in Toronto.

The theme for this year's march was "we are fearless!", which perfectly captures the strength and solidarity in the child care community.



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ONTARIO COALITION FOR  
Better Child Care

# Looking ahead to the 2019 Provincial Budget

Since January, the OCBCCC's members and supporters have been hard at work meeting, writing and calling their MPPs to ensure that politicians hear how important it is that this year's Ontario Budget continues important investments in licensed child care. In response to concerns about the future of wage enhancement funding, our members have collected over 12,000 petition signatures calling for the continuation of the grant. We will continue to press on this issue and for greater, smarter investment in child care in line with our 3 Big Ideas!

You can write or call your MPP by using our simple template:  
[http://www.childcareontario.org/petition\\_email\\_template](http://www.childcareontario.org/petition_email_template)

## Three Big Ideas to Transform Child Care

All of the OCBCCC's campaigns and submissions to government are driven by our vision of an early learning and child care system for all, based on three Big Ideas:

1. Affordable fees for families supported by operational funding for programs
2. Decent work and professional pay for educators and
3. Expansion of public and non-profit child care.

Read more about our Three Big Ideas: [http://www.childcareontario.org/build\\_a\\_better\\_future](http://www.childcareontario.org/build_a_better_future)



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Ferns".

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