**Pre-Primary Program – Phase 3**

**Messages and Q&A**

**General Messages:**

* Hundreds more children across the province will have access to pre-primary in September.
* We know that access to early learning programs the year before children enter school supports life-long success.
* This year, 56 new school communities will receive the program. By 2020, all four-year-olds in Nova Scotia will have access to pre-primary.

**The NSTU has filed a grievance saying teachers should deliver the PPP program rather than ECE’s. Are you concerned this will impact ECE recruitment?**

As with any grievance there is a process that must take place. I can’t speculate on what may happen, but we are confident that we will be able to recruit early childhood educators to deliver the program.

**Do you think you can recruit enough early childhood educators to launch the new locations in September? The timeline is ambitious.**

We have successfully recruited early childhood educators for all our existing pre-primary sites as those announcements were made. We’re confident that we will be able to recruit for this phase too.

**Some schools receiving the program this year are experiencing space issues. Could this result in portables?**

If portables are required, they will be used as and where appropriate. This is a decision that is made with the schools. We know that our early childhood educators will be able to turn a portable space into a wonderful experience for four-year-olds.

**What about ‘out of catchment’?  Will you open your doors for children to attend pre-primary that are not in the catchment area of the school?**

This past September, a policy was developed to enable schools who were not at full capacity in enrollment to consider including children from out of catchment.  This will continue this year until the complete roll out of pre-primary in 2020.  Schools will then use their existing out of catchment processes to manage requests from families.