TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO:

WHEREAS, the regulations from the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014 (CCEYA) coming into effect as of September 2017 have forced City of Ottawa recreation centres to limit their childcare availability, and to stop caring for children under age 6 completely; and

WHEREAS, this policy will result in many parents being forced to find alternative care for their children, and possibly having to separate siblings into more than one care facility; and

WHEREAS, waitlists and the high costs of alternative child care spaces, lack of availability of before and after school care at many schools and the cuts to independent childcare operator spaces are all causing hardships for parents; and

WHEREAS, the CCEYA will cause direct, negative financial and psychological impacts on families across the city, especially on suburban and rural families who are reliant on City of Ottawa recreation centre childcare; and

WHEREAS, parents, and not the government, are the best judge of what childcare option will be the safest choice and best for their own children;

THEREFORE, we the undersigned, petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows: To immediately amend the regulations accompanying the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014, to ensure that the needs of families in the City of Ottawa are the top priority.

Name (Printed)	Address (Printed)	Signature	Email address