

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

November 28, 2009

New Childcare Facility Scheduled to Open in September 2010
Spa Night Fundraiser and Information Night being held December 10th.

STRATFORD- With a well-documented lack of good quality daycare spaces available in Stratford and area, a handful of Stratford parents have stepped up to address the issue head-on.

Scheduled to open its doors in September 2010, Sprouts Early Learning Cooperative Childcare Centre will have an initial capacity of 72 children. The centre will offer high-quality, flexible care with a cooperative component for parents who wish to participate in their children's care.

Managing Director Rebekah Zinger has long been interested in establishing a unique childcare option in Stratford and is pleased to be working to fulfill her dream, one that should have a significant and positive impact on the status of childcare in Stratford.

"Sprouts will be unlike any other childcare that currently exists in Stratford," states Zinger, "While there are others locally that offer the cooperative model, Sprouts will be deploying an Emergent Curriculum versus the more traditional, adult-imposed curriculum widely used by schools and childcare facilities."

An Emergent Curriculum focuses on each individual child's interests, encouraging children to learn about themselves and the world around them through investigation and discovery, and through art, dramatic play, and social interactions. This establishes a strong foundation through which children develop their self-esteem, a sense of belonging and a sense of self worth.

While September seems a long way off, there is a lot of planning and coordination that needs to take place between now and then. To get the ball rolling, the drivers behind this project have formed a board and are planning fundraising and awareness initiatives in the community. The first of these events, a Spa Night at the Stratford Rotary Complex, is taking place December 10th from 6-10 pm.

The Sprouts board members are looking forward to the event and hope that people will take this opportunity to treat themselves to some pampering before the holidays get into full swing. "At only \$20 a ticket, there is no better time to do something for yourself while supporting this incredibly worthy cause," says Zinger. "And this is a social event, so people are invited to get together with friends and make it a night out."

With less than two weeks left until the event, tickets are going fast, so people interested in this exciting event are urged to get their tickets soon. A limited number of tickets will also be available at the door for \$25.

Tickets can be purchased at The Green Hair Spa and Sirkel Foods (both downtown Stratford) or by contacting Rebekah at 519-274-0101 or info@sproutskooperative.com. For regular Sprouts updates, join them on Facebook.