Child Care and Learning Centre (CCLC) Outdoor Learning Environment

The University of Guelph’s CCLC needs to transform its outdoor learning spaces for to develop the optimal facility for our clients and for training student practitioners. While the overall cost of the project is $1M, we are only looking to raise $350,000 from our donors.

**Impact Statement:**

Incorporating a naturalized outdoor learning environment of this size and scope, with its accessibility to the campus community and beyond, will further support U of G’s reputation and commitment to early learning and childcare sector. Children today experience a nature-deficit and are missing out on a positive connection to nature in their early development years.

By investing in a new outdoor space, the children will have a place that is stimulating, diverse, and engaging, one that affords opportunities for cognitive and dramatic play, experimentation and learning.

**Goals:**

Recent research has shown the positive impact outdoor learning has on children, including intellectual, emotional, social, spiritual and physical well-being. The CCLC not only serves 121 children each year, providing accessible childcare to our campus community and beyond, it also supports approximately 60 experiential learning placements for students.

Support raised will:

- Replace current outdoor structures that are reaching the end of their lifetime
- Update the preschool playground and toddler outdoor play space
- Create access to the sports grounds
- Significantly expand and create a fenced green space
- Add a gathering circle with amphitheater-style seating and a covered porch

Learn more at [alumni.uoguelph.ca/funding-priorities](http://alumni.uoguelph.ca/funding-priorities) or contact [alumni@uoguelph.ca](mailto:alumni@uoguelph.ca)