

eccdc

early childhood community development centre



Commitment Dedication
Collaboration Gratitude
Success Professionalism
Achievement Commitment
Dedication Collaboration
Gratitude Success
Professionalism

Achievement Commitment
Dedication Collaboration
Gratitude Success

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Dedication Collaboration

Gratitude Success

Professionalism Achievement

Commitment Dedication Collaboration

2015/16

Annual Community Report



“ ECCDC is such a valuable resource in our community and we are so fortunate to have them at our disposal at any given moment. They have adapted well with the multitude of ongoing changes over the years. As a result, we have been able to access current and valuable literature, curriculum resources, professional development and many networking opportunities. ECCDC has been, and continues to be, an integral component of my professional growth and my commitment to the field of Early Childhood Education.

”

Mission, Vision & Values

Mission

Inspiring excellence in early learning and child care.

Vision

The leading source of innovative supports for early learning and child care.

Values

Collaboration • We work with like-minded organizations to respond to the emerging needs of the early learning and child care community.

Innovation • We are dedicated to pursuing the development of quality products and services that stimulate early learning in young children.

Leadership • We bring our courage, conviction and guidance to creating supports that nurture the healthy development of children.

Respect • We support, recognize and honour the early learning professional as pivotal to the healthy development of children.

Professionalism • We bring together knowledge and expertise to mentor those working in early learning and child care settings to be at their best.



“ I have so much gratitude for the leadership of ECCDC. Niagara (and beyond) has had so many meaningful opportunities to share our needs, network to enhance our communication, participate in meaningful learning and celebrate our successes. Thank you! ”

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“ I have had the distinct privilege of presenting with the ECCDC, a leading provider of professional development in the early years. During our collaborations they offered high quality and engaging experiences for educators across Ontario and beyond. It is truly an honour to work with and learn from the best in the early childhood field! Their commitment to our youngest learners is inspiring. ”

Joanne Marie Babalis, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed., OCT. Teacher, PhD Student, Blogger, Speaker

“

I think the services being offered are wonderful. I have had the opportunity to dialogue with ECEs from other communities and realize how fortunate we are in Niagara to have the ECCDC. Thank you for all you do and for being on the cutting edge!

”



Inspired Directions: A Message from the Board of Directors and Executive Director

The leading source of innovative supports for early learning and child care for more than 20 years!

The Early Childhood Community Development Centre underwent a significant journey over the past year as we reflected, reconsidered, and contemplated the way in which we offer our services to align with, honour, and respect *How Does Learning Happen; Ontario's Early Years Pedagogy*. We continue to take great care in considering new strategies and approaches to supporting the ongoing journey of educators in bringing *How Does Learning Happen* and legislation changes to life within their daily practice.

Throughout 2015 the ECCDC team continued to engage in an intense strategic planning process to guide the organization's activities through to 2019. The plan represented the culmination of over a year of stakeholder consultation, community surveying, board/staff retreats, and ongoing conversations with partners. It included a new mission and vision for the organization, the development of core operating values, and five ambitious strategic directions.

1. Expanding our community outreach to better serve early learning professionals
2. Enhancing the innovation of quality resources in early learning
3. Increasing opportunities for coaching and support for early learning professionals
4. Providing quality professional learning experiences for the early learning community
5. Strengthening our organizational capacity to enable growth in services

Expanding our community outreach through the resource delivery service, coaching and mentoring services, and customized training both inside and outside of Niagara continues to be a priority. The development of the ECCDC E-store has enabled educators to gain broader access to a range of pedagogy and curriculum materials. Our attention will now turn to developing further strategies for enhancing library borrowing opportunities throughout Niagara, including possible sites in other municipalities within partner locations.

Our organization's Coaching and Mentoring Services has been growing steadfastly as organizations consider embedding *How Does Learning Happen* and new legislation into their policies and practices. Our Team has reconsidered tools, strategies and approaches when offering program consultation, environmental design services, as well as pedagogy and Board development. We were thrilled to begin a new service with Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds in the summer of 2015 to support programs in transforming their outdoor spaces into beautiful naturalized landscapes where children and educators may thrive, while at the same time, ensuring staff teams have the training and outdoor materials to transform their pedagogy and practice outdoors.

Inspired Directions: A Message from the Board of Directors and Executive Director

As always, a large focus of our organization throughout 2015 and into 2016 was researching and coordinating cutting edge and inspiring speakers. Innovative professional learning opportunities and communities of practice bring new perspectives to educators within and outside of Niagara and contribute to the building of strong relationships and professional networks of support. The ECCDC continues to be able to offer these events at a low cost, which affords educators an opportunity to see internationally and nationally known speakers, researchers and authors.

Another area that continues to be a priority for our organization is ensuring that our own team has the knowledge and skills necessary to support an increasingly sophisticated sector through completing skills and knowledge inventories, developing ongoing professional development plans and looking for opportunities to gain new international perspectives. Increasing our capacity to provide timely information and research of emerging trends continues to be a focus for our team.

We are grateful to have had the opportunity to serve all of our stakeholders and work collaboratively with our partners during the past year and we look forward to another rewarding year of supporting Ontario's early learning transformation. Thank you for inspiring us to strive for excellence in all that we do!



Kim Cole
ECCDC Board Chair



Lorrey Arial Bonilla
ECCDC Executive Director

“ I believe your services are excellent and serve as an example for other communities. Professionals in other areas are extremely fortunate to be able to fully access your services. ”

“ As a group member of the ECCDC, we have had the privilege of having access to tremendous mentoring support. The ECCDC Staff's knowledge of various topics throughout our mentoring has proven their level of expertise. Their welcoming, respectful and courteous nature is what makes the ECCDC stand out. We recommend that all centres become members of the ECCDC, as there is so much to access. I couldn't imagine being a centre without having ECCDC being part of our team. We want to say thank you in helping us through the process of transforming our centre into the best we can offer to the children and their families in our community. ”

Valerie Chase, Administrative Director and Owner, Mini Retreat Child Care Inc.

“ Speech Services Niagara considers the ECCDC as one of its integral partners. Over the years we have worked together on many initiatives and find all of the staff incredibly creative, flexible and receptive to new ideas.

Having our workshops offered at the ECCDC and advertised through Esteem magazine is a practical way for us to reach as many educators in the Niagara area as we can, and as efficiently as possible. The staff are serious about their work and have acknowledged the importance of our message to early childhood educators regarding facilitating language and literacy development.”

Jackie Vanlankveld, Manager Speech Services Niagara



Our Passionate Team ~ Nothing Without Joy

Board of Directors

Kim Cole, Board President
Kristine Flora, Vice-President
Debbie Bent, Secretary/Treasurer
Donna Dalglish, Director
Shelley Fehrman, Director
Jackie Kerry, Director
Dean Stunt, Director

Staff Members

Lorrey Arial Bonilla, Executive Director • 20 years
Patricia Couroux, Quality Child Care Niagara Coordinator • 2 years
Darlene Drouin, Information Systems Administrator • 7 years
Mary Joan Furtney, Part Time Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 10 years
Shari Hill, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 8 years
Jessie Jones, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 2 years
Stephanie Matthews, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 1.5 years
Cheryl McMillan, Finance & I.T. Infrastructure Manager • 21 years
Jennifer Mosher, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 9 years
Kelly Rempel, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 6 years
Julie Thompson, Publications Administrator • 16 years
Ginette Wilson, Early Learning & Child Care Program Consultant • 2 years

Students and Volunteers

We are grateful for our partnerships with the Early Childhood Education Program at Niagara College, and the Bachelor of Early Childhood Education Program, Child Studies Program and Goodman School of Business at Brock University. We take great pride in offering students innovative field internship opportunities and we gain so much in return from the students through our rich dialogue and exchange. Thank you to all of the students who contributed wisdom, curiosity, excitement, and creativity to our work this year, our services were stronger because of each of you.



Wordle created during ECCDC Strategic Planning



“ My colleagues and I will drive for two hours just to attend seminars and training with the ECCDC. Everything we have taken has been so valuable and useful. The ECCDC is a great asset to the Early Learning and Care field. ”

Building Rich Relationships with Community

Community Planning

Our staff team participates on a number of community committees to support collaborative planning. This important aspect of the ECCDC's work allows us the honour of working with individuals who are dedicated to supporting Niagara's early learning and child care sector, Niagara's youngest children, and their families.

- Niagara Children's Planning Council and Affiliate Pillar Committees
- Quality Child Care Niagara Advisory Committee
- Niagara Child Care Sector Executive Committee
- Niagara College Early Childhood Education Program Advisory Committee
- Niagara's Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence Planning Committee
- Niagara Emergent Literacy Consortium
- Niagara Infant Mental Health Advisory Committee
- Niagara Fathering Network
- Young Children Priority First with the Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara
- Niagara's Collaborative Training Coalition
- Comité de la petite enfance
- Niagara Nature Alliance, Executive Director Network, Child Care Supervisor Network, Reflective Practice Emergent Network and Child Care Cooks Network

ECCDC's Group Members and Collaborative Partners

- A Child's World Family Child Care Services of Niagara
ACW Child Care - Country Kids, Ferndale, First Friends, Forestview, Glenridge Hill, Lookout Ridge, Niagara Community, Oakwood, Tiny Travellers, Woodlawn
ACW Child Care/Early Learning - Connaught, Crystal Beach, E.W.

- Farr, Kids World, Princess Margaret
- ACW Early Learning - Cherrywood Acres, McKay, Riverview, Sacred Heart, St. Andrew, Stevensville, Woodland
- Algonquin College
- Anna's Day Care
- Association of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario
- Au Coin des Petits – Centre Prescolaire
- Autism Ontario – Niagara Chapter
- Back to Nature Network
- Beacon Christian School
- Beamsville Early Learning & Child Care Centre
- Bethesda Services
- Bethlehem Housing & Support Services
- Beyond Montessori School Inc
- Big Bay Publishing
- Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds
- Boys & Girls Club of Niagara - Kids First Daycare, Kids First Child Care Centre 2, Kids First Child Care Centre 3, Kids First Child Care Centre 4, Kids First Child Care Centre 5
- Brock University
- Business Education Council
- C. Sisters of the Sacred Hearts Children's Day Care
- Canadian Wildlife Federation
- Centre de santé communautaire Hamilton/Niagara
- Child's View Co-operative Child Care Services - Grandview Community Daycare, Lakeview B&A School Program, Lakeview Community Daycare Cooperative

Building Rich Relationships with Community

- Cindy Green and Associates
- City of Stratford
- College of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario
- Community Living St. Catharines - Preschool Services
- Community Living Welland Pelham - Children's Services
- Compass Early Learning and Care
- Contact Niagara
- CSDCCS - Ecole elementaire catholique Notre-Dame-de-la-Jeuness, Sacre-Cœur, Ecole elementaire catholique Saint-Francois-d'Assise, Ecole elementaire catholique Immaculee-Conception
- Diane Kashin and York Region Nature Collaborative
- District School Board of Niagara - Richmond Street Public School, Ferndale Public School, Park Public School, Central Public School, St. David's Public School, Nelles Public School, Prince Philip N. Public School, Pine Grove Public School
- Emmett and Associates
- Family & Children's Services - OEYC Niagara Centre, Bunting Child Care Program, West Niagara Resource Consultants Group, Western Hill Child Care Program
- Fort Erie Co-operative Preschool
- Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre/Aboriginal Headstart
- Future Access
- Garden City Nursery School - Nelephant Montessori School, Nelephant Montessori Toddler Program
- Gay Douglas and Associates
- George Brown College
- Glendale Day Care Centre
- Grapeview Day Care
- Great Lakes Christian Preschool
- Grimsby Co-op Preschool
- Kids Kastle Co-op
- Kidzdome Preschool and Kidzdome Preschool - Nelles
- Kinder Haus Day Care
- Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara
- La Boîte à soleil - Empress, Nouvelle Horizon, La Marsh, Fitch, Saint Joseph, Dalewood
- La Petite Etoile De Niagara Inc
- Les Coccinelles Zelees
- Literacy Link Niagara
- London Bridge Child Care
- Maple Crest Early School
- Michael Lewis Training
- Mini Retreat Child Care
- Niagara Area Home School Group
- Niagara Best Start French Language Advisory Committee and affiliate organizations
- Niagara Catholic District School Board - St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School, St. Edward Catholic Elementary School, Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School, St. Christopher Catholic Elementary School, School Success Coordinators
- Niagara Children's Centre
- Niagara Children's Centre - Infant & Preschool Services
- Niagara College Canada
- Niagara Indigenous Children's Planning Council and affiliate organizations
- Niagara Nursery School & Child Care Centre

Building Rich Relationships with Community

- Niagara Region Children's Services - Niagara Region Home Child Care Practitioners, Branscombe Early Learning & Family Centre, Fort Erie Regional Child Care Centre, Welland Regional Child Care Centre, Niagara Region - Resource Teachers for Ch. w/ Sp. Needs, Niagara Region - Program Support
- Niagara Region Public Health Department
- Niagara Regional Native Centre
- Niagara Support Services
- Niagara's Public Libraries
- North End Co-op Preschool
- OEYC - Niagara Falls (NCDSB)
- OEYC St. Catharines
- Ontario Ministry of Education
- Ontario Reggio Association
- Parent & Family Literacy Centre - Fort Erie North, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines North, St. Catharines South, Welland
- Pathstone Mental Health and Pathstone Mental Health Resource Consultants, Non-Resource Consultants & Volunteers
- Power Glen Early Learning & Child Care
- Quality Child Care Niagara Advisory Committee and Affiliate Organizations
- Ridley College
- Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care
- Seven C's Christian Child Care Centre
- Skycomp Solutions
- Speech Services Niagara
- St. Catharines Home Child Care Network
- St. Thomas Children's Day Care
- Stamford Green Day Nursery
- Strive Niagara - Branscombe Early Learning & Parenting Centre, CAPC Niagara Brighter Futures, Greendale B&A School Care, Quaker B&A School Care, Sven H. Donhberg Centre, Welland Parent Child Care Centre
- The Day Care Centre and The Day Care Centre 2 - A Special Place
- Thorold Community Child Care Services
- Top of the Ridge Day Care
- Trail Ridge Montessori Preschool
- TransformED
- Under the Rainbow - Wakanioten Child Care
- Valley Way Day Care Centre Inc. - Valley Way Day Care Centre, Valley Way Day Care Centre – Mary Ward, Valley Way Day Care Centre – St. Ann, Petit Avenue Nursery School
- Way to Grow - St. David's, St. Martin, St. Nicholas, Pelham, St. Catharines
- Wee Watch Private Home Day Care
- YMCA Child Care - Alexander Kuska, Alexandra, Assumption, Canadian Martyrs, Cardinal Newman, Carleton, Central, College Street, Crossroads, Durdan/Loretto, Father Fogarty, Father Hennepin, Glen Ridge, Glendale, Glynn A Green, Gracefield, Grapeview, Henley House, Holy Name, Jacob Beam, Jeanne Sauve, Lockview, Memorial, Mother Teresa, Oakridge, Orchard Park, Our Lady of Fatima-Grimsby, Our Lady of Fatima-St. Catharines, Our Lady of Victory, Park, Parnall, Pine Grove, Port Weller, Power Glen, Prince Philip, Senator Gibson, Smith School, St. Alexander, St. Alfred, St. Ann, St. Anthony, St. Charles, St. Denis, St. James, St. John, St. Joseph, St. Mark, St. Michael, St. Peter, St. Philomena, St. Vincent De Paul, Walker Family Centre, Westdale, William Hamilton Merritt



“ When I am at the ECCDC, it stimulates and motivates me to be the best I can be. The lending library is truly Heaven sent! When I have gone to the ECCDC, the staff has always been helpful in many ways. The resources are all innovative. ”

Deep Gratitude

Niagara Region Children's Services

The ECCDC Board and Staff Team extend great appreciation to Niagara Region Children's Services for supporting the ongoing work of our organization as the ECCDC's primary funder. We appreciate your guidance and the highly respectful manner in which you work with our Team.



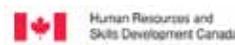
Ministry of Education Team

The ECCDC is so grateful to have such a collaborative group of colleagues to work alongside in supporting Niagara's early learning and child care sector. Thank you for your timely referrals, connections, recommendations, and advice.



Our Project Funders

Thank you for providing the ECCDC with project funds that enable us to inspire excellence in Niagara's early learning sector. Your support of our work and trust in us helps ensure Niagara's educators always have access to innovative, high quality resources, training and supports: Ontario Trillium Foundation, Lawson Foundation, Niagara Community Foundation, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara and Louise Kool and Galt.



“ The support that we receive from the ECCDC is truly unique. They are at their own level when it comes to offering quality services to Early Childhood Educators. As a francophone organization, we feel as though the ECCDC listens to our needs, they hear what we say and understand through their delivery of support and services. The entire team shows a great deal of passion with every interaction. We have also heard positive comments from our partners in London and Toronto about the ECCDC services which demonstrate their reputation in our francophone community. We are honoured to be partners and to work side by side with them. ”

Christina Clark, EPE-I Directrice adjointe, La Boîte à soleil



“ In the 20+ years that I have been in the Early Childhood Education Field, the ECCDC was there for me to utilize resources of all kinds. It has evolved with the times which still make it a wonderful place. ”

A Longstanding Commitment to Early Learning and Child Care ~ Our Service Highlights

The ECCDC as the Go to Source for Cutting Edge Tools, Resources and Specialized Equipment to Support Program Excellence

Membership Services

- 1072 members which includes 206 programs with group memberships

Provocation for Learning Kits and Speciality Resources

- 3000 educational items made available to the community
- 5213 resource loans to Niagara educators
- 92 new provocation for learning kits designed

The ECCDC's provocation for learning kits are aligned with Ontario's early learning frameworks and are suitable for use with all young children. The kits support an open-ended, emergent planning approach and stimulate children's imaginations, promote language and cognitive development, and facilitate social and emotional growth. We encourage members to mess about with materials before offering them to children to support their explorations.

Learning Café, Beautiful Stuff Shop, Grab & Go Materials, E-Store

- 2,928 service hours provided
- 1,828 on-site visits
- Over 500 Grab and Go Learning Materials or Beautiful Stuff Bags made available to educators

Educators, volunteers and others involved in Niagara's early learning and child care community utilize the ECCDC's workroom tools and equipment to design exceptional learning environments and engaging experiences for Niagara's children. The warm, relaxed atmosphere enables educators to share ideas and expertise, network, and participate in informal professional learning and meetings.

The Grab 'N Go Activities facilitate quick, engaging early learning experiences for children, designed to inspire curiosity and wonder. The E-store on www.eccdc.org includes a variety of innovative resources available for purchase.



A Longstanding Commitment to Early Learning and Child Care ~ Our Service Highlights

Exclusive Use Bookings, Group Tours and Off Site Information Displays

- 20 early learning and child care centre onsite bookings and off site information displays
- 193 individuals in attendance at the Exclusive Use Bookings and Group Tours borrowing over 70 provocation for learning kits or other materials

The ECCDC helps increase the knowledge of Niagara's early years educators and the cohesiveness of its educator teams by making the ECCDC's Resource Library, Workroom and Learning Café available for training, program planning and resource events. Wednesday evenings are set aside for this purpose. ECCDC group members are invited to book the facilities in advance on an exclusive basis for their teams to access the latest resources, research materials and curriculum planning documents.

Leading Edge Professional Learning Experiences to Enhance Pedagogy and Practice

- 101 institutes, seminars, and training sessions offered
- 2712 participants in attendance
- 123 training sessions attended by ECCDC Staff Members (not hosted by the ECCDC), reflecting more than 600 hours of collective training
- 1,182 views to Esteem on the ECCDC website

During the year, the ECCDC offered a variety of innovative professional learning opportunities that were either open to the larger community or were customized to meet the specific needs of early learning and child care agencies, bringing internationally and nationally known speakers, researchers and authors to Niagara and highlighting a variety of leading edge early learning perspectives.

Recognition and Celebration through Niagara's Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence

- 356 participants attended the celebration
- 45 recognition awards were presented
- 48 local businesses sponsored the event
- 120 local silent auction donors contributed items

In the nearly 20 years since its inception, Niagara's annual Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence Celebration has grown to become one of the largest events of its kind in the country. The ECCDC is proud of the unique history and continued growth of this event. A special thank you to Louise Kool & Galt who has been a long-time supporter of Niagara's Awards of Excellence program.

The theme for the 2015 gala was "Celebrating Niagara's Early Learning Sector with a Medieval Masquerade." The event took place on November

19, with local radio personality Lori Love from 105.7 FM serving as emcee.

Members of the ECCDC board of directors, its executive director, the Niagara Region

Director of Children's Services, the President of the Ontario College of Early Childhood Educators and numerous other community partners helped in hosting the gala.



A Longstanding Commitment to Early Learning and Child Care ~ Our Service Highlights

The following awards were presented; Commitment to Continuous Professional Learning Award sponsored by the ECCDC and Niagara Region Children's Services, Contributor Award for Volunteers and Colleagues, the Eco-Friendly Award, the Speech Services Niagara Emergent Literacy Award, the Quality Child Care Niagara Exceptional Program Award, the Niagara Child Care Sector Administrator Award, the Family Support Program Award, the Full Day Early Learning Teams Award, the Margaret Hamilton Niagara College ECE Award and the Brock Outstanding Student Award.

As in other years, the 2015 Awards of Excellence celebration was widely supported by area businesses, many of which see the event as an opportunity to express their appreciation of Niagara's early learning and care programs and the important role these programs play in the local economy.

Event Sponsor: Louise Kool & Galt



Business Sponsors

Gold: A Child's World, Meridian Credit Union, St. Catharines Standard

Silver: YMCA of Niagara, HiMama Inc., PenFinancial Credit Union

Bronze: Minute Man Press, University of Guelph-Humber, Future Access Inc.



The Standard



Silent Auction Donors

Brock University's Youth University • Cheeky Monkeys Indoor Playland • Chocolate F/X • Classic Touch • Coppola's • Criveller Cakes Chocolate & Pastry Boutique • Curves • DSBN • DSBN Parent and Family Literacy Centres • Easy Spaces • Ed Learn Ford • Frescos • Gay Douglas and Associates • Greaves Jams & Marmalades • Holiday Inn and Suites • Joseph's Estate Winery • Kelly Rempel - Scentsy Independent Consultant • Kelsey's • L'Attitudes International • Mastermind Toys • Mercedes Benz • Neob • Niagara Helicopters • Niagara Parks Commission • Old Winery Restaurant • Ontario Science Centre • Photography by Pamela • Picard's Peanuts • Pizza Hut • Pla-Mor Bowling • Rende Salon • Shaw Festival Theatre • Skycomp Solutions Inc. • Small Talk Vineyards • Sparrow Lakes • The Willow Den • Turtle Pond Toys • Young Headz • Zippy Zooms

2015 Awards of Excellence Planning Committee

Many agencies across Niagara support the planning of the Awards of Excellence each year through sponsoring a special award and having staff involved on the Planning Committee. Thanks to the following organizations for supporting this event and to all of our planning committee members for their insight, advice and enthusiasm.

Kelly Bol, Early Childhood Community Development Centre • Jennifer Ety, Grapeview Daycare • Shari Hill, Early Childhood Community Development Centre • Christine Lever, Niagara Region Home Child Care Services • Stephanie Mathews, Early Childhood Community Development Centre • Amira Mirdawi, A Child's World • Jessica Nelson, YMCA of Niagara • Katelyn Robins, Early Childhood Community Development Centre • April Shaw, Speech Services Niagara • Jennifer Smith, District School Board of Niagara • Beverly Workmester, Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care

A Longstanding Commitment to Early Learning and Child Care ~ Our Service Highlights

Innovative Environmental Design and Curriculum and Mentoring Supports

- 139 visits to programs delivering curriculum and pedagogy resources with 290 educators in attendance
- 71 visits to programs offering a variety of coaching and mentoring services with 137 individuals in attendance

One of the most important ways the ECCDC contributes to the stability of early learning and child care programs in Niagara is through on-site visits to centres. These visits are customized to meet the specific needs and goals articulated by each centre team. ECCDC staff provides advice for indoor or outdoor design, curriculum planning, or team building, as well as observation and documentation strategies. ECCDC team members also share expertise in strategic planning, board development, program administration, engaging families, and developing respectful relationships.

Facilitation of Niagara's Communities of Practice

- 18 professional network sessions were held
- 312 network participants engaged

ECCDC staff provided coordination and facilitation services to the following network groups: Child Care Supervisors, Child Care Francophone Supervisors, Child Care Cooks, Co-op Teachers, Reflective Emergent Practice, Executive Directors Network and Niagara Nature Alliance. These meetings provide an open forum for educators to dialogue and support one another.

Quality Child Care Niagara Training

- 141 visits to programs to support the implementation of QCCN
- 301 educators were supported during the QCCN Program visits

Throughout the course of 2015 the Quality Child Care Niagara Advisory Committee Task Group, a subcommittee of the QCCN Advisory Committee, met monthly to explore, discuss, and consider the ways in which QCCN currently aligns with How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years, as well as areas where QCCN could be further enhanced to ensure alignment. The Task Group participated in an in-depth review of current QCCN practices and sought feedback from Niagara's early learning community to reflect on what changes the community believed was important to consider. The information gathered was used to guide the Task Group in the creation of the new QCCN Program Profile, QCCN Program Plan Criteria, QCCN Values, and the two-day QCCN Reflective Practice

Institutes. In the later part of the year the first revised QCCN Institute was held with 75 pilot participants. Information learned through the pilot was then used to adapt, plan and coordinate a training institute calendar that will take place over a period of two years.





“

I have used the services offered at the ECCDC since the first year I began working in the Niagara area. Every time I go there, I come out feeling recharged and excited to do the work I do. The resource kits help support the environment and are a wonderful addition to what our center already has. The staff are the best. They have a positive, upbeat attitude which I appreciate since I often show up at the end of my work day. I have always received help any time it's needed. Thank you all.

”

Enhancing the Capacity of Early Years Programs

Computer Technical Support

- 345 technical support inquiries received

The ECCDC is committed to providing relevant information on technology tools that support the work of early learning professionals through increased opportunities for training, networking, and resource sharing. We've been proud to work with the community on practical, high-impact initiatives that directly support the culture of technology; for example, the iPads in the Early Years Project and the Niagara Child Care Technology Project were both supported through Niagara Region Children's Services.

Additionally the ECCDC helped Niagara's early learning and child care programs keep pace with technology by offering consultations on common hardware and software concerns, upgrades, repairs, and security issues. During 2015 we were delighted to develop new technology pages on www.eccdc.org which offer a technology blog, training materials and handy technology tips.



Niagara Child Care Sector Executive and Inclusive Child Care Supports Committees

- The Niagara Child Care Sector Executive Committee web page was viewed 303 times
- The Inclusive Child Care Supports Committee web page was viewed 736 times
- The Niagara Infant Mental Health homepage was viewed 813 times since its launch November 25, 2015
- Naturalized Play Spaces homepage was viewed 3,837 times

The ECCDC contributes to the success of these important community committees by providing professional administrative supports, including the maintenance of minutes, reports and file archives in Web-accessible formats, email distribution, document design, updating webpages and sending out community messages.

Niagara Infant Mental Health Initiative

The ECCDC was delighted to design webpages to help promote and capture the history of this important committee working hard to ensure Niagara's children are connected to the services and supports they require for their health and well-being.



Enhancing the Capacity of Early Years Programs

Work Experience for Students of Early Childhood Education Programs

- 3 student internship placements hosted

The ECCDC regularly hosts work placements for the Niagara College Early Childhood Education Department and the Brock University Bachelor of Early Childhood Education, Child Studies Programs and the Goodman School of Business. These placements help build a sense of connection between students studying in Niagara and our early learning and child care community, providing the students with skills and contacts that will enhance their careers.

Helping to Inform the Early Learning and Child Care Sector

During the year, the ECCDC distributed close to 200 bulk emails on behalf of the Ministry of Education, Niagara Region Children's Services and/or Niagara Region Public Health, Niagara Child Care Sector Executive, Niagara Inclusive Supports Committee and the Infant Mental Health Committee. These messages helped keep Niagara's early learning and care providers informed about new research, sector-wide changes and upcoming events.

Supporting the Early Learning and Child Care Sector with Recruitment

- The employment board located on www.eccdc.org web page was viewed 14,723 times
- There were 140 job postings submitted

The ECCDC employment page helps keep qualified early learning and care professionals here in Niagara by providing them with a convenient way to connect with prospective employers.

“ Thank you for all your efforts to meet the needs of so many professionals working to make a difference in the lives of children. Niagara is extremely fortunate to have the ECCDC. It gives RECEs a wonderful advantage in teaching the children in our care. ”

“ The ECCDC has been very instrumental to our organization. Through our journey of implementing How Does Learning Happen? they have provided guidance and support through a series of in house training modules. The training provided by the ECCDC Team was well planned, organized and provided a lot of information for us to move forward to be successful on our emergent curriculum path. The Staff are very dedicated and professional; always placing the importance of being a team and providing tools for our staff to continue to be successful in their daily practice. We thank the ECCDC for all the support they have given to A Child's View over the years, you have been an asset to the ECE community in Niagara. ”

Tracey Murray, Executive Director A Child's View Cooperative Child Care Services Corp.



“ We are very fortunate to have the ECCDC in our community. The resources and supports that are offered are of high quality. Thank you. ”

Keeping Connected

Informative Website www.eccdc.org and Publications

- Received 94,004 visits, an average of 258 visits per day
- There were 842,174 page views, an average of 2307 per day

The ECCDC website highlights its on-site facilities and learning café, membership benefits, and coaching and support services; particularly the areas of environmental design, pedagogy and curriculum and professionalism. The announcements page continues to keep the community informed about important initiatives, services and legislative changes. The site features online registrations and E-store of pedagogy and curriculum materials. We were pleased to launch the new naturalized playgrounds pages and technology area which both feature informative resources, websites of interests, and strategies.



The ECCDC keeps its members, stakeholders and community partners abreast of professional learning opportunities through the quarterly training magazine ESTEEM. We also share highlights of our workshops and seminars through our new Professional Learning Bulletins. Our Resource Bulletin shares information about new resources and library activities. Additionally, we engage with our followers through fun contests on Facebook and Twitter.

Social Media

- 7988 Facebook page likes
- 442 is the average number of individuals who viewed ECCDC's Facebook page daily
- 51 is the average number of clicks received on daily posts
- 392 Twitter followers

ECCDC In the Media

- View event pictures from the Mary Gordon event: Exploring the Difference between Bullying Behaviour & Appropriate Teasing that took place on October 27, 2015: <https://stcatharines.snapd.com/event/886371#/>
- View the St. Catharines Standard's article on the 2015 Niagara Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence that took place on November 19, 2015: <https://eccdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Our-Niagara-ECCDC.pdf>
- Read a Kiwanis newsletter article about the Science & Technology Project: https://eccdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/1982_001.pdf
- Read an article featured in the Fall 2015 AECEO Link magazine about the Intergenerational Project: https://eccdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Connecting_Preschoolers_Fall_2015.pdf



“

The ECCDC has provided a wide assortment of awesome training opportunities. I thoroughly enjoy the network meetings. Current issues are always on the agenda and there is a forum for open discussion. I have met some amazing people and lifelong friends through these kinds of opportunities. I value and appreciate all that you do.

”

Supporting Families in Finding Early Years Services

Parent Direct Niagara www.parentdirectniagara.ca

- 786 program listings
- 160,733 visits, an average of 440 visits per day
- 339,712 page views
- Administrative support provided for 111 inquiries from service providers or parents

Launched in 2012 and further developed in 2014, Parent Direct Niagara is a Niagara-based web portal, designed to make it easier for parents to find information about programs and services for children and families. The website allows parents in Niagara to search for a wide variety of programs and services in one convenient location. The development of the site was made possible through the support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Niagara Community Foundation, the Early Years Niagara Planning Council and Niagara Region Children's Services.



“ I find the Inquiry Kits contain thoughtfully chosen materials that enhance my Kindergarten program. Staff are always readily available to answer my questions. ”

“ After attending one of the ECCDC's recent workshops, one of our toddler educators approached me with excitement and renewed energy. She was so inspired from what she had seen and learned during the presentation that she wanted to immediately begin changing the toddler space to one which would enhance children's innate inquisitiveness and wonder. She felt that there were lots of things she could gather from the outdoors to bring inside that would capture the toddlers' imagination and interests. Changing the environment also enabled her to develop a more enriched curriculum plan for the toddlers in her care. As an educator myself, it was exciting to see the change in this staff member after attending the workshop. ”

Phyllis Radobenko, Way to Grow Daycare



“ As a new supervisor just starting out in September 2014, I received an email from the ECCDC stating that our centre would be receiving a new Technology Bundle thanks to funding through Niagara Region Children’s Services. Upon receiving the technology bundle I was unsure as to the transferring of information from computer to computer and found it to be a little overwhelming. Upon arrival to our centre the ECCDC Technology Team assured me that everything would be the same and training would be provided. I am very thankful for such a great support team. Much to my satisfaction and gratitude, I now have everything at my fingertips to make day to day operations much easier. ”

Christine Gray-Johnston, RECE Supervisor of Grapeview Day Care

Voices of our Stakeholders

“ I am always impressed with the professional training workshops offered by the ECCDC. I have attended many over the years and have always felt rejuvenated to go back to my workplace and implement many ideas I have learned. We are fortunate to have the ECCDC keeping up offering professional opportunities and materials for Educators to take advantage of. Great resources and workshops offered in the Niagara area. ”

“ It is awesome to be able to give an inquiring client direction when looking for unique child care services. I am confident in knowing the ECCDC will have the resources to guide parents through an often difficult path to find services. ”

“ I have had the opportunity to work with ECCDC in re-training staff, highlighting the CCEYA, providing support for room arrangements and equipment purchases. They are always quick to respond and point me in the right direction. I am very thankful that my staff and I have access to such a wonderful and supportive team. ”

“ How fortunate your community is to have such a valuable resource that is so accessible. We have made suggestions to our community to offer some of the learning opportunities that are offered through ECCDC to our community. ”

“ We are very fortunate here in Niagara to have such a supportive organization like the ECCDC at our fingertips. The ECCDC plays an important role in inspiring me to reflect on my own practices which ultimately motivates me to press forward towards a higher level of thinking and a higher standard of practice as a RECE. Thank you for all that you do! ”

2015/16 Financial Report

April 2015 - March 2016

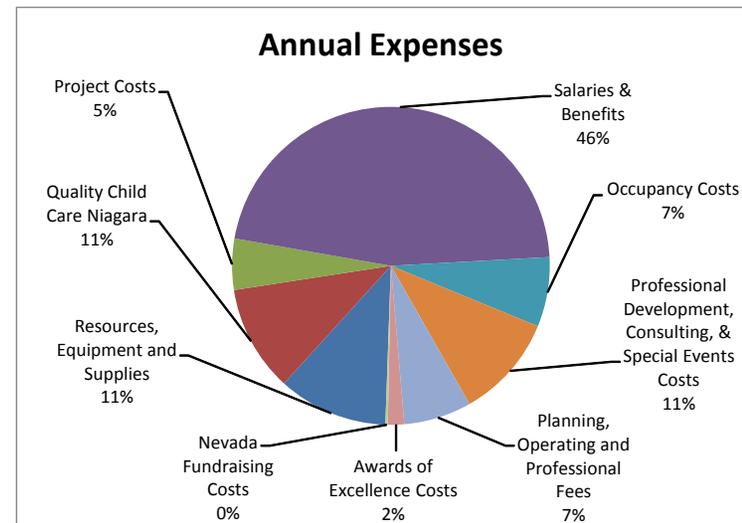
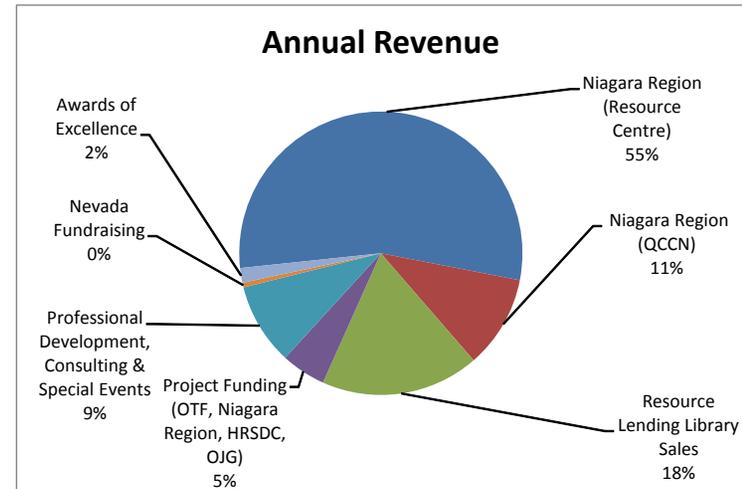
Annual Revenues

Regional Municipality of Niagara (Resource Centre)	748,676
Regional Municipality of Niagara (QCCN)	144,757
Resource Lending Library Sales	247,436
Project Funding (OTF, Niagara Region, HRSDC, OJG)	69,648
Professional Development, Consulting & Special Events	127,632
Nevada Fundraising	7,354
Awards of Excellence	22,890
Total Gross Revenues	1,368,393

Annual Expenses

Resources, Equipment and Supplies (Resource Centre)	149,798
Quality Child Care Niagara	144,757
Project Costs	69,648
Salaries & Benefits	620,475
Occupancy Costs	94,725
Professional Development, Consulting, & Special Events Costs	141,356
Planning, Operating and Professional Fees	92,186
Awards of Excellence Costs	22,244
Nevada Fundraising Costs	3,276
AOE/Nevada Fund	4,724
General Operating Fund	25,204
Total Gross Expenses	1,368,393

Auditors: Steinbachs & Chapelle, Niagara Falls. A complete set of audited statements is available upon request



eccdc

early childhood community development centre



Commitment Dedication
Collaboration Gratitude
Success Professionalism
Achievement Commitment
Dedication Collaboration
Gratitude Success
Professionalism
Achievement Commitment
Dedication Collaboration
Gratitude Success
Professionalism
Achievement
Commitment
Dedication
Collaboration
Gratitude Success
Professionalism
Achievement
Commitment
Dedication Collaboration
Gratitude Success
Professionalism Achievement
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