



Commitment Dedication
Collaboration Gratitude
Success Professionalism
Achievement Commitment
Dedication Collaboration

Gratitude Success

Professionalism

Achievement

Commitment

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2018/19

Annual Community Report

“ The Niagara Region is so very fortunate to have the leadership and skills the ECCDC shares with us. They have amazing, hard-working staff and all the information shared is up to date and innovative. The ECCDC is definitely the “go to” place when seeking anything with regards to the early learning field. Congratulations and kudos to your whole team! ”



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“ As an Early Child Care Educator for over 20 years, I am proud to acknowledge all of the staff at ECCDC for their excellence of service and their valued professionalism and friendship. Keep up the great work that you all do! ”

The Work of Our Organization: Our Mission, Vision, Values and Purpose

Mission

Inspiring excellence in early learning and child care.

Vision

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

Purpose

The ECCDC exists so that early learning professionals are supported in offering children exceptional opportunities to grow, learn and develop and families are engaged and informed about early learning services.

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.



“ The ECCDC is a leader in Niagara and one of a kind around the province. I am proud to continually access services and have the full support of the ECCDC staff in engaging home care providers on an individual basis, so appreciated. ”

Welcome to our April 2018-March 2019 Community Report

A Message from the ECCDC's Board Chair and Executive Director

The ECCDC enjoyed a busy and rewarding 25th year. We were excited to continue having the opportunity to service early learning child care operators in Niagara, increasing our library hours of operation, offering more resource kit deliveries and designing new and innovative provocation for learning kits to borrow. Although we increased our service delivery in many areas within Niagara, we also expanded our services across the Province, upon request from many early learning programs and municipalities in close and far away communities. Our Team have been inspired with so many opportunities to meet with educators across Ontario, which continues to provide a forum for sharing knowledge and expanding best and promising practices.

Our Board and Staff Team were honoured to celebrate the organization's 25th Anniversary Celebration and recognize all the efforts of Board and Team members who worked hard to develop ECCDC's Services over the years. Some of our team have been lucky enough to see the evolution themselves with several staff having 20 or more years of service with the organization. We were thrilled to offer a range of special events in celebration of 25 years in operation. Throughout the year, we introduced special PD reward cards, held resource basket giveaways, and offered a variety of free training sessions thanks to many of our generous partners, including our early years consultant partners at District School Board of Niagara and Niagara Catholic District School Board, Gay Douglas,

Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds, our Business Series gurus Joy, Terri and Asha, and our friends at Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care. We thank our partners for donating their time generously in honour of our 25th year.

Over this same time period we also wrapped up our strategic plan and felt proud of all the goals and objectives accomplished throughout the past several years. Our Board and Staff Team invites your ongoing feedback as we embark on a new strategic plan and renewed organizational directions. We will be sending out a revised stakeholder survey shortly seeking your feedback related to our mission, vision, values and our current directions and we look forward to hosting an exciting stakeholder engagement session this Spring! Stay tuned for the save the date to come out shortly.

Thank you for entrusting the ECCDC to serve your resource, training and coaching needs. We are honoured to continue to do this work on your behalf.



Kim Cole
Board Chair



Lorrey Arial Bonilla
Executive Director



“ I have supported and used the ECCDC, for training and resources since it first opened. This resource has had such a positive impact on my professional journey, supporting my career from every angle.

The variety of resources and the training have been so beneficial. I am very proud to share this with all of my colleagues in childcare.

”

Thank You to Our 2018/2019 Funders and Donors

Our Primary Funder

Niagara Region Children's Services



Project Funders

Roots of Empathy International Office • Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara • Canada Summer Jobs Grant Program • Louise Kool and Galt



Donors

A Child's World • Minuteman Press • Mountainview Homes • YMCA of Niagara



“ When we have any question around anything from new legislation requirements to environmental recommendations for children, we know we will get the best and most up to date information will be available from the ECCDC! ”



Community Collaboration

Community Planning

Our Team is represented on the following committees to support ongoing planning across Niagara's early learning sector.

- Niagara Children's Planning Council
- Quality Child Care Niagara Advisory Committee
- Niagara Child Care Sector Executive Committee
- Niagara College Early Childhood Education Program Advisory Committee
- Niagara Emergent Literacy Consortium
- Niagara Infant Mental Health Advisory Committee
- Young Children Priority First with the Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara
- Niagara's Collaborative Training Coalition
- Comité de la petite enfance

Our Group Members

We are excited to have the following agencies and programs hold memberships to the ECCDC Resource Lending Library. We also partner with many of these agencies for community planning, initiatives and projects.

The following child care and early learning service agencies are ECCDC Group Membership holders:

- A Child's World Family Daycare Services of Niagara
- Anna's Day Care
- Au Coin des Petits – Centre Prescolaire
- Autism Ontario- Niagara Region Chapter
- Beacon Christian School

- Beamsville Early Learning & Child Care Centre
- Bethlehem Housing & Support Services
- Beyond Montessori School Inc
- Boys & Girls Club of Niagara
- Boyuan Children's Home
- Brilliant Futures Montessori
- C. Sisters of the Sacred Hearts Children's Day Care
- Childs View Co-operative Child Care Services
- Community Living St. Catharines - Preschool Services
- Community Living Welland Pelham - Children's Services
- Family & Children Services of Niagara
- Fonthill Montessori Preschool
- Fort Erie Co-operative Preschool
- Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre
- Garden City Nursery School
- Glendale Day Care Centre
- Grapeview Day Care
- Great Lakes Christian Preschool
- Grimsby Co-op Preschool
- Heartland Forest Nature Experience
- John Brant Public School
- Julie Christiansen Counselling & Psychotherapy
- Kids & Company – Wee Care Daycare
- Kids Kastle Co-op
- Kids Place
- Kidzdome Preschools
- La Boîte à soleil Cooperative
- La Petite Etoile De Niagara Inc

Community Collaboration continued

- Les Coccinelles Zélées
- Le centre educatif les P'tigroux Inc.
- MAC – Niagara Islamic School
- Maple Crest Early School
- Mini Retreat
- Niagara Area Homeschool Group
- Niagara Catholic District School Board
- Niagara Children's Centre
- Niagara Nursery School & Child Care Centre
- Niagara Region Public Health
- Niagara Region Children Services
- Niagara Support Services - Preschool Services
- North End Co-op Preschool
- Parents Peace of Mind
- Port Dalhousie Nursery School
- Power Glen Early Learning & Child Care
- Preschool Central
- Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care
- St. Catharines Home Child Care Network
- St. David's Nursery School
- St. John ESL for Childcare Students
- St. Thomas Children's Day Care
- Stamford Green Day Nursery
- Strive Niagara
- The Day Care Centre
- The Wheatley School of Montessori Education Inc.
- Thorold Community Child Care Services
- Top of the Ridge Day Care

- Trail Ridge Montessori Preschool
- Under the Rainbow - Wakanioten Child Care
- Valleyway Day Care Centres Inc.
- Way to Grow Daycare Inc.
- Wee Watch Private Home Day Care
- YMCA of Niagara

The following schools are ECCDC Group Membership holders:

- Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School
- Ecole elementaire catholique Notre-Dame-de-la-Jeunesse
- Ecole elementaire catholique Immaculee-Conception
- Loretto Catholic Elementary School
- Park Public School
- Parnall Public School
- Prince Philip Public School
- Richmond Street Public School
- St. Andrew Catholic Elementary School

“ Having been a member for the better part of 20 years, I have always found the staff to be very helpful and excellent communicators. The centres, both present and past, have been pleasant, relaxing places to work. I've enjoyed my association with the ECCDC tremendously! **”** 



“ Thank you for the services you provide to Educators in the community. Since the beginning of my career, ECCDC has had a positive influence in regards to my Professional Learning. I always look forward to receiving Esteem to see what opportunity is available to continue to learn and grow as a professional and to better support the RECEs working in my program in their professional learning as well. ”

A Year in Review

Resource Lending Library Services and E-store

-  3,243 Resource Library hours provided
-  1,462 Resource Library Members
-  1,552 Visits to the Resource Lending Library and Resource Deliveries
-  2,998 Innovative Resources available to borrow
-  4,953 Resource loans to Niagara Educators
-  63 New Provocation for Learning Kits with Loose Parts designed
-  90 New Provocation for Learning Kits Sold to Other Communities
-  335 Educators were hosted during Group Tours to Learn More about ECCDC Resources and Supports

Professional Education and Learning

-  166 advertised and customized training sessions offered with 5,016 educators and administrators in attendance

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

-  380 Educators, Administrators, Volunteers and Supporters attended the Annual Awards of Excellence in November 2018
Celebrating our roots and cultivating the spirit of collaboration, sponsored by Louise Kool and Galt

-  76 recognition presentations given by community partners and organizations

-  4 local businesses sponsored the event

-  44 local businesses sponsored contributed to the silent auction

Innovative Coaching and Mentoring Services

-  299 visits to programs sharing curriculum and pedagogy resources to 1,097 educators
-  345 connections with programs offering a variety of coaching and mentoring services with 176 educators and administrators in attendance
-  13 communities of practice sessions offered to 235 educators

Quality Child Care Niagara Training and Program Visits

-  16 Reflective Practice QCCN sessions facilitated to 788 educators, administrators and resource consultants
-  152 visits to programs to support the implementation of QCCN
-  721 educators were supported during the QCCN Program visits

The QCCN Team working within the ECCDC made daily support visits to programs facilitating conversation around implementation of the Quality Child Care Niagara portfolio of tools to support centre quality.

Did You Know that the ECCDC is a Coordinating Agency for Roots of Empathy?

The Early Childhood Community Development Centre (ECCDC) is honoured to serve as the local Coordinating Agency for the Roots of Empathy Program founded by Internationally Recognized Mary Gordon.

- Through the Roots of Empathy program respectful and caring relationships are fostered along with decreased levels of bullying and aggression and increased levels of social and emotional competency in children. Long term, Roots of Empathy also promotes responsible citizenship and responsive parenting.
- The ECCDC Roots of Empathy Team liaises on an annual basis with our partners at the District School Board of Niagara, the Niagara Catholic District School Board and other community agencies who host the Roots of Empathy program in their classrooms.
- The program year 2018/2019 ended with 73 programs offering Roots of Empathy in Niagara within the District School Board of Niagara and Niagara Catholic District School Board, the French Catholic School Board-Mon Avenir and EarlyON centres of Niagara.
- On May 31, 2019, the ECCDC hosted 110 families, Roots of Empathy Instructors, schoolteachers, and special guests in the Atrium of the District School Board of Niagara for the Annual Roots of Empathy Baby Celebration. Of those in attendance were 38 babies who served as Niagara's youngest teachers in the Roots of Empathy Program.



“ Excellent place to learn, borrow, get ideas and grow in your career so that the development of the children is always enhanced with new ideas and activities and as educators we are always staying on top of what is new and happening. ”

“ In terms of my involvement with ECCDC, both professional development and access to resources, I feel current and well-rounded in my practices with children, families, our staff team and community colleagues. I'm confident that the training I have participated in through ECCDC is directly related with the Ministry of Education's *How Does Learning Happen?* pedagogical framework. ”

A Year in Review continued

ECCDC Website

203,112 Visits to www.eccdc.org

1,142,070 Page Views

773 downloads of ESTEEM online



ECCDC Social Media



3,762 Individuals viewed ECCDC's facebook page daily

1,976 total likes received on ECCDC's Facebook page

394 average number of likes received on daily posts

763 Twitter Followers

339 Instagram Followers

Supporting Families in Finding Early Years Services through Parent Direct Niagara www.parentdirectniagara.ca

89,013 visits

186,620 Page Views

710 Parent Direct listings

Supporting the Early Learning and Child Care Sector with Recruitment

38,515 Job listing views

194 Job postings

Community Planning Infrastructure

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

- The Niagara Child Care Sector Executive Committee
- Niagara Infant Mental Health Initiative
- Naturalized Play Spaces homepage
- Young Children Priority First

Helping to Inform the Early Learning and Child Care Sector

During the year, the ECCDC distributed over 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, Inclusive Child Care Supports Committee, 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.

“

The ECCDC provides unique learning opportunities and supports to all of us in the ECE profession.

The professional development opportunities are stellar and the costs associated with the training are reasonable. I also appreciate the support that is available through the ECCDC by way of network meetings and rotating curriculum kits that are delivered to our door. The ECCDC has been instrumental in supporting the four foundations of How Does Learning Happen throughout our daily practices

”



2018/19 Financial Report

for the year ending March 31, 2019

Revenues

Government Grants	982,337
Other Grants	43,624
Program Income	676,503
Fundraising and donations	27,474
Total Revenues	1,729,938

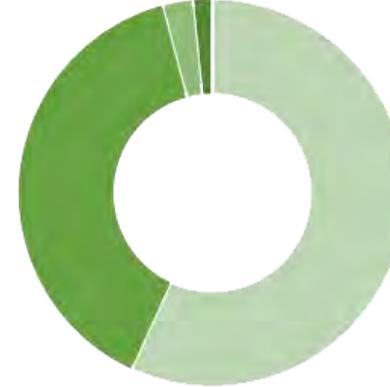
Expenses

Programs and Services	680,573
Salaries & Benefits	815,799
Occupancy	112,805
Planning & Professional Fees	72,855
Fundraising Costs	25,637

Total Expenses **1,707,669**

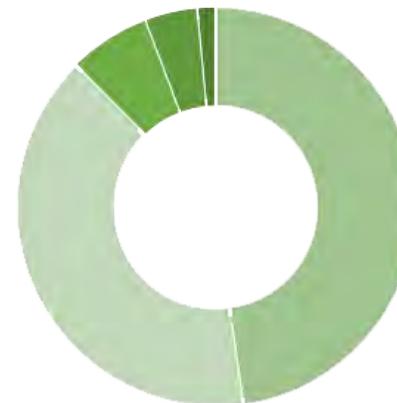
Surplus to General Operating Fund **22,269**

Annual Revenue



- Government Grants
- Other Grants
- Program Income
- Fundraising and donations

Annual Expense



- Programs and Services
- Salaries & Benefits
- Occupancy
- Planning & Professional Fees
- Fundraising Costs

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

“ECCDC is contributing to expanding children's play by providing different kits that will have provocations to foster children's interest, exploration and growth.

Marilia Fructoso Machado Welter, Niagara Region Children's Services **”**



Testimonials from Our Stakeholders

Professional Learning

-  "After attending several weekend workshops put together by the ECCDC, to me, the organization's name is now synonymous with quality. Rather than simply having scratched the surface, I leave each session having dove deep into the subject including learning theoretical underpinnings, practical strategies, as well as extensive self-reflection. Thank you for your continued efforts in supporting my journey as an ECE."
-  "Being new to the field of ECE, each ECCDC workshop I've attended has greatly benefited me and the children I work with by providing information that is readily understood and is immediately applicable within the classroom."
-  "I was a participant in the Mentoring Pairs for Childcare program and have attended several workshops on classroom environments in the Niagara region. This time, we had the chance to visit the resource library. It was fantastic. I have been on the mailing list since and am always very envious of the quantity and quality of workshops offered in your area and wish that they could be offered up North as the time, distance and travel make it too difficult to attend. We do occasionally book the ECCDC for our conference workshops and they are always a great success.."

Resource Lending Library

-  "The resources at the ECCDC are always changing to meet the newest curriculum expectations. They always include bright pictures, and key words/phrases to make the learning in your classroom/program developmentally appropriate for those in it. The staff are always there to answer any questions, and are ready and willing to ensure you find the resources that meet the needs of your program."
-  "I love the ECCDC because of the resources they offer, and how close they are to my work. The staff is friendly and always helpful, and my students have loved what I have brought in from the ECCDC! I feel I'm never stuck as they give great ideas and always there to help!"
-  "Thank you so much for all that you do. Having such a welcoming environment for teacher, staff and professionals to get their work done effectively has been amazing. Such a nice calming place to relax and get work done. Beverages, kits, cutting tools, workshops! They have all been very helpful and educational for furthering my knowledge and creative ideas flowing!"
-  "ECCDC has items and equipment in the Resource Consultant Section that is quite helpful when working with children with special needs."

Testimonials from Our Stakeholders

Coaching and Mentoring Supports

 "They are my go-to for anything ECE related! They are so helpful and friendly EVERYTIME I go in!"

Emma Davies, Boys & Girls Club of Niagara

 "I have always felt that if I need support, I can count on the ECCDC."

Sue Rabley, Kids Kastle

 "Our first choice for continuing education opportunities."

Janet Saunders, St. Thomas Daycare

 "The ECCDC is an excellent resource for gaining new information, insights into new and exciting approaches and changes within childcare, the Ministry of Ontario and the College of ECE."

Other Services

 "The Fort Erie Co-operative Preschool has existed in Fort Erie since 1984 and have found the resources and staff from the ECCDC to be extremely helpful and supportive through all the changes that have taken place in the field of Early Childhood Education. The workshops offered have been great sources of information. The QCCN programs and support staff have been very helpful throughout the years making these transitions manageable and affordable especially for a school of our size where staff of one wears many hats! Thank you."

 "The ECCDC has helped keep our staff informed, engaged, and constantly evolving."

 "The ECCDC is very professional and always gives you a sense of belonging."

 "The ECCDC is truly unique in the field."

 "Collaboration with the ECCDC in the training and continuing education of ECEs is mutually beneficial. Niagara is fortunate to have such an amazing resource for its Early Childhood Educators and the early childhood professionals in Niagara benefit from their partnership as we work together to create the best early learning opportunities for children across the Region."

A photograph of two young children, likely toddlers, sitting in a large sandpit at a playground. The child on the left is wearing a bright pink long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans, smiling broadly. The child on the right is wearing a pink patterned top and blue jeans, also smiling and waving their hand towards the camera. The sandpit is made of light-colored wood and has a wooden ramp leading up to a platform. A pair of pink sunglasses sits on one of the wooden blocks. The background shows more of the wooden playground structure.

“ Thank you for always being supportive of the
needs of the children we teach. ”

Kaitlyn Andrews, St. David's Nursery School

Thank you to our Team

Board of Directors

Kim Cole, Board President
Kristine Flora, Vice-President
Donna Dalgleish, Secretary-Treasurer
Shelley Fehrman, Director
Jackie Kerry, Director
Dean Stunt, Director

Staff Members

Lorre Arial Bonilla, Executive Director • 23 years
Kelly Bol, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant - Training and Events • 9 years
Patricia Couroux, Coaching and Mentoring Services Coordinator • 4 years
Darlene Drouin, Information Systems Administrator • 10 years
Natalie Lane, Early Learning & Child Care Program Consultant • 2 years
Stephanie Matthews, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 5 years
Cheryl McMillan, Finance & I.T. Infrastructure Manager • 24 years
Jennifer Mosher, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 12 years
Katie-Lynn Parkinson, Early Learning and Child Care Program Consultant • 2 months
Priyanka Tan, Quality Child Care Niagara Coordinator • 10 months

Julie Thompson, Publications Administrator & Confidential Secretary • 19 years

Hayley Tonner, Early Learning and Child Care Resource Consultant • 1 year, 7 months

Ginette Wilson, Early Learning & Child Care Trainer • 5 years

Students and Volunteers

The ECCDC welcomes students and volunteers who are looking for fulfilling experiences in supporting our services and in sharing in dialogue around new approaches and innovative supports for the early learning sector. We thank Brock University's Bachelor of Early Childhood Education Program and Child Studies Program for our student placement partnership.



Awards of Excellence 2018





eccdc
early childhood community development centre