



*Inspiring excellence in early learning
and child care since 1993*

**Collaboration
Innovation
Leadership
Respect
Professionalism**

eccdc

Early Childhood Community Development Centre
2019/20 Community Impact Report

Barb Tronzo

For our field, we are so blessed to have the ECCDC to unite us, to help strengthen us, to build us up, to give us that respect that we so well deserve in order to continue to flourish for a better community.



Welcome to the 2019/2020 Community Impact Report

While it seems like our 25th organizational anniversary flew by quickly, we were happy to celebrate by sending thank you letters expressing gratitude to our funders, partners, business supporters, and local elected officials and we offered a series of free workshops and library draws for our stakeholders. We were excited to offer *25 Tips for Engaging Learning with Loose Parts* offered by our good friends Jen Smith and Rose Gentilcore of the District School Board of Niagara and the Niagara Catholic District School Board, *25 Ways to Boost Your Board* with longstanding supporter Gay Douglas, *25 Ways to Promote Literacy in the Playground* led by our colleague and friend Jill Bienenstock, and *25 Tried and True Forest School Experiences* presented by the nature oriented Team at Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care. We couldn't have been more grateful for our friends and colleagues who offered these sessions and our many business partners who supported refreshments.

Within the resource library and organizational support services we were pleased to deliver hundreds of resources and do-it-yourself, play-based pick up and play resources. We were also excited to offer board support and supervisor mentor support to programs inside and outside of Niagara, more frequently than ever before. We also embarked on the ambitious plan of relocating our offices. Planning and renovating a new office space began in the Fall of 2019 and ended up being put on hold in early 2020, as the Pandemic unfolded.

Lastly, at the end of 2019 we launched a stakeholder survey which provided insight into several new areas of interest to our stakeholders, including offering webinars, providing membership opportunities for those who don't wish to borrow resources or live at a distance, as well as expanding awareness of our program support services which include board development guidance, financial bookkeeping human resource advice, supervisor team building support, workplace health and wellness, and a host of topics in between. We are currently developing our next strategic plan and look forward to working harder to further expanding these stakeholder priorities, while ensuring that we remain flexible and accommodating as the world of early learning and child care continues to shift and change.

It surely has been a journey and all of us at the ECCDC are so pleased to be able to support you in your most important work. We look forward to serving you on the next part of our journey together, as we navigate new waters together.

With Great Respect,



Kim Cole,
Board Chair
on behalf of
the ECCDC
Board of Directors



Lorrey Ariel Bonilla,
Executive Director
on behalf of the
ECCDC Staff Team

Community Impact Report 2019-2020



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ECCDC Annual
Survey Respondent

The ECCDC is continually adding innovative and inspiring components. Excellent support for early learning professionals. Thank you for all that you do and continue to offer!

Mission

Inspiring excellence in early learning and child care since 1993.

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.

Who We Are A Dedicated Board and Staff Team

Board of Directors

Kim Cole, Board President
Donna Dalgleish, Vice-President
Shelley Fehrman, Secretary/Treasurer
Jackie Kerry, Director
Dean Stunt, Director
Angela Wyr cimaga, Director

Staff Members

Lorrey Arial Bonilla, Executive Director • 24 years
Kelly Bol, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 10 years
Patricia Couroux, Coaching and Mentoring Services Coordinator • 6 years
Darlene Drouin, Information Systems Administrator • 11 years
Natalie Lane, Quality Child Care Niagara Program Consultant • 3 years
Jennifer Mosher, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 13 years
Katie-Lynn Parkinson, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 1.5 years
Priyanka Tan, Quality Child Care Niagara Coordinator • 2 years
Julie Thompson, Publications Administrator & Confidential Secretary • 20 years
Hayley Tonner, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 2.5 years
Marc Uger, Finance & I.T. Infrastructure Manager • 1 year
Ginette Wilson, Early Learning & Child Care Trainer • 6 years

Who We Are

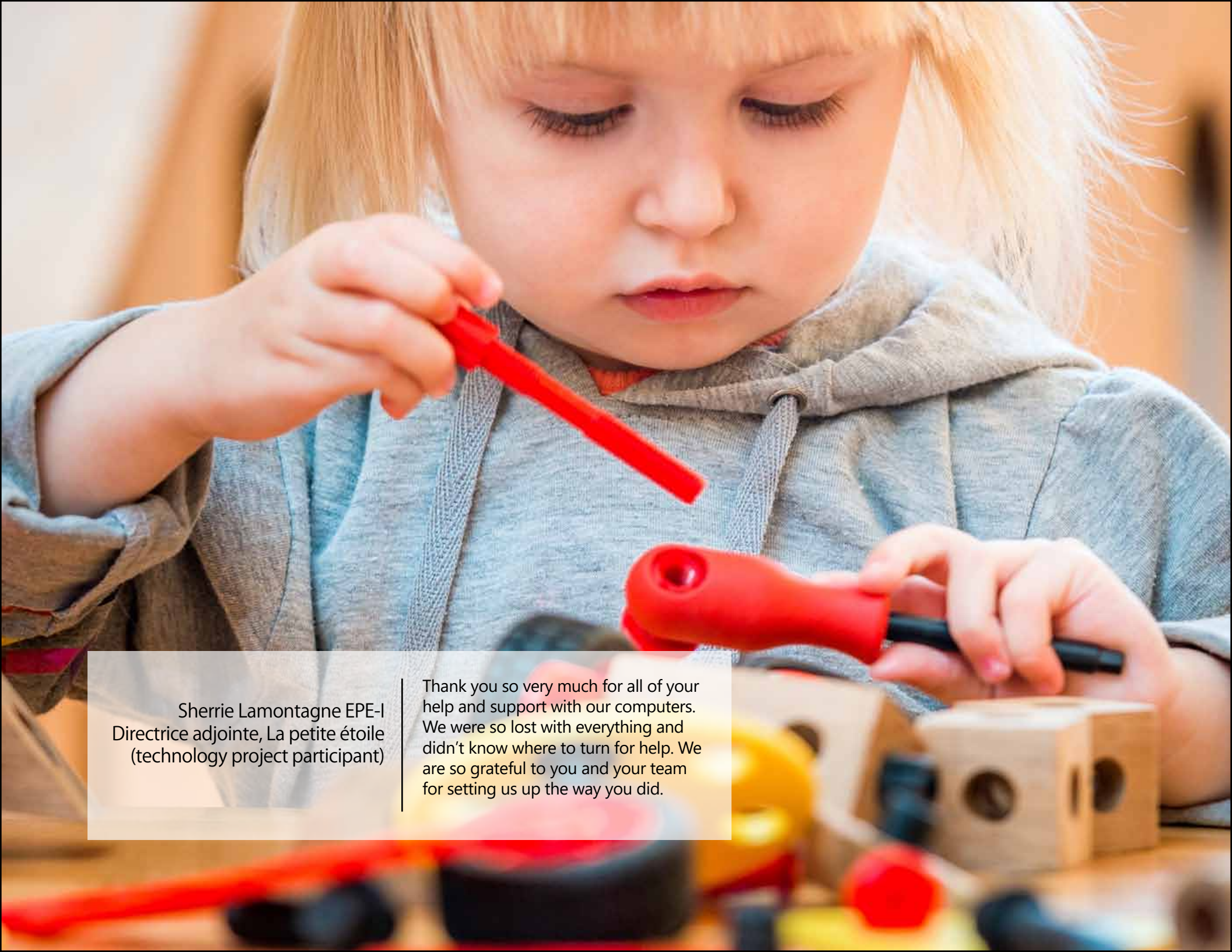
We are Committed Community Planning Partners

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

We are Grateful Hosts of many Students and Volunteers

The ECCDC welcomes students and volunteers who are looking for opportunities to support Niagara's early learning and child care community and develop innovative pedagogy and curriculum resources, support professional learning opportunities or engage with members within our resource lending library. We thank Brock University's Bachelor of Early Childhood Education Program and Child Studies Program for our student placement partnership.



Sherrie Lamontagne EPE-I
Directrice adjointe, La petite étoile
(technology project participant)

Thank you so very much for all of your help and support with our computers. We were so lost with everything and didn't know where to turn for help. We are so grateful to you and your team for setting us up the way you did.

Our Amazing Supporters



We Have Committed Funders
and Donors

Our Primary Funder

Our Board and Staff Team sends gratitude to our Primary Funder, Niagara Region Children's Services, for their ongoing support and partnership with many activities and their funding commitment

Our 2019 Project Funders

This year's project funders allowed us to coordinate so many innovative projects and special activities. We are very thankful to have your support.

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

Our 2019 Donors

This year's donors helped ensure that programs in Niagara were recognized and celebrated through the 2019 Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence.

- District School Board of Niagara
- Niagara Catholic District School Board
- YMCA of Niagara
- A Child's World Family Child Care Centres of Niagara
- Minuteman Press
- Mountainview Homes
- Beatties



ECCDC Annual
Survey Respondent

You have always offered a wide variety of excellent training and you inspire empowered, competent and respected early learning professionals.

Our Work

Pedagogical and
Curriculum Resources
for Borrowing

Staff and Community
Meeting Space

Professional
Networking
Opportunities

Professional Learning
Opportunities

Organizational
Supports



We Have Resourceful Library 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.

ABC Daycare
A Child's World Family Child Care Services of Niagara
Anna's Day Care
Applewood Public School
Au Coin des Petits – Centre Précolaire
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
Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School
Carousel Players
Childs View Co-operative Child Care Services
Community Living St. Catharines - Preschool Services
Community Living Welland Pelham - Children's Services
Connaught Public School
DSBN Curriculum Support Services & EarlyONS
DSBN Youth Counsellors
École élémentaire catholique Notre-Dame-de-la-Jeunesse
Family & Children Services of Niagara
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
Kids & Company – Wee Care Daycare
Kids Kastle Co-op
Kids Place
Kidzdom Preschools
Kinder Academy
La Boîte à soleil Coopérative
La Petite Etoile De Niagara Inc
Lakeview Public School
Les Coccinelles Zélées
MAC – Niagara Islamic School
Mini Retreat
Niagara Area Homeschool Group
Niagara Association of Christian Educators
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

Parnall Public School
Pathstone Mental Health
Power Glen Early Learning & Child Care
Preschool Central
Prince Philip N. Public School
Richmond Street Public School
Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care
Russell Avenue Community Centre
St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School
St. Charles Catholic Elementary School
St. David's Nursery School
St. David's Public School
St. James Catholic Elementary School
St. John Catholic Elementary School
St. John ESL for Childcare Students
St. Thomas Children's Day Care
Stamford Green Day Nursery
Strive Niagara
The Day Care Centre
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
West Lincoln Co-operative Nursery School
YMCA of Niagara

Our Impact



April 1, 2019 to
March 31, 2020

Resource Lending Library and Meeting Spaces

1067

Educators Had Access to Resources, Organizational Supports, a Technical Workroom and Meeting Spaces through Library Membership

147

New Provocation for Learning Kits Were Designed for Borrowing

2867

Hours were made Available for Resource Borrowing, Staff Collaborative Curriculum Planning and Networking

3561

Curriculum and Pedagogy Resources were Borrowed

1310

Visits

Were made to the Resource Lending Library by educators from across Niagara

201

Provocation for Learning Kits were Sold

A young child, likely a toddler, is sitting in a large pile of fallen autumn leaves. The child is wearing a light grey, quilted winter jacket with large buttons, a blue knit hat with a small bow, and red mittens. The child's arms are raised, and they appear to be holding a leaf. The background is a soft-focus green lawn and trees, suggesting an outdoor park setting. The overall mood is joyful and peaceful.

ECCDC Annual
Survey Respondent

You show a commitment to the individuals who are relying on your centre and your focus is on assisting them to the best of your ability.



Professional Learning and Recognizing and Celebrating the Early Learning Sector

189 | Professional Learning and Training Sessions were Offered

351 | Individuals Celebrated Niagara's Early Learning Community at the Annual Awards of Excellence in November 2019 Celebrating Once Upon A Time: Celebrating the Story of Niagara's Early Learning Community sponsored by Louise Kool and Galt

6377 | Educators and Administrators Attended Training Sessions

80 | Individuals were Recognized by Community Organizations at the Awards of Excellence

295 | Educators and Administrators were supported through 21 Community of Practice Network Sessions

46 | Local businesses contributed items for the silent auction

7 | Local Businesses Sponsored the Event



Métis Nation of
Ontario ELCC
Professional
Learning Conference
Participant

The ECCDC sessions provided information and activities to bring into the classroom to support students by incorporating hands-on engaging activities based on the natural elements.



Organizational Supports

121 | visits were made to early learning programs to share and deliver curriculum and pedagogy resources

261 | educators received curriculum materials through onsite visits

209 | Connections were made with programs offering organizational supports

310 | Individuals were supported through Board Development, Executive Director and Supervisor supports, or technical inquires

Quality Child Care Niagara Training and Program Visits

567 | Educators and Resource Consultants Attended 10 Reflective Practice Sessions

742 | Supervisors and Educators were Supported during 188 visits.

ECCDC Is a Roots of Empathy Coordinating Agency

56

classrooms within District School Board of Niagara and the Niagara Catholic District School Board and were also supported by our team in hosting Roots of Empathy

- As an internationally evidenced-based classroom program founded by Mary Gordan it is Roots of Empathy's belief that the "leaders of tomorrow" are sitting in classrooms all around the world today and that empathy is foundational to helping children build connections, navigate relationships and be inclusive to others. The program helps foster the development of empathy through the demonstration of a strong and secure attachment between infant and parent as well as an impactful, age appropriate curriculum delivered by trained instructors and supported by caring educators.
- The ECCDC Roots of Empathy Team liaises 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.





Marketing and Communications: ECCDC Website and Social Media

205,577 | Visits were made to www.eccdc.org

2549 | Individuals viewed ECCDC's Facebook page daily

911,515 | Page views were made on www.eccdc.org

2683 | likes were received on ECCDC's Facebook page

373 | Instagram Followers

806 | Twitter Followers



ECCDC Annual
Survey Respondent

Your vision statement,
*inspiring empowered,
competent, and respected
early learning professionals*
embodies what the ECCDC
does for everyone in child
care in Niagara.

Our Impact



April 1, 2019 to
March 31, 2020

Supporting Families in Finding Early Years Services through Parent Direct Niagara

64,994 | Visits were made to
www.parentdirectniagara.ca

157,233 | Page Views

714 | Parent Direct listings

Supporting the Early Learning and Child Care Sector with Recruitment

44,187 | Job listing views

175 | Job Postings



ECCDC Annual
Survey Respondent

ECCDC offers effective workshops and provides resources inspiring educators to set goals, plan, implement and deliver quality practices within early childhood settings

Our Stories

Métis Nation of
Ontario Early
Learning and
Child Care Staff

The ECCDC was an amazing addition to the Métis Nation of Ontario ELCC Professional Learning Conference. The ECCDC team worked with us to find sessions that would be applicable for a diverse group of participants attending the conference. The staff were wonderful in engaging with participants and brought helpful resources. The Four Elements Session was interactive and informative and incorporated the natural environment. Our Staff Team looks forward to having ECCDC at future events.

Christina Clark,
La Boîte à soleil

The customer service I received was great. Marc knew exactly what we wanted and helped us get the products we were looking for. He even remembered to release our order that was put on hold during the pandemic. Working with Marc is always a wonderful experience.

Michelle Good,
RECE, Executive
Director, St.
Thomas Early
Learning Centre

In the summer of 2019 I had the wonderful opportunity to meet and work with Lorrey as we transformed our board practices. With Lorrey's guidance and expertise we were able to begin the long process of moving towards a Policy Governance Model along with creating By-Laws that defined best practices. Lorrey was able to help us transition from a habitual practice to thoughtful principles. The process to move to Policy Governance was very rewarding as we took steps towards providing us with a path to effective and accountable leadership.

Métis Nation of
Ontario ELCC
Professional
Learning
Conference
Participant

I loved the content of the ECCDC sessions, and the presenters were very engaging! The experiential learning that took place around the four elements was thorough and well thought out. As a faculty and program (ECE) coordinator, I will use the information from the ECCDC sessions to inform my curriculum planning for my students.

Our Stories

Rosa Vieira
McGuire
DECE, Niagara
Catholic District
School Board

Where is my happy place to visit?
The ECCDC of course! I can find all the materials I need to provide a rich environment for the students in my class, and to be honest, for myself too, because when I show the new material to my class, the students' eyes light up. One of the favourite things I borrowed was the light table. I had to make a sign-up list because everyone wanted to go there. I'm really honest when I say, I feel very happy every time I visit ECCDC. I spend a least an hour and half there. This is especially true when Jennifer Mosher is there. I appreciate all her help and ideas. She is friendly, professional, and very creative. When I tell her what my students' interests are, she gives me tons of ideas and possibilities. She also always shows me the new books that are available. The library area is my favourite too. Thank you ECCDC for all you do for educators and children.



ECCDC
Annual Survey
Respondent

The organization is amazing and has so much to offer. I appreciate the continual growth it offers RECEs and the growth within its own organization as it continues to strive to do and be more!

Lisa Matchim,
President St.
Thomas Early
Learning

With Lorrey's guidance and support, our Board was able to effectively work through the process of identifying gaps and defining a path forward. Her professional, yet personal approach to coaching ensured that we were able to develop policies and processes that aligned to best practices within our sector, while also meeting our unique needs. Thanks to Lorrey, we now have a solid foundation upon which to grow and look forward to continued success in the years to come.



Lisa Smith,
customized
training
participant

We just recently shared the highlights of our training sessions with an educator who has been off for the past while. Each educator has taken a turn to share what inspired them the most/what was their key takeaway and how they will incorporate it into their program once we are able to offer programs again. It was so wonderful to hear how inspired the educators are from the wonderful training that your team provided.

Financial Report

Year ending March 31, 2020

Revenues

Government Grants	934,373
Other Grants	102,828
Program Income	529,619
Fundraising and donations	30,286

Total Revenues 1,597,106

Expenses

Programs and Services	455,589
Salaries & Benefits	821,631
Occupancy	110,120
Planning & Professional Fees	83,868
Fundraising Costs	23,686

Total Expenses 1,494,894

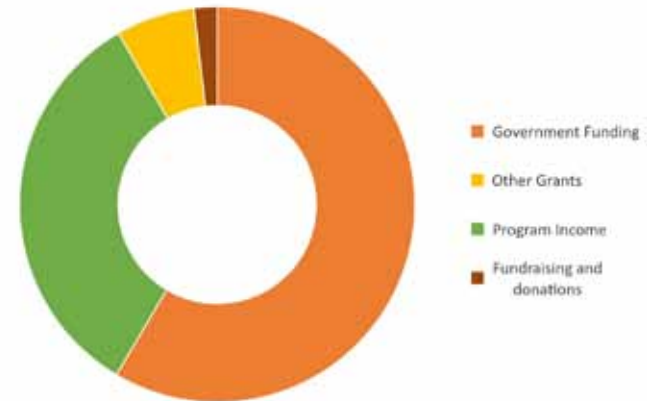
Excess of revenue over expenses fund allocation

Awards of Excellence	4,994
Nevada Community	1,606
Pandemic Recovery	95,612

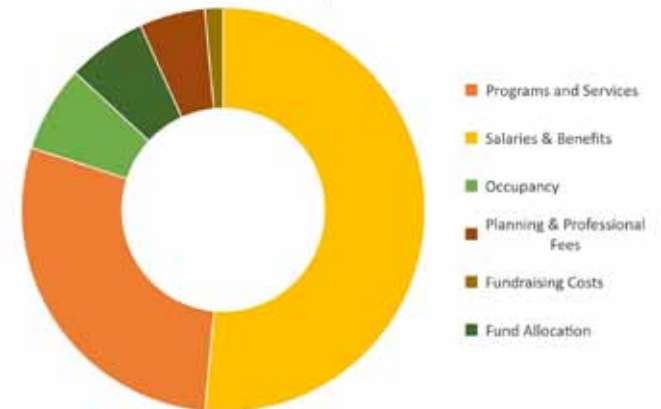
Total Expenses 1,597,106

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

Annual Revenue



Annual Expenditures



A young child with dark hair, wearing a blue and yellow striped t-shirt, is climbing a rope structure. The child is looking to the left. The background is a colorful mat with blue, yellow, and orange sections. A blue bucket is visible in the background.

What's AHEAD

- Rebranding Coaching and Mentoring Services to Organizational Supports
- Increasing our Webinar Offerings
- Strengthening our current library memberships
- Developing a new Association Membership