



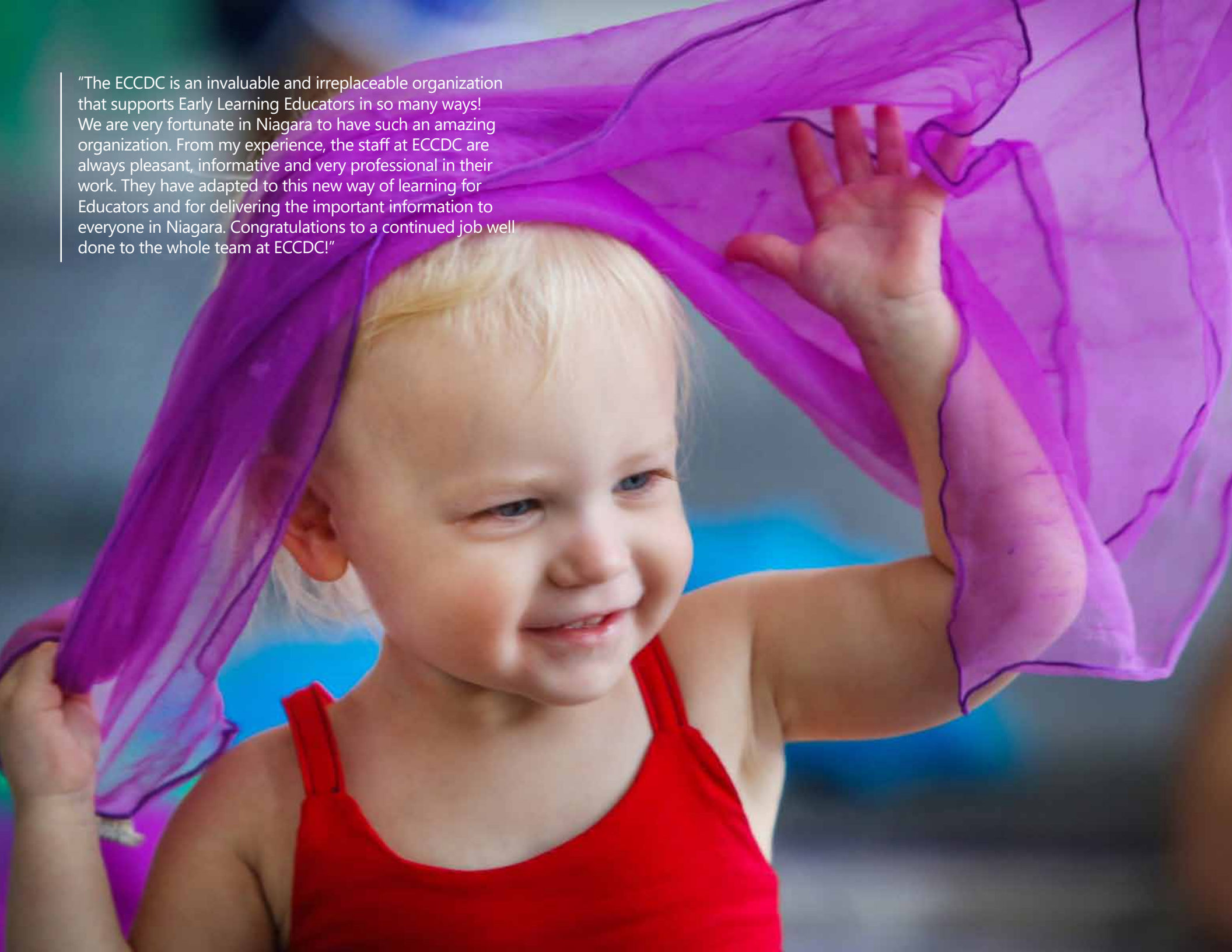
*Inspiring excellence in early learning
and child care since 1993*

Collaboration Innovation Leadership Respect Professionalism

eccdc

Early Childhood Community Development Centre
Community Impact Report
April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021

"The ECCDC is an invaluable and irreplaceable organization that supports Early Learning Educators in so many ways! We are very fortunate in Niagara to have such an amazing organization. From my experience, the staff at ECCDC are always pleasant, informative and very professional in their work. They have adapted to this new way of learning for Educators and for delivering the important information to everyone in Niagara. Congratulations to a continued job well done to the whole team at ECCDC!"



Early Childhood Community Development Centre

Reflecting On a Year of Challenge, Determination, Dedication ... and Gratitude

The ECCDC is proud to present this annual report to our community stakeholders, which covers the period of April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. In thinking back to this period of time, the words above: **challenge**, **determination**, **dedication** and **gratitude** resonate so much with us. We witnessed **dedication** all around us with our early learning partners who worked so diligently with patience and persistence to continue supporting children and families within quality environments. With **challenge** came many opportunities and we are so proud of the way our Team worked with **determination** to pivot our services to continue offering resources, training, and organizational supports in a thoughtful manner virtually.

However, the theme that resonated the most with all of us at the ECCDC is **gratitude**. We feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to support the important work of early learning programs and educators in Niagara and across Ontario, despite the challenging barriers. Without the amazing work of these dedicated, passionate, and determined programs and individuals, families would not have had access to the care they required for their children to enable them to return to work and support our economy. We continue to be grateful to have the opportunity to do this work and we extend our deepest appreciation and respect to all educators and early learning programs for their continued dedication.

There were many organizations who supported the ECCDC during a challenging year. The ECCDC wishes to acknowledge our primary funder, Niagara Region Children's Services, for their continued funding commitment, despite our service shifts. We also extend our gratitude to the Federal Government of Canada and the Provincial Government of Ontario for the wage and rent subsidies and business loan opportunities. We also thank Mountainview Property Group who supported our rent subsidy, which provided a much-needed buffer. We extend gratitude to the Ontario Trillium Foundation who funded the ECCDC for a Resilient Communities Grant and to Roots of Empathy who continued to support Niagara Roots of Empathy programs virtually. We also wish to recognize the many businesses who sponsored virtual events throughout the year including the Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara, Louise Kool and Galt, Pathstone Mental Health, and many, many others.

We thank you for your continued commitment and we look forward to serving you over the coming years!



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

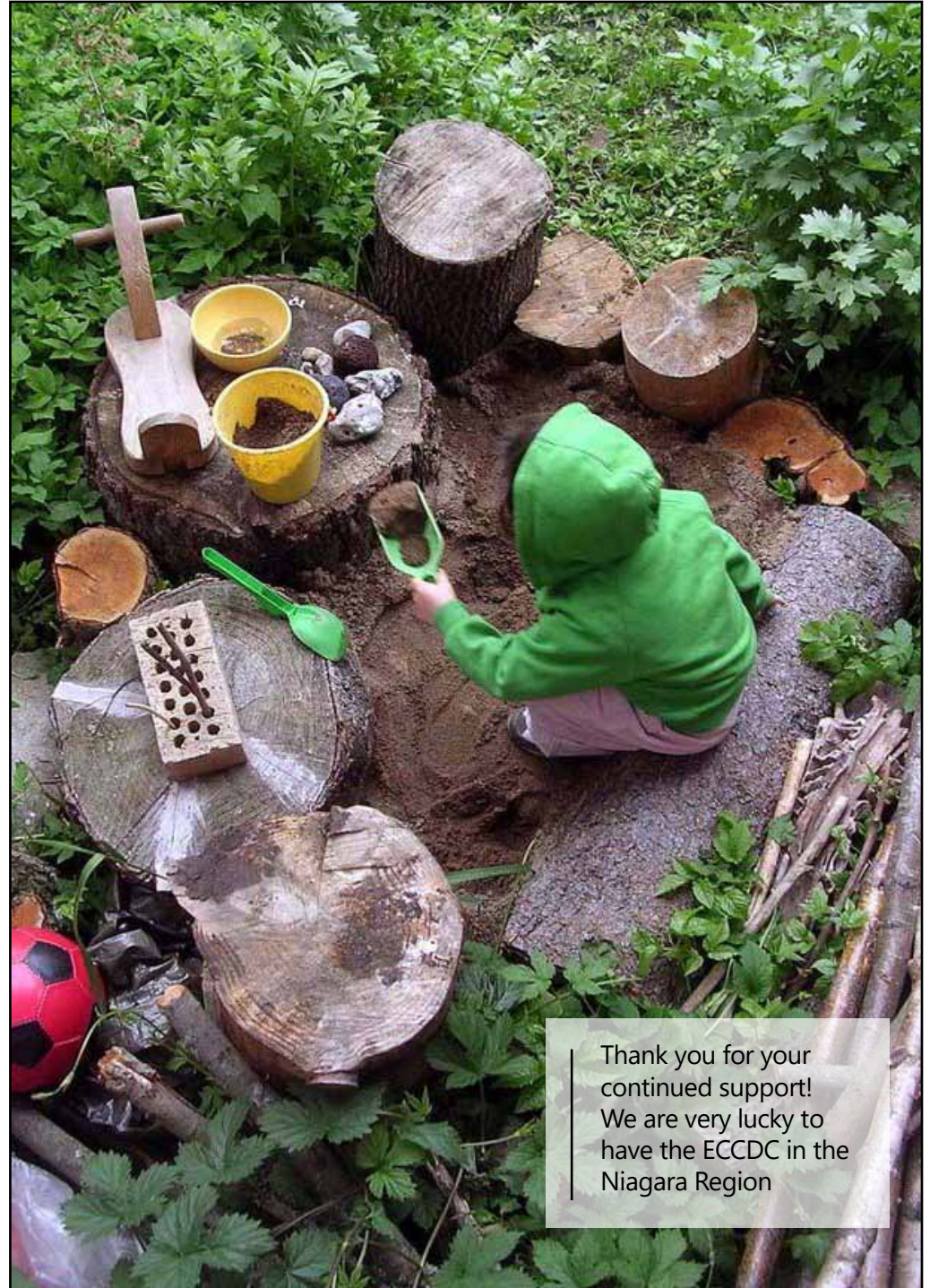


Lorrey Ariel Bonilla,
Executive Director
on behalf of the
ECCDC Staff Team

Community Impact Report 2020-2021



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Thank you for your continued support!
We are very lucky to have the ECCDC in the Niagara Region

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

Lorrey Ariel Bonilla, Ex-officio • 6 years
Kim Cole, Board President • 8 years
Donna Dalglish, Vice-President • 6 years
Shelley Fehrman, Secretary/Treasurer • 10 years
Jackie Kerry, Director • 7 years
Dean Stunt, Director • 10 years
Angela Wyr cimaga, Director • 1.5 years

Staff Members

Lorrey Ariel Bonilla, Executive Director • 25 years
Kelly Bol, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 11 years
Patricia Couroux, Coaching and Mentoring Services Coordinator • 7 years
Darlene Drouin, Information Systems Administrator • 12 years
Natalie Lane, Quality Child Care Niagara Program Consultant • 4 years
Jennifer Mosher, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 14 years
Katie-Lynn Parkinson, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 3 years
Priyanka Tan, Quality Child Care Niagara Coordinator • 3 years
Julie Thompson, Publications Administrator & Confidential Secretary • 21 years
Marc Uger, Finance & I.T. Infrastructure Manager • 2 years
Ginette Wilson, Early Learning & Child Care Trainer • 7 years
Hayley Wutzke, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 4 years

“The ECCDC provides great forward thinking and training initiatives across Ontario which is critical to supporting organizational stability for child care and EarlyON programs.”

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, engage with members within our resource lending library, or participate 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. We also send sincere gratitude to Canada Summer Jobs for the funding to hire amazing student interns.



“An excellent staff, source of training and all-round wonderful organization. You have been here for many years and have only gotten better. Keep up the great job and thank you especially for your support during this past year. Outstanding.”

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 and their funding commitment.

Our 2020/21 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.

- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Roots of Empathy International Office
- Canada Summer Jobs
- Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara
- Red Cross (Personal Protective Equipment)
- Niagara Community Foundation
- Mountainview Property Group (sponsored ECCDC's move in September 2020)

Our Amazing Supporters



We Have Committed Funders
and Donors

Our 2020/21 Donors

Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence (Virtual Event from December 14-18, 2020)

We are very grateful to the many donors and contributors who helped ensure programs in Niagara were recognized and celebrated through this special virtual event.

Donors

Louise Kool and Galt
District School Board of Niagara
Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds

Contributors

Niagara Region Children's Services and Niagara Region Chair Jim Bradley
MPP Jennie Stevens
College of Early Childhood Educators
Association of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario
Inclusive Child Care Supports Committee
Ryan Brousseau - Musical Entertainer

Feel Good February ~ A Wellness Event for Early Childhood Educators and the Children and Families They Serve (February 1-28, 2021)

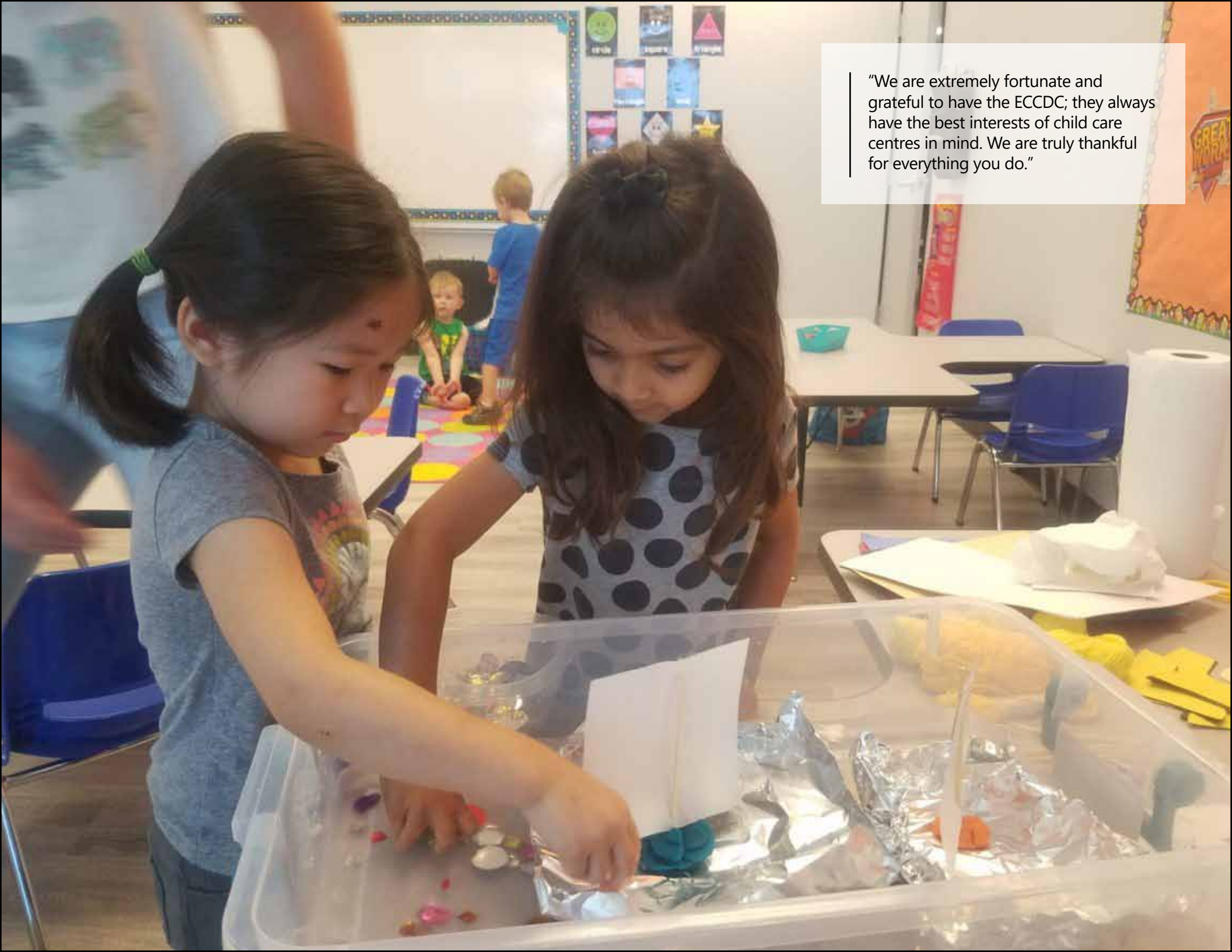
The ECCDC was grateful to have so many donors and contributors to this very special first, month-long event focused on supporting the health and wellness of Early Childhood Educators, the children enrolled in early learning programs, and their families.

Donors

Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara
Pathstone Mental Health

Contributors

Premier Fitness and Sports
Lost N Found Yoga
Dare to Declare
Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care
Niagara Catholic District School Board
Sleepwise Niagara
Chef Doug McNish



"We are extremely fortunate and grateful to have the ECCDC; they always have the best interests of child care centres in mind. We are truly thankful for everything you do."

Our Work

Professional Learning
Opportunities

Organizational Supports

Pedagogical and Curriculum
Resources for Borrowing

Professional Networking
Opportunities

Meeting Space for Early
Learning Programs and Not
for Profit Organizations



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
Parnall Public School
Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre
Garden City Nursery School
Glendale Day Care Centre
Grapeview Day Care
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
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-dela-Jeunesse
Family & Children's Services of Niagara
Fort Erie Co-operative Preschool
Great Lakes Christian Preschool
Grimsbey Co-op Preschool
Heartland Forest Nature Experience
Kids & Company – Wee Care Daycare
Kids Kastle Co-op
Kids Place
Kidzdome Preschools
Kinder Academy
La Boîte à soleil Coopérative
La Petite Etoile De Niagara Inc
Lakeview Public School
Les Coccinelles Zélées
Mini Retreat
Niagara Area Homeschool Group
Niagara Association of Christian Educators
Niagara Children's Centre
Niagara Nursery School & Child Care Centre
Niagara Region Public Health
Niagara Region Children's Services
Niagara Support Services - Preschool Services

North End Co-op Preschool
Parents Peace of Mind
Power Glen Early Learning & Child Care Preschool Central
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. 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



Resource Lending Library and Meeting Spaces

1022 | Educators Had Access to Resources, Organizational Supports, a Technical Workroom and Meeting Spaces through Library Membership

723 | Curriculum and Pedagogy Resources were borrowed or purchased

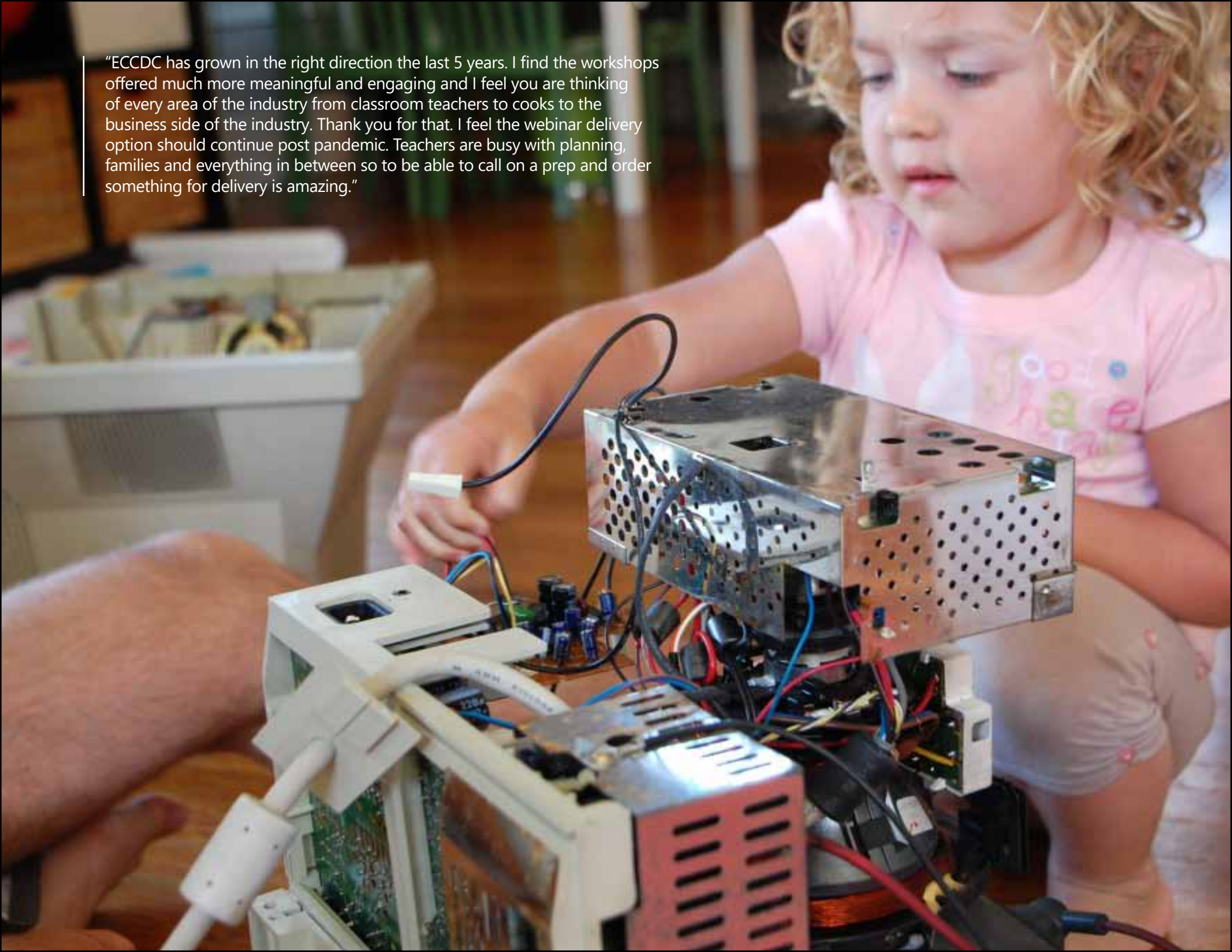
2139 | Hours were made Available for Resource Borrowing, Staff Collaborative Curriculum Planning and Networking

347 | Visits were made by educators to the Resource Lending Library or visits were made directly to child care programs to deliver resource materials

2508 | Curriculum and Pedagogy Resources were made available for borrowing

75 | New Provocation for Learning Kits Were Designed for Borrowing

"ECCDC has grown in the right direction the last 5 years. I find the workshops offered much more meaningful and engaging and I feel you are thinking of every area of the industry from classroom teachers to cooks to the business side of the industry. Thank you for that. I feel the webinar delivery option should continue post pandemic. Teachers are busy with planning, families and everything in between so to be able to call on a prep and order something for delivery is amazing."



Our Impact



April 1, 2020 to
March 31, 2021

Professional Learning

133 | Virtual Professional Learning and Training Sessions were Offered

4079 | Educators and Administrators Attended these Training Sessions

185 | Educators and Administrators were supported through 28 Community of Practice Network Sessions held virtually





Recognizing, Celebrating, and Supporting the Early Learning Sector

From December 14 to 18, **Niagara's Annual Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence** was shifted to be offered virtually due to COVID-19

5 | Days of virtual greetings, door prize draws, entertainment, and celebrations were offered

4 | Local Businesses Sponsored the Event

2080 | Views by Educators On the Awards of Excellence Activity and Event pages

“Overall, I believe the ECCDC does very well at supporting educators’ professional development which helps us be better educators.”





Supporting the Health and Wellbeing of the Early Learning Sector with Feel Good February

28 | Days were offered with interactive activities, draws, demonstrations and workshops to support the health and well-being of educators, families and children enrolled in their programs.

6 | Virtual Webinars were Offered

2 | Healthy Eating Food Demonstrations were Offered

550 | Educators and Administrators Attended the Virtual Webinars or Food Demonstrations

1300 | Views by Educators for event videos and demonstrations, including: mindfulness, fitness, benefits of aromatherapy, an online yoga class, staying positive wellness talk, and the benefits of stretching



“The word inspiring best describes the people who work with ECCDC. Not only does the ECCDC inspire us with what we can be, but also with the creative ideas we can gain with the tools and opportunities the ECCDC provides.”



Organizational Supports

235 | Connections were made with programs offering organizational supports

143 | Individuals were supported through Board Development, Executive Director, Supervisor, or technical inquires

58 | Visits were made to early learning programs to share and deliver curriculum and pedagogy resources

Quality Child Care Niagara Training and Program Visits

960 | Educators Attended 19 Reflective Practice Sessions

506 | Educators Attended 30 Conversation Cafés

142 | Program visits were offered either in person or virtually



ECCDC Is a Roots of Empathy Coordinating Agency

56

Classrooms within the District School Board of Niagara and the Niagara Catholic District School Board were supported in hosting the Roots of Empathy traditional program for the 2019/2020 school year

18

Classrooms within the District School Board of Niagara and The Niagara Catholic District School Board were supported in hosting the Roots of Empathy recovery program for the 2020/2021 school year

Planning began with DSBN and NCDSB for a spring Conversation Café with Mary Gordon to recognize Niagara's Roots of Empathy Instructors.





Marketing and Communications: ECCDC Website and Social Media

177,829 | Visits were made to www.eccdc.org

2602 | Likes were received on ECCDC's Facebook page

1,303,953 | Page views were made on www.eccdc.org

821 | Twitter Followers

4199 | Individuals viewed ECCDC's Facebook page daily

440 | Instagram Followers

"I appreciate everything
the ECCDC tries to do
with every curve ball
thrown last year."



Our Impact



April 1, 2020 to
March 31, 2021

Supporting Families in Finding Early Years Services through Parent Direct Niagara

44,426 | Visits were made to
www.parentdirectniagara.ca

118,567 | Parent Direct Niagara page views

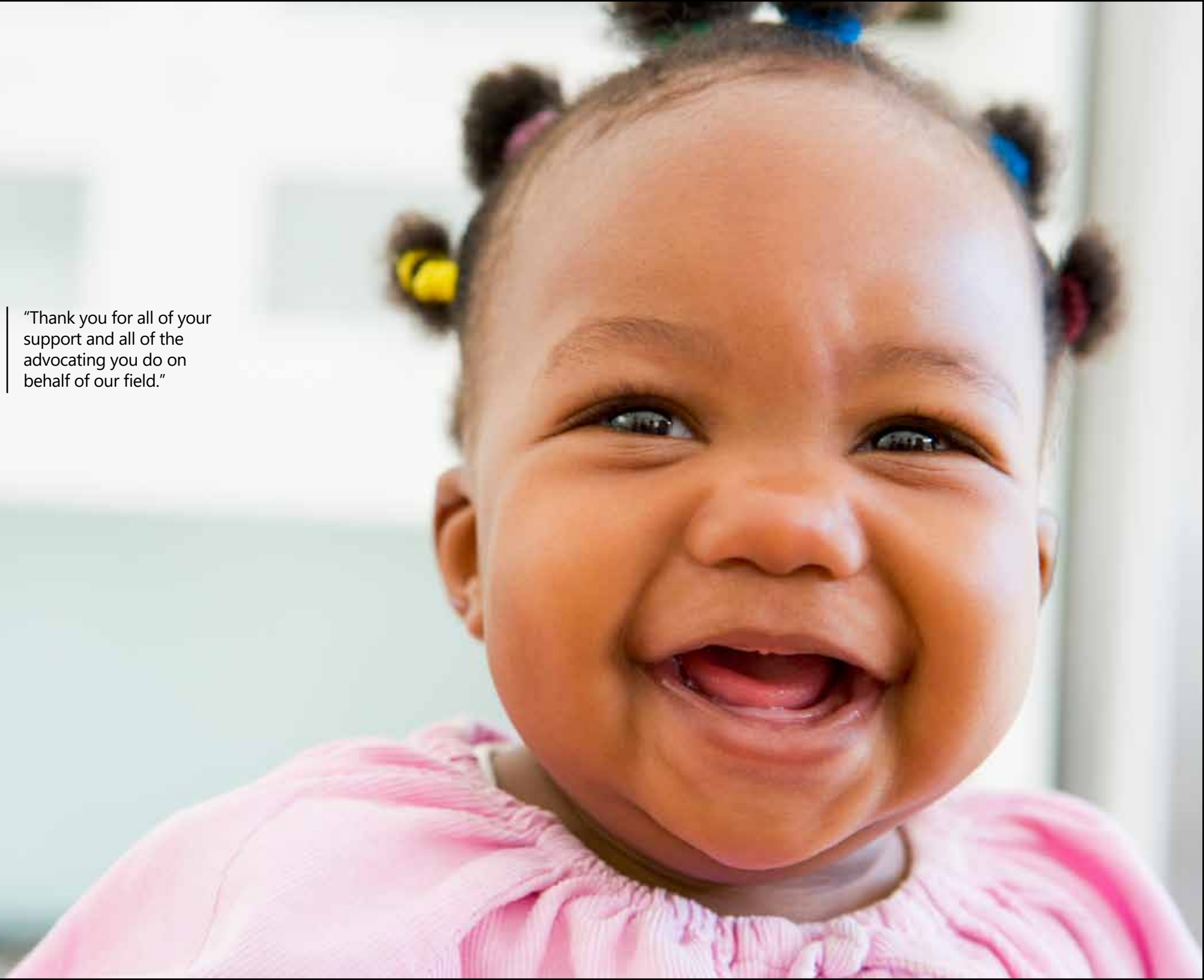
709 | Parent Direct listings

Supporting the Early Learning and Child Care Sector with Recruitment

46,765 | Job listing views

114 | Job Postings Submitted to ECCDC

“Thank you for all of your support and all of the advocating you do on behalf of our field.”



Our Stories

“A wonderful resource in our back pockets!”

“The ECCDC is fantastic all around. I think you address all the benefits of organizational supports.”

“The lending library is very helpful for children using the provocations to help them learn in all areas of development.”

“Your organization is wonderful. You offer a variety of resources and support. Keep growing and doing the great work.”

“Through Quality Child Care Niagara, I feel that I am much better equipped to help children and families and answer questions about their children’s development. Also the parts about creating meaningful interactions with both the children and families, I found invaluable. These strategies will certainly help me communicate effectively and develop good relationships, which is one of the core elements of quality child care.”

Our Stories

“I always gain knowledge through the training the ECCDC offers, the training is very wide allowing for me to best use what affects my position at the time.”

“ECCDC provides a range of professional learning and excellent, knowledgeable presenters.”

“Grateful to have the ECCDC and all the services they provide.”

“We love everything you are offering and all of your support. Thank you!”

“Thank you for all of the great online learning opportunities this past year.”

“Thank you again for your ongoing support and ongoing innovation with all of the webinars and events.”

“Keep up the excellent work. You are a valuable asset to the child care community!”

"I long for the day the pandemic is over and we can all meet together again. I'm sure I'm not alone in my preference for in person professional development. I am continuously grateful that our community has the ECCDC to support the educators in our region. I love the delivery service for the library kits!"



Financial Report

Year ending March 31, 2021

Revenues

Government Funding	834,822
Other Grants	98,894
Program Income	334,176
Fundraising and donations	980
Total Revenues	1,268,872

Expenses

Programs and Services	357,909
Salaries & Benefits	794,242
Occupancy	100,721
Planning & Professional Fees	143,944
Fundraising Costs	312

Total Expenses 1,397,128

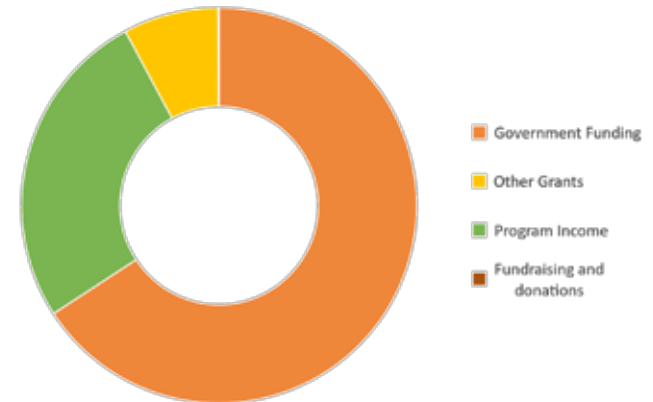
Operational Surplus (Deficit) (128,256)

COVID-19 Recovery Benefits 369,638

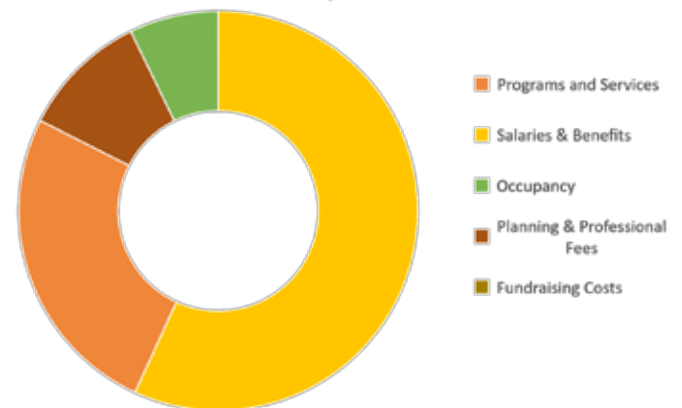
Excess of revenue over expenses fund allocation

Awards of Excellence	668
Program Termination Fund	17,691
Technology Fund	10,000
Pandemic Recovery	213,024

Annual Revenue



Annual Expenditures



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



eccdc

early childhood community development centre