

Early Childhood Community Development Centre
Community Annual Report

April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

eccdc

Inspiring excellence in early learning and child care since 1993

Collaboration

Innovation

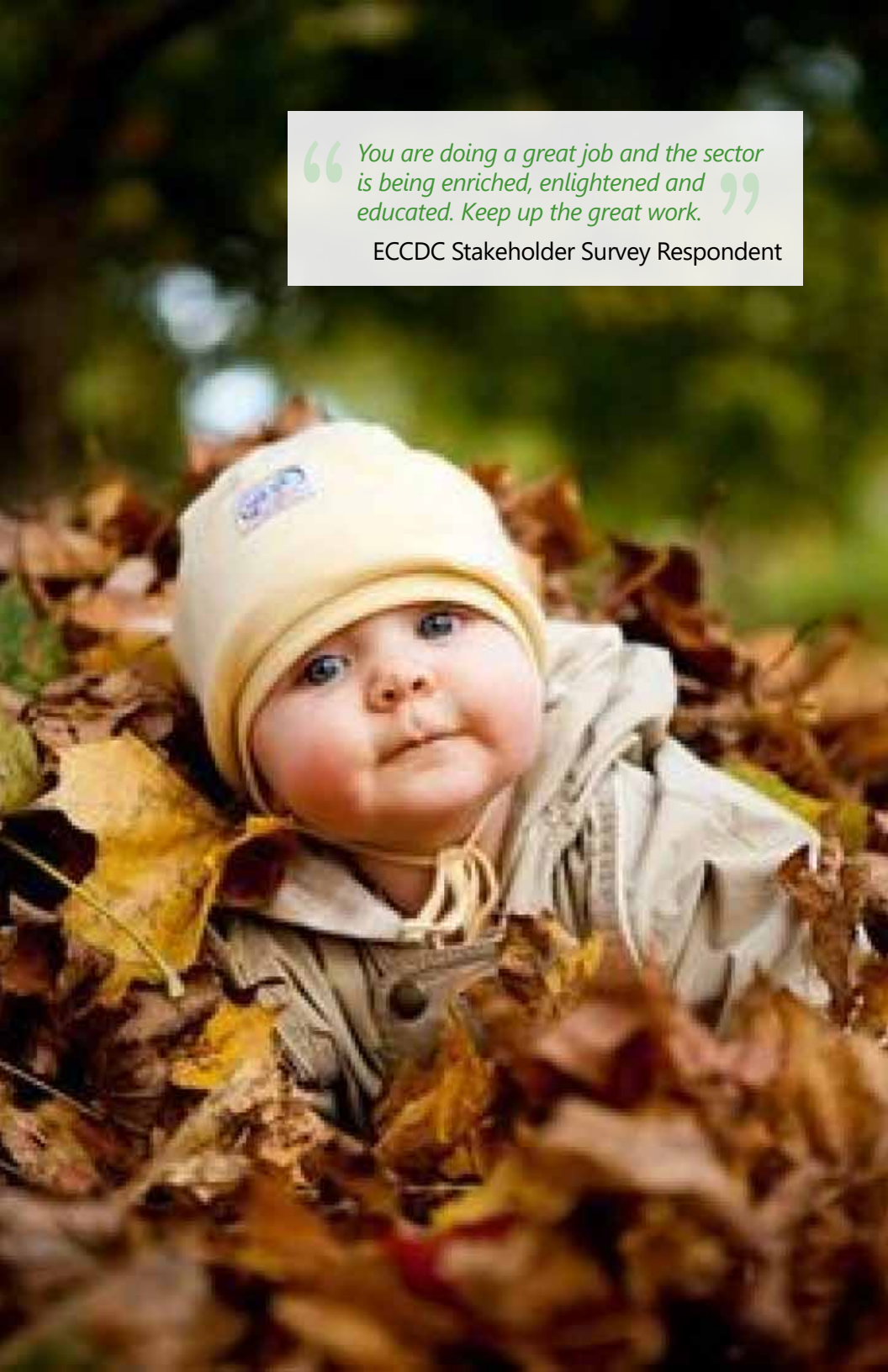
Leadership

Respect

Professionalism

Wellbeing





“ You are doing a great job and the sector is being enriched, enlightened and educated. Keep up the great work. ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

Welcome to the April 2023 to March 2024 Community Annual Report

Pedagogy And Curriculum Resources ~ Professional Learning Opportunities ~ Coaching, Mentoring and Organizational Supports ~ Roots of Empathy Coordinating Agency ~ Mentoring Pairs for Child Care

The ECCDC Board and Staff Team are pleased to present our Community Annual Report for the year April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

We thank you for your ongoing engagement with the ECCDC and we look forward to having the privilege of serving you over the coming year. We thank you for all of the feedback you continue to share in our regular service evaluations as well as our annual stakeholder survey. Please don't hesitate to share ideas and suggestions at any time throughout the year, as we're always striving to find new and innovative ways to enhance the services we offer to you.

Thank you for the outstanding work you do each and every day on behalf of children and their families, it is an honour to support you in your very important work.

Respectfully Yours,
The ECCDC Board and Staff Team

Kim Cole,
ECCDC Board President

Lorrey Arial Bonilla,
ECCDC Executive Director

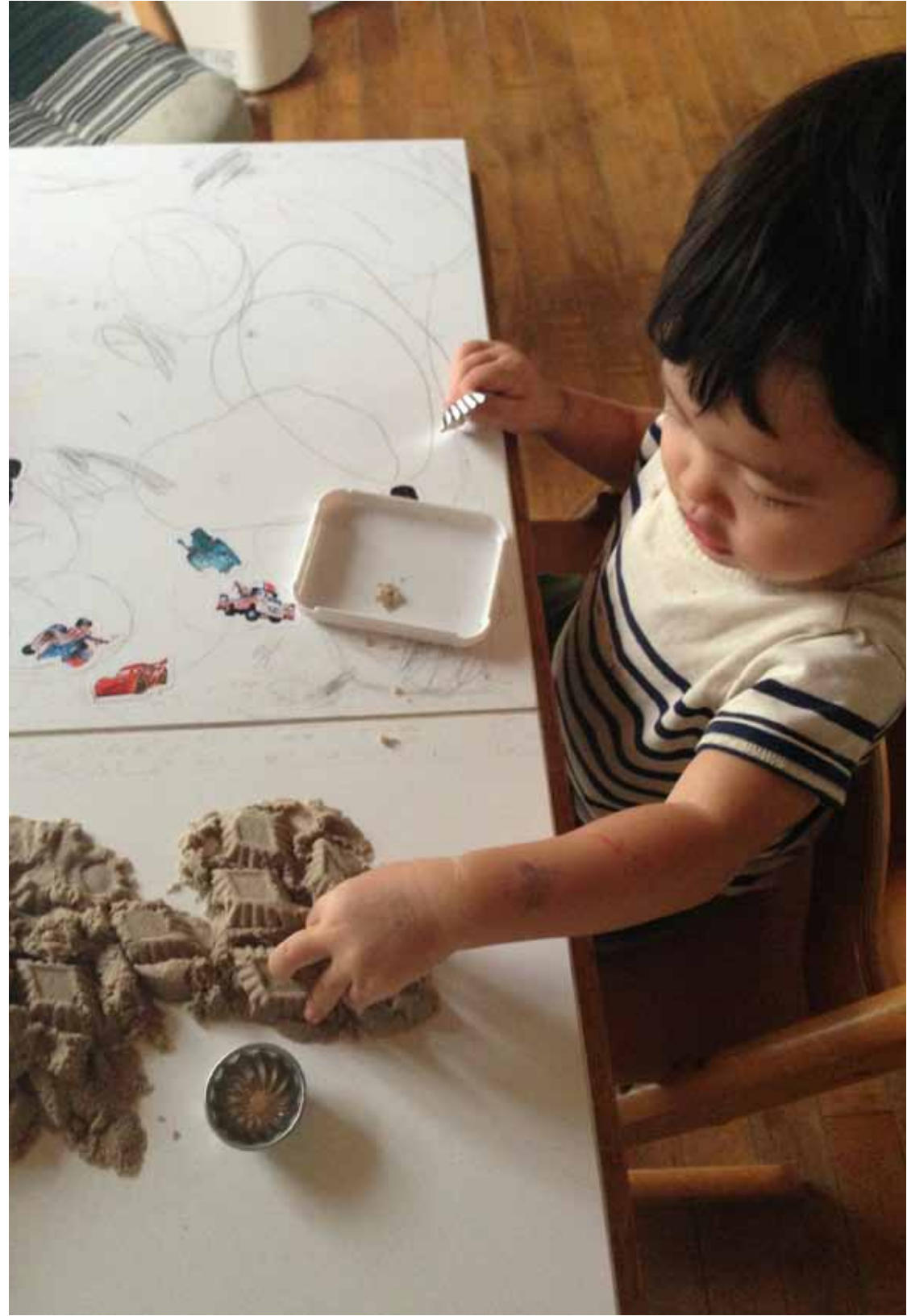
“ Absolutely love everything the ECCDC does from their Awards Nights to their seminars, lending library, and resource books. The only suggestion I would make is for myself to utilize this service more! ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent



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Get to Know the ECCDC

Our Mission, Vision, Purpose, and Values

Early Childhood Community Development Centre

The ECCDC is an independent charitable organization in its 31st year inspiring excellence in early learning and child care through thought leadership, cutting edge training, innovative resources and coaching services highlighting best practices and emerging trends.

ECCDC Niagara

The ECCDC is grateful to Niagara Region Children's Services for funding the ECCDC to offer many of our services and supports for the benefit of Niagara's early learning and child care community.

ECCDC *Outside* Niagara

ECCDC supports many organizations across Ontario by offering training and coaching and mentoring services on a fee for service basis, upon request.

Mission

Inspiring excellence in early learning and child care through the provision of innovative training, quality resources, and insightful organizational supports.

Vision

Early learning professionals will be empowered through having access to innovative supports.

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 take pride in developing strong partnerships to respond to the emerging needs of the early learning and child care community.

Innovation • We are dedicated to developing quality resources and services that align with emerging trends to support early learning professionals in making an impact every day.

Leadership • We bring our dedication and guidance to elevate the profession by fostering opportunities for professional growth.

Respect • We support, recognize, and value the important work of early learning professionals.

Professionalism • We bring together knowledge, expertise, and understanding to mentor those working in early learning programs to promote high quality experiences.

Wellbeing • We provide opportunities to support the overall health, happiness, and vitality of early learning professionals.



“In-person training we accessed through ECCDC was well put together and the communication before the training was excellent to help tailor the training to the needs of our centre.”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

Our Board and Staff Team

We Have a Dedicated and Enthusiastic Team

Board of Directors

Kim Cole, Board President • 11 years
Donna Dalglish, Vice-President • 9 years
Melissa McLauchlan, Secretary/Treasurer • 2 years
Angela Wycimaga, Director • 4.5 years
Jennifer Smith, Director • 1 year
Sarah Maragoudakis, Director • 1 year
Lorrey Arial Bonilla, Ex-officio • 9 years

Staff Members

Lorrey Arial Bonilla, Executive Director • 28 years
Kelly Bol, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 14 years
Ashley Carter, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 1 year
Patricia Couroux, Coaching and Mentoring Services Coordinator • 10 years
Darlene Drouin, Information Systems Administrator • 15 years
Jennifer Mosher, Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant • 17 years

Katie-Lynn Parkinson, Early Learning and Child Care Program Consultant • 6 years
Priyanka Tan, Quality Child Care Niagara Coordinator • 6 years
Julie Thompson, Publications Administrator & Confidential Secretary • 24 years
Marc Uger, Finance & I.T. Infrastructure Manager • 5 years
Ginette Wilson, Early Learning and Child Care Program Consultant • 10 years
Hayley Wutzke, Early Learning Training and Events Consultant • 7 years



“ I think you are an amazing team of educators and presenters and really have your hand on the pulse of our communities. So very happy to be able to participate in your learning opportunities. ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent



Our Funders and Donors

We have committed Funders and Donors

The ECCDC is grateful to **Niagara Region Children's Services** for funding many of the ECCDC's services and supports for Niagara's early learning and child care programs to access.



We have been honoured to work alongside the **St. Catharines, Stamford, and Welland Kiwanis Clubs** for close to 20 years to bring many training and resource opportunities at no cost to Niagara's child care centres. We are also grateful for the Clubs' collective four-year financial contribution for lease of a community outreach van to provide resources to early learning programs across Niagara.



We are thankful to the International **Roots of Empathy** Team for annualized funding for ECCDC to serve in the role of Coordinating Agency, working alongside our partners at Niagara Catholic District School Board and the District School Board of Niagara.



The ECCDC extends deepest appreciation to the **Ontario Trillium Foundation** for awarding Capital Grant funding in 2023 to expand the community spaces within the ECCDC Thorold, Ontario office.



ECCDC was the grateful recipient of **Canada Summer Jobs** Program funding to hire Three Summer Interns in 2023.



We thank our **Event Sponsor, Louise Kool & Galt**, and all our **Business Donors** for their contributions towards the 2023 Annual Early Learning & Child Care Awards of Excellence.



We are Committed Community Planning Partners

We thank the International Office of **Roots of Empathy** and our partners at **District School Board of Niagara** and **Niagara Catholic District School Board** for the opportunity to coordinate Niagara's Roots of Empathy Programs.



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

- Niagara Children's Planning Council
- Niagara Region Workforce Recruitment and Retention Table
- Quality Child Care Niagara Advisory Committee
- Niagara Child Care Sector Executive Committee
- Niagara College Early Childhood Education Program Advisory Committee
- Young Children Priority First Committee with the Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara

We Are Grateful Hosts of Many Students and Volunteers

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 our valuable summer student interns.



“ My interactions with the ECCDC team have been wonderful. I appreciate the dedicated professional learning opportunities for EarlyON teams. ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent



Our Work - Service Highlights

The Groups We Serve

We are pleased to have the opportunity to support many early learning organizations through resource lending library memberships, community planning, coaching and mentoring services, or professional learning.

ECCDC Niagara

The ECCDC is grateful to Niagara Region Children's Services for funding the ECCDC to offer many of our services and supports for the benefit of Niagara's early learning and child care community.

Below is a list of organizations we served from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

A Child's World Family Child Care Services of Niagara (20 centres)
ABC Daycare Centre
Adamo Montessori Academy (2 centres)
Alexandra Ridge Montessori
Althorp Montessori School (2 centres)
Anna's Daycare Centre
Beamsville Early Learning & Child Care Centre
Bee Montessori Niagara (2 centres)
Bethesda Children's Services
Bethesda - Ontario Autism Program
Beyond Montessori School
BGC Niagara (10 centres)
C. Sisters of the Sacred Heart's Children's Day Care
Centre de santé communautaire Hamilton-Niagara (2 centres)
Centre éducatif Les p'tigroux

Childcare Central
Child's View Child Care Services (3 centres)
Family & Children's Services of Niagara (2 centres)
Community Living St. Catharines - Children's Services
Community Living Welland Pelham Children's Services
DSBN Curriculum Support Services & EarlyONs (3 centres)
EarlyON - Bethlehem Place
EarlyON - Grimsby (Strive Niagara)
EarlyON - NCDSB (4 centres)
EarlyON - Odrohageweh, Clear Skies
EarlyON - Port Cares (6 centres)
EarlyON - Tshikeksa', FENFC
EarlyON - YMCA of Niagara (4 centres)
Ferndale Public School
Fonthill Montessori Preschool (2 centres)
Fort Erie Co-operative Nursery School
Fort Erie International Academy (Childcare)
Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (2 centres)
Garden City Nursery School (2 centres)
Glendale Early Learning Child Care Centre
Grapeview Day Care Centre
Great Lakes Christian Preschool
Greenbelt Academy & Early Learning Centre
Grimsby Community Preschool

Harbour Preschool
Hickory Creek Childcare Corporation (2 centres)
Infant and Child Development Services
James Morden Public School
John Brant Public School
Jordan Christian School
Kids Kastle Co-operative Nursery School
Kids Place
Kidzdome Preschool
LJT Childcare (2 centres)
Kings Heritage Christian Childcare
La Boîte à soleil Coopérative (7 centres)
La petite étoile de Niagara Inc.
La Petite Etoile et club d'après l'école
Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir (2 centres)
Maple Crest Early School
Maple Leaf Montessori School of NOTL
Métis Nation of Ontario
Mini Retreat Childcare (2 centres)
Niagara Children's Centre - Early Years Team Services
Niagara College Early Childhood Education Program Students
Niagara Nursery School & Child Care Centre
Niagara Region Children's Services (5 centres)
Niagara Region Children's Services - Resource Teachers
Niagara Region Home Child Care - Providers

Niagara Support Services - Preschool Services
 North End Co-operative Preschool
 Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Catholic Elementary School
 Parents' Peace of Mind Corporation (3 centres)
 Pathways Academy and Early Learning Centre
 Playtown Niagara - Town's Little Leaders
 Port Dalhousie Nursery School
 Power Glen Early Learning & Child Care Centre
 Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care
 St. Davids Co-operative Nursery School
 St. John Adult Learning Centre - ESL for Childcare Program
 St. Thomas' Day Care
 Six Nations Polytechnic Indigenous Early Childhood Education Program
 Stamford Green Day Nursery
 Strive Niagara (9 centres)
 Sweet Love Childcare
 TeachNativeCulture
 Terra Viva Montessori Bilingual - Scott Street (2 centres)
 The Chestnut Tree Preschool Inc. (3 centres)
 The Day Care Centre (2 centres)
 Thorold Community Child Care Services
 Thorold Co-operative Nursery School
 Top of the Ridge Day Care
 Tots-N-Tikes
 Trail Ridge Montessori School Inc. (2 centres)
 Turtle Club Day Care (EYES Niagara)
 Wainfleet Kiddy Kollege
 Way to Grow Daycare Inc. (8 centres)
 Wee Watch Enriched Home Child Care - Niagara
 West Lincoln Co-operative Nursery School
 West Niagara Resource Consultant Program (FACS)
 YMCA of Niagara (46 centres)
 YMCA of Niagara - Inclusion Support
 Your Preschools (Smithville Christian Preschool) (3 centres)

ECCDC *Outside Niagara*

ECCDC supports many organizations across Ontario by offering training and coaching and mentoring services on a fee for service basis upon request.

Below is a list of organizations we served from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

Algoma District Services Administration Board
 Bruce County Children's Services
 Catundra Day Care Centre
 Centre francophone du Grand Toronto
 Chantham Kent Early Years
 Cornwall Children's Services
 District Municipality of Muskoka Children's Services
 District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board
 District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board - Children's Services
 Durham Region
 Eksa'okon:a Child Care Centre
 Hastings County Children's Services
 Junction Day Care
 Manitoba Child Care Association
 Manitoulin Sudbury District Services Board
 Milestones Children's Center
 Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation EarlyON
 Next to Mom Inc.
 St. Thomas Early Learning Centre
 Wellington County
 York Region Children's Services
 York Region EarlyONs
 YWCA of St. Thomas-Elgin
 YWCA of Kitchener-Waterloo - Bridge Street Child Care Centre



“ I love the mobile service! Time is a precious commodity. ECCDC's delivery service is a huge help for my team! ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey
Respondent

Our Work - Service Highlights

Resource Lending Library and Meeting Spaces

3519 | Educators had access to resources, pedagogical supports, a technical workroom, and meeting spaces through Library Membership.

1217 | Visits were made by educators dropping into the Resource Lending Library or were made directly to child care programs delivering resource materials.

541 | Programs had access to Resource Library Membership and meeting facilities.

3802 | Curriculum and pedagogy resources were borrowed or purchased.

2867 | Hours were made available for resource borrowing, staff collaborative curriculum planning, and networking.

135 | New provocation for learning kits were designed for borrowing or purchasing.

5308 | Curriculum and pedagogy resources were made available for borrowing.

Our Work - Service Highlights

*Professional Learning and Community
of Practice Network Meetings*

104 | Advertised community-wide training sessions were offered in person or virtually.

3460 | Educators and Administrators attended customized professional learning at in person or virtual training sessions.

4955 | Educators and Administrators attended advertised community-wide training sessions.

183 | Educators and Administrators were supported through **23** community of practice network sessions held virtually.

131 | Customized professional learning and training sessions were offered in person or virtually to community early learning agencies upon request.

“ The meeting rooms for seminars are very spacious and set up really nicely! ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent



Our Work - Service Highlights

*Coaching, Mentoring and Organizational Supports
and Quality Child Care Niagara Training
and Program Visits*

1265

Educators and Administrators were supported with curriculum planning, team building, playground naturalization, board development, or technical needs. through **325** visits.

243

Educators attended **14** QCCN Reflective Practice Training Modules or QCCN Conversation Cafés.

70

QCCN visits were offered either in person or virtually, where the QCCN Coordinator interacted with **310** individuals.

Our Work - Service Highlights

*Recognizing, Celebrating and Supporting
the Early Learning Sector*

Event: 2023 Niagara Early Learning & Child Care Awards of Excellence

Theme: *Cheers to 30 Years! Celebrating The Commitment Of Niagara's Early Learning And Child Care Community Since 1993 on Thursday November 23, 2023*

460

Individuals celebrated Niagara's Early Learning Community at the annual Awards of Excellence in November 2023.

86

Individuals or programs were recognized by community organizations at the Awards of Excellence.

9

Businesses sponsored the event with a financial contribution: Beatties; Frontier Distributing; Beam Construction; Steele Construction; Niagara Catholic District School Board; YMCA of Niagara; A Child's World Family Child Care Services; District School Board of Niagara; and Mountainview Building Group.

44

Local businesses contributed to the Silent Auction.



November 2023 Awards of Excellence Celebration

Our Work - Service Highlights

*ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Follow-up ~
Your Voices Were Heard*

The ECCDC Board and Staff Team extend its deepest appreciation to all of the library members, stakeholders, and community partners who completed our strategic planning survey to offer recommendations to help shape upcoming services, resources, and training.

We are very encouraged and excited to receive such positive feedback related to the high level of satisfaction, likelihood of recommending our services and the strong impact ECCDC supports have had. We also very much appreciate your suggestions for change and new ideas that you offered. Our Team is currently reviewing and planning to ensure your suggestions and new ideas are implemented.

Implementing Your Suggestions...

- Consideration will be made to offer opportunities for special perks and discounts as requested by 85% of survey respondents.
- Your suggestions for future training topics were embedded within ESTEEM, including your top 5 topic requests: staff support and wellbeing, leadership, behaviour management, supporting exceptional needs, and pedagogy.

- ESTEEM now includes varied training times and costs, more in person workshops, and more webinars available to those who live at a distance.
- A communication strategy will be developed regarding available Coaching and Mentoring Services.
- Our Library Team will ensure duplicates of the most popular resource borrowing materials are available.

Do You Still Have More Feedback to Offer the ECCDC Team?

You don't need to wait until next year's Stakeholder Survey, please feel free to reach out to Executive Director Lorrey Arial Bonilla at larial@eccdc.org or 905.646.7311 ext. 321 at any time to share any questions, comments, or concerns.

Here is Some of the Other Feedback Received

94% of survey respondents indicated overall satisfaction with ECCDC, noting quality content, helpful staff, and accessibility as the main drivers of satisfaction.

"Thank you for all the work, planning, and honouring your Vision, Mission and Values to continue moving our ECE field forward!"

"I tell my friends who work in education to look to the ECCDC for a myriad of resource supports."

"Thank you for all that you do to support our Centre. You are always professional, friendly, and provide a safe space for us to work and learn!"

69
The high Net Promoter Score (likelihood of recommending our services) was exceptional, indicating a strong degree of loyalty to ECCDC.

Coaching & Mentoring

"Thank you for always being responsive to my inquiries. Your team is very helpful and knowledgeable."

96% agree that "The coaching and mentoring services have had a positive impact on my practice"

"The services supported my practice, styles of teaching, and my involvement with children & the environment of my classroom."

Resource Lending Library

98% agree that "The resource lending library has a positive impact on my practice."

100% agree that "ECCDC library services are accessible."

"I love the lending time and if you need an extension on an item, you can call the ECCDC. I also appreciated the amount of kits available for lending, and the creativity that goes behind them."

75% of members used the resource delivery service in the past year.

"I really appreciate the resources/materials delivery service. That is so helpful."

Professional Development

99% agree that the professional learning offered through ECCDC has had a positive impact on my practice.

99% indicated professional learning was easy to access.

98% noted the training content met their learning needs.

97% indicated the professional learning opportunities attended were of high quality.

"The professional learning team is excellent. Their ability to be flexible, adaptive and timely with communication ensured the training delivery was a success"

88% noted training was offered at times that met their scheduling needs.

"The ECCDC is an amazing professional organization with high quality professional development opportunities."

Our Work - Service Highlights

*Marketing and Communications:
ECCDC Website, Social Media,
Blog, and Podcasts*

35,281 | Visits were made to www.eccdc.org

922 | Twitter followers

124,013 | Page views were made on www.eccdc.org

684 | Instagram followers

3813 | Views of ECCDC's Facebook Videos

2058 | ECCDC Blog Views

4978 | Likes were received on ECCDC's Facebook page

1005 | ECCDC Podcast Listeners

Our Work - Service Highlights

*Supporting Families in Finding Early Years
Services through Parent Direct Niagara*

*Supporting the Early Learning and Child
Care Sector with Recruitment*

51,209 | Visits were made to
www.parentdirectniagara.ca

11,782 | Job listing views on the Employment Board

108,250 | Parent Direct Niagara page views

109 | Job postings submitted to ECCDC

693 | Parent Direct listings

710 | Job listing views on the Supply Staff Registry
Employment Board: [www.eccdc.org/employment-
board-registry/supply-staff-registry](http://www.eccdc.org/employment-board-registry/supply-staff-registry)



“ Great variety of training opportunities; flexible training options; supportive team. ”
ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

Our Work - Service Highlights

*Other Special Initiatives from
April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024*

36

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 2023/2024 school year.

ECCDC is a Roots of Empathy Coordinating Agency

ECCDC hosted Roots of Empathy Instructor training over 4 days (3 in September and 1 in February) for 14 of Niagara's Youth Counsellors (DSBN) and Child and Youth Workers (NCDSB) to increase the number of programs offered in Niagara and the number of children benefiting from the Roots of Empathy program. Planning has begun to celebrate 25 years of Roots of Empathy in Niagara with a kick off event linking into the 2024 Baby Celebration.



Seeds of Empathy

ECCDC works alongside the Roots of Empathy International in piloting Seeds of Empathy. Niagara Nursery School and Child Care Centre, Grimsby Community Preschool, Strive Niagara, and Fort Erie Co-operative Nursery School wrapped up their first year of offering the program. ECCDC hosted members of a delegation from Norway and Seeds of Empathy at three of the program sites in May of 2023 where they observed the program in action.



Our Work - Service Highlights

*Other Special Initiatives from
April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024*



Ontario Trillium Foundation Capital Grant

The ECCDC was very excited to be the successful recipient of a capital grant in the amount of \$149,900 through the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The funding was used to create an additional training space and expanded resource lending library and technical workroom for Niagara's early learning sector and local not for profit organizations to utilize. The new training room is equipped with state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment, making it ideal for presentations, workshops, and other events. The enhanced resource lending library and educator workroom now offers specialized space for early childhood educators to curriculum plan and network with colleagues.



“ It is an absolute blessing to have these opportunities brought to us in the North. Although there are some that we cannot participate in due to location, for the most part, we are able to via webinar. These webinars are usually at a time that works well for educators and supervisors, and are a great way to learn, stay connected, and reflect with others. ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent



Our Stories

“ I love the lending time and if you need an extension on an item, you can call the ECCDC. I also appreciated the amount of kits available for lending, and the creativity that goes behind them. ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

“ Kind, friendly interactions with the staff. Materials to augment our programs. Hours of operation allowed for me getting there around my regular shifts. ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

“ Being from a different Province, when I have questions that require support ECCDC has been great. I want to say that the presenters have been a wonderful resource to bring forward to our staff. ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

“ Getting to use materials that we otherwise couldn't afford and not having a deadline on when to have them back. Sometimes bins are really a hit and the children will use them for weeks! ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

Our Stories

“ *Professional learning opportunities are amazing and always so relevant.* ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

“ *I learn so much every time I attend a learning opportunity. Thank you for helping me remember why I chose and continue to choose this profession.* ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

“ *Thank you for all you do for the community of ECEs.* ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey
Respondent

“ *We feel very lucky to have this incredible resource in our backyard!* ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey
Respondent

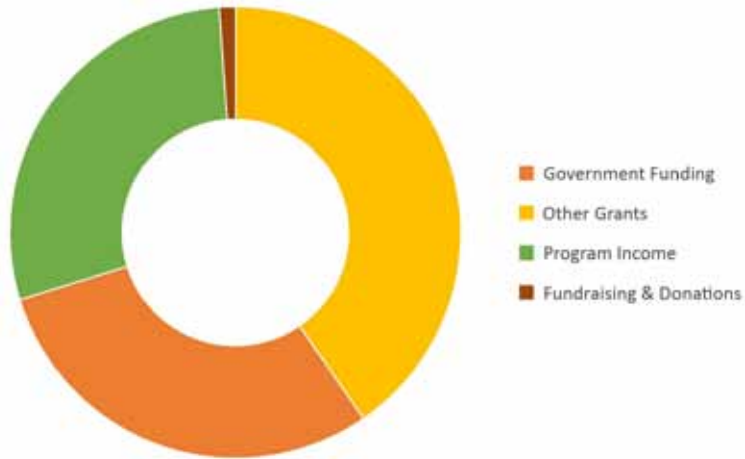
“ Training offered is always uplifting, boost the ECE field, edifying and relevant for today. ”

ECCDC Stakeholder Survey Respondent

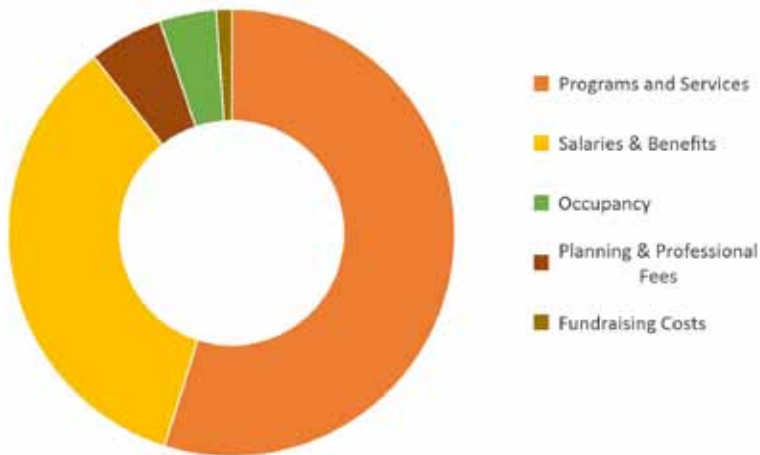


Financial Report

Annual Revenue



Annual Expenditures



Year ending March 31, 2024

Revenues

Government Funding	845,326
Other Grants	1,145,491
Program Income	813,110
Fundraising & Donations	32,096
Total Revenues	2,836,024

Expenses

Programs and Services	1,549,270
Salaries & Benefits	975,711
Occupancy	116,050
Planning & Professional Fees	151,501
Fundraising Costs	31,166
Total Expenses	2,823,699
Operational Surplus (Deficit)	12,325

Fund Allocation

Program Termination Fund	9,168
General Operating Fund	2,227
Awards of Excellence Fund	930

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



eccdc

early childhood community development centre

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