



Who We Are • The ECCDC is a charitable organization 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. The ECCDC exists so that early learning professionals are supported in offering exceptional opportunities for children to grow, learn and develop. In the 30 years since its creation by local volunteers, the ECCDC has become a leading early learning training, resource and referral organization.

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.

Licensed Child Care Centre Start Up Information

For new operators we can assist with the development of

- Start-up and operating budgets.
- Child care policies, program administration and management.
- Non-profit management regarding roles and responsibilities of boards of directors.
- Staff schedules and job descriptions.
- Evaluations and surveys for programs.
- Supplier connections, discounts, and guidance in selecting developmentally appropriate equipment and supplies.
- Networking opportunities.
- Design of facilities, programs and play-based, developmentally appropriate practice.
- Listing of child care centres on Parent Direct (www.parentdirectniagara.ca), Niagara's online parent directory which connects families to early years services, supports, and learning opportunities with just one click.

Resource Lending Library and Workroom Services

- Over 3000 play-based curriculum kits, developmentally appropriate resources, games and activities available for borrowing.
- Specialized Workroom and Learning Café to network, exchange ideas and plan collaboratively.
- Die press machines, shape cutters, and other specialized equipment.
- Online picture catalogue, phone reservations and resource delivery/demonstration service.
- Free wireless internet access and use of laptops.
- Guidance in Developmental Program Planning and room design.

Child Care Choices (found within Parent Direct Niagara)

- A listing of licensed child care programs and home child care providers and family support programs in Niagara

- Information about various child care options.
- Suggestions regarding quality program characteristics.
- Child Care Program Visit Checklist for parents.
- Information related to Child Care Subsidy.

Consultation and Program Support

- Roles and responsibilities of owners/boards in maximizing child care programs.
- Evaluating program quality and conducting organizational development assessments on three levels – 1. Program Support Services, 2. Program Review Services, and 3. Organizational Reviews.
- Environmental design – indoor and outdoor
- Work with the early childhood development and care community to build community capacity.

Quality Child Care Niagara (QCCN)

- QCCN is a standardized, research-based approach to program development. This approach is designed to enhance the quality of programs available to each child enrolled in a licensed child care program.
- QCCN has strengthened the foundation of licensed child care through high quality child care experiences, developmental programming and outcomes, and child care supports and services throughout Niagara.
- QCCN is part of Niagara Region's child care plan.
- QCCN has been implemented in approximately 97% of licensed child care programs in Niagara.

