

April 26,2018



Partnering Towards Excellence

Provincial Secretariat for Early Years and Childcare

Executive Summary

The Secretariat coordinates and leads the three Ontario Centres of Excellence: Indigenous, Francophone, and Provincial.

As a collective voice, or network of networks, the Secretariat

- functions as the mechanism for formulating and enacting inclusive goals for the professional learning of Ontario early years program staff that embrace the unique vision of each Centre
- creates links and networks between the Centres' professional learning goals, objectives, and activities
- leverages knowledges and resources among and between Centres
- formulates, implements, and monitors the Centres' evaluations
- hosts an online portal that connects to each Centre's public website
- nourishes the values integral to the TRC
- recognizes and nurtures the values of linguistic and cultural diversity
- creates a critical public conversation about the views of children, families, and educators articulated in *How Does Learning Happen* and *The Kindergarten Program*
- identifies strategies to support sustainable professional learning

Running independently from the Centres, the Secretariat has its own organizational governance and is run under a steering committee, with the support of an advisory committee. Its organizational structure ensures that the Secretariat balances regional and group-specific concerns and strengths with a cohesive vision for professional learning. This organizational structure supports visible working relationships and hones shared values, recognizing geographical, linguistic, and cultural differentiations. It also respects the Secretariat's varied regional views and shared commitment to building capacity in the province. Together these organizational keystones ensure a responsive link to the unique purposes of the three Centres of Excellence which are rooted within local systems, knowledges, and languages. The Secretariat works in tandem with and through the online portal to ensure visibility of the work of the three Centres and their varied approaches to planning events, capacity building, tools and resources, outcomes, measurables, and accountability.

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