

Appendix A:

| Best Start Network Member Agencies |
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| 1. Best Start Health Coalition in Peel |
| 2. Brampton Caledon Community Living |
| 3. Brampton Neighbourhood Resource Centre |
| 4. Brampton Library |
| 5. Caledon Parent-Child Centre |
| 6. Catholic Family Services Peel-Dufferin |
| 7. Children's Aid Society |
| 8. Child Development Resource Connection |
| 9. City of Brampton |
| 10. Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) |
| 11. Community Living Mississauga |
| 12. Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud |
| 13. Conseil scolaire de district du Centre-Sud-Ouest |
| 14. Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board |
| 15. Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre |
| 16. Early Identification |
| 17. ErinoakKids |
| 18. Family Day Care Services |
| 19. Halton-Peel Preschool Speech & Language Program |
| 20. Malton Neighbourhood Services |
| 21. Ministry of Children & Youth Services |
| 22. Ministry of Education |
| 23. Mississauga Parent Child Resource Centre |
| 24. Multicultural Inter-Agency Group of Peel (MIAG) |
| 25. Multi-Site Child Care Operators |
| 26. PLASP Child Care Services |
| 27. Peel Aboriginal Network & Credit River Métis Council |
| 28. Peel Children's Centre |
| 29. Peel District School Board |
| 30. Peel Early Learning and Special Needs Resource Agencies (PELSNA) |
| 31. Peel Infant Development |
| 32. Region of Peel |
| 33. Service Providers Resource Information Network Group (SPRING) |
| 34. Social Planning Council Peel |
| 35. Success By 6 Peel |
| 36. Trillium Health Centre |
| 37. YMCA |

*This list includes but is not limited to the above noted agencies. Attendance varies according to Network agenda items and community initiatives.

Appendix B: Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) Roles and Responsibilities

System Planning – improving equitable access to child care services through:

- Service System planning
- Capital development
- Co-ordination of planning activities with other municipal divisions and non-government organizations
- Support for service delivery, planning and advocacy
- Placement of eligible clients in accordance to the principles of equity

System Management

- Determines eligibility, financial assessment and placement of subsidized clients
- Payments to service providers on behalf of subsidized clients
- Support to children with special needs attending child care programs
- Funding of wage subsidies for programs providing child care services

Quality Assurance (Appendix G) – promoting and ensuring quality child care services through the:

- Completion of the Metro Operating Criteria for licensed child care centres and licensed home child care
- Maintenance of a Serious Occurrence Reporting System
- Provision of ongoing educational training opportunities for early learning and child care providers
- Delivery of the Raising the Bar in Peel (RTBP), an accreditation program which is a commitment to best practices in early learning and care programs.
- Training, monitoring and evaluation of Directly Operated Centre's status as Certified HighScope Centres

Direct Delivery – Municipal Child Care Services

- Operating 12 child care centres in Peel
- Setting priorities to address the child care needs of the Region's youngest and most vulnerable children
- Planning and delivery of services following the principles of the Human Services plan

Appendix C: Peel Immigration Project

The Immigration Project examines how the Region can better assist the settlement and integration of immigrants in Peel. This project was undertaken in conjunction with the Peel Newcomer Strategy Group, a community collaborative co-led by the United Way and the Region of Peel that is developing a new model for enhancing the integration and settlement of newcomers in Peel.

The Immigration Project is essentially a portfolio of three projects funded by one federal department and two provincial ministries. Phase one of the projects were completed in early 2010 and described below.

Phase One

- **The Peel Immigration Web Portal** (www.immigrationpeel.ca) provides local information to newcomers about government services, the labour market, the challenges and realities of life in Peel, and settlement and integration tips. It was launched in November 2008. Funding was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI).
- **Immigration Discussion Papers** (<http://www.peelregion.ca/social-services/discussion-papers.htm>) provide an understanding of the immigrant experience and contain a number of recommendations about immigrant integration in Peel, which have implications for Regional services, the corporate diversity strategy and public services in Peel.
- **Peel Immigration Labour Market Survey** (<http://www.peelregion.ca/social-services/labourmarketsurvey.htm>) surveyed 1425 immigrants and Canadian-born Peel residents to examine their labour market experiences including: skill utilization, success factors and barriers to accessing the job market. The findings reveal that job seekers are generally satisfied with Peel's workplaces. The study also revealed that newcomers to Canada are underutilizing their skills and face far greater barriers to accessing the job market than Canadian-born job seekers. The survey was completed in 2009 and the final report issued in February 2010. The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities funded the survey.

Appendix D: Aboriginal and Francophone Communities

According to the 2006 Census, there are 5,500 Peel residents who identify as being Aboriginal (i.e. First Nations, Inuit or Métis). The Census also asks if people have ancestry (i.e. a grandparent or a more distant family ancestor who is/was Aboriginal). In Peel there are 11,750 people who have Aboriginal ancestry.

In 2007, Children's Services consulted with the Aboriginal community to identify the need for programs and services for Aboriginal families with children aged birth to six years. As a result, Children's Services established the Peel Aboriginal Steering Committee (PASC) to raise awareness and educate Peel residents (including Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people) about Aboriginal People's heritage and culture. Members of PASC include three Aboriginal agencies/groups in Peel: Credit River Métis Council and the Métis Nation of Ontario who provide services and programs for Métis citizens and the Peel Aboriginal Network (PAN) which provides education and awareness of Aboriginal heritage.

PASC has raised the profile of Aboriginal culture and heritage through events such as *A Gathering* (which included Aboriginal entertainment, Elder teachings, cultural displays/vendors and Early Years exhibits); Aboriginal Awareness Day for Regional Staff, early years professionals and community providers; development of Aboriginal resource kits for every early learning environment in Peel; and in June 2010, the launch of the first Aboriginal Family Program in Peel.

Francophone Community

The 2006 census shows that Peel's Francophone population grew by 8.8% between 2001 and 2006. In addition, 39.7% of the Francophone population was composed of visible minorities, while 12.3% of the Francophone population included recent immigrants, compared to 10.2% of Peel's total population. Currently in Peel, 35% of French speaking children do not attend French language school.

Children's Services consulted with the Francophone community in 2007 to identify the gaps in programs and services for Francophone families with children aged birth to six years. Consequently, Children's Services established the Peel Francophone Steering Committee (PFSC) in partnership with the two French language school boards and various community agencies to begin to address the gaps. With the help of Best Start funding, two francophone child care centres provide new and expanded facilities within the following schools:

- École Carrefour des jeunes - Le Cercle de l'Amitié
- École Saint-Jean-Baptiste

PFSC has raised the profile of the Francophone Community through a cultural celebration and awareness raising event, *Le lien français*, which included French language community service providers and the launch of the online French Language Services directory. In addition, Children's Services runs Family Literacy Programs in three of the French language schools, and has translated all of their program literature brochures into French.

Appendix E: Programs and Services in Peel

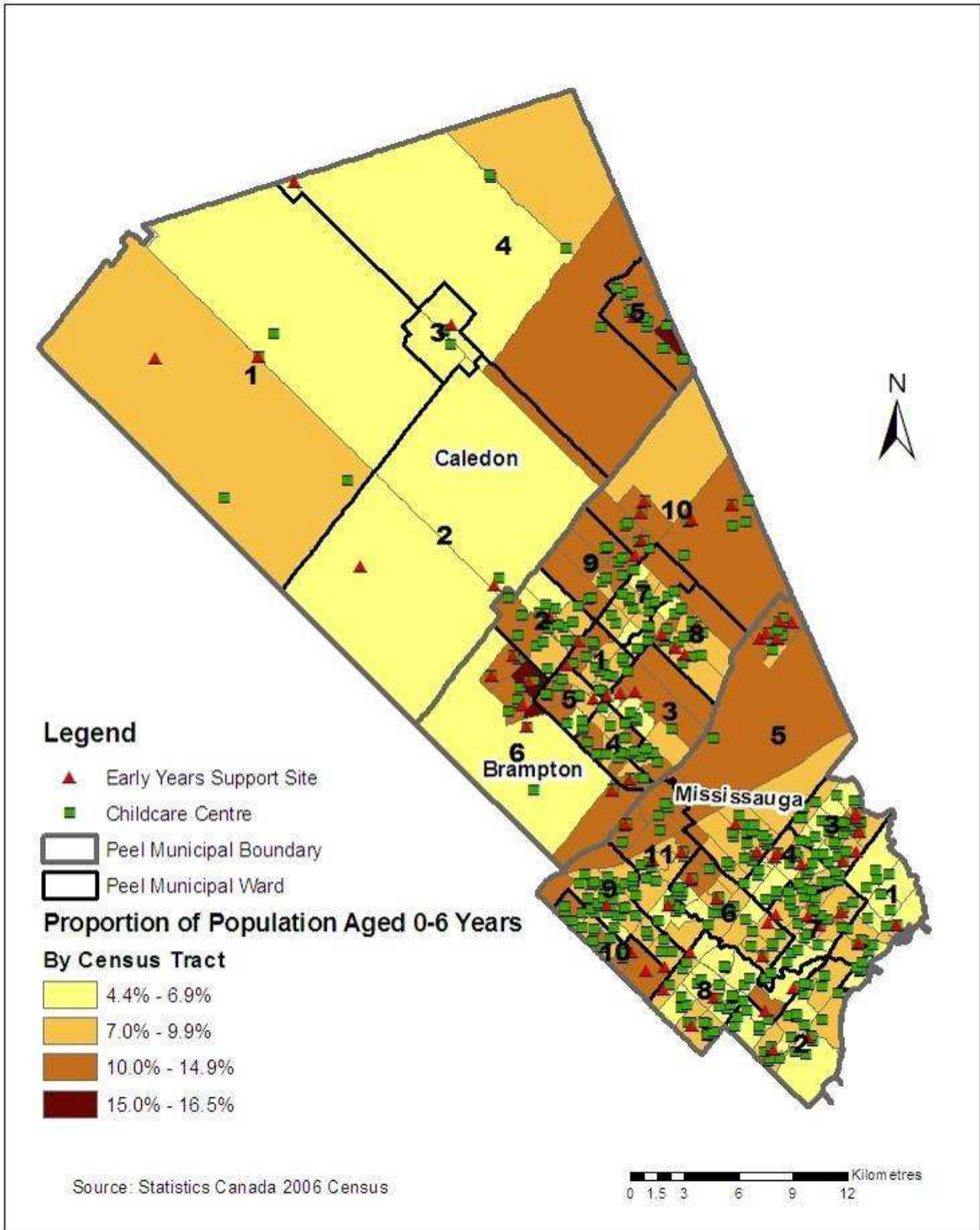
| Community Programs/Initiatives | Purpose |
|---|---|
| A. Licensed Child Care | |
| Subsidized Child Care | Child care fee subsidy helps eligible low-income parents, foster parents or legal guardians of children to pay for licensed care from birth to 12 years of age. In 2010, the Region eliminated parental co-payment for child care, assisting 2,650 working families that currently receive a child care subsidy. |
| Licensed Child Care | Region of Peel has 140 purchase of service agreements with early learning and child care service agencies who deliver licensed care in 440 programs for children aged 6 weeks to 12 years old. |
| Licensed Home Child Care | Licensed home early learning and child care service offers flexible full-time, part-time, shift, evening and weekend child care from caregivers based in their own homes. |
| Licensed Nursery Schools | Nursery school programs offer the same early learning opportunities as child care programs, however, are typically offered on a half day basis. |
| Regionally Operated Learn.Play.Care (LPC) Child Care Centres | The Region operates 12 Learn.Play.Care. Centres, offering licensed early learning and child care services for children aged 18 months to 5 years, including children with special needs. Specialized programs include evening care, inclusive nursery school and an intensive, therapeutic program for infants and their caregiver. HighScope curriculum (child-centered preschool curriculum) is delivered at the centres by Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) through child directed, hands on, active play and problem solving. |
| Special Needs Program in Regionally Operated Child Care Centres | Resource teachers are located at each of the 12 Learn.Play.Care. Centres to support children with special needs. An individual education plan is developed to assist the child to participate fully in all aspects of the program. |
| Raising the Bar in Peel (RTBP) | RTBP is a voluntary, peer-driven accreditation system supporting child care service providers to achieve an outcome-based quality program. RTBP is measured over a three-year process using Bronze, Silver, and Gold bars to indicate the level of quality care. There are currently 158 child care programs enrolled in RTBP. |
| B. Best Start in Peel | |
| | <p>In partnership with the provincial government, school boards, early learning and child care service providers, Region of Peel, Best Start Network and community agencies, Peel provides integrated programming and supports to children and families in seven Best Start early learning and child care sites.</p> <p>Peel's Best Start programs are:</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>Conseil scolaire de district du Centre-Sud-Ouest Carrefour des Jeunes Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud Saint-Jean-Baptiste Peel District School Board Brian W. Flemming P.S. Lancaster P.S. Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board St. Barbara E.S. St. Herbert E.S. St. Gregory E.S.</p> <p>The Best Start Program includes a comprehensive research and evaluation program conducted by the Ontario Institute of Studies and Education and the University of Toronto.</p> |
| C. Child and Family Support Programs | |
| Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYCs) | <p>Created by the Ontario government, OEYCs provide parents and caregivers with information about the program, services that are available for young children, and an opportunity to network with early years professionals, other parents and caregivers in the community.</p> <p>There are eight main OEYCs in the Region of Peel and various satellite offices:</p> <p>Brampton Brampton Centre Brampton West-Mississauga Bramalea-Gore-Malton-Springdale</p> <p>Caledon Caledon</p> <p>Mississauga Mississauga South Mississauga East Mississauga Centre Mississauga West</p> |
| St. John Fisher Neighbourhood Learning Place | <p>A collaborative partnership between the Region of Peel and community agencies that provides families with children from birth to six years with free, inclusive programs and services that support healthy child development and prepare children for school success.</p> |
| Parenting and Family Literacy Centres | <p>Delivered by local school boards, these centres offer a variety of enjoyable and educational learning activities for children while engaging parents in their child's learning.</p> |
| Early Years Hubs and Readiness Centres | <p>The Peel District School Boards early years hubs and readiness centres prepare children for entrance into the kindergarten program.</p> |
| Child and Family Programs | <p>The Region of Peel delivers, funds, and collaborates on a number of programs that strengthen families and children through a wide range of support services such as:</p> |

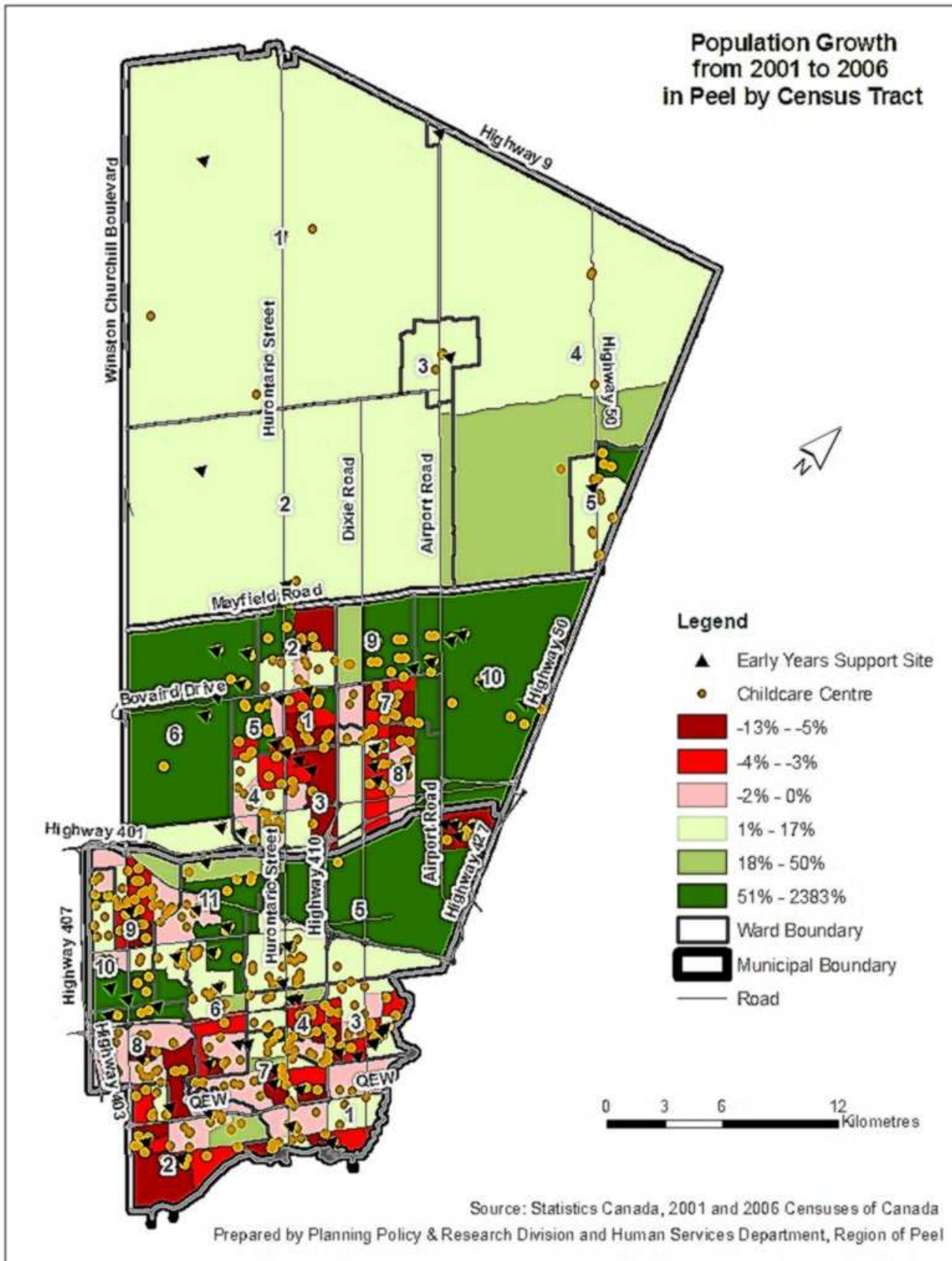
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|---|---|
| | <p><u>Family Literacy Programs</u> are presented in collaboration with Peel's four school boards and encourages language and early literacy and numeracy activities that can be done at home for children and families from birth to six.</p> <p><u>Early Literacy Programs</u> are delivered by two Early Literacy Specialists who provide workshops to parents and caregivers that promote children's early language and literacy development. The Specialists act as a resource to a variety of programs such as Ontario Early Years Centres, providing support, consultations and workshops to professionals to develop literacy strategies, programs and events.</p> <p><u>Parenting workshops</u> allow parents to refresh parenting skills, learn new information and make connections with other parents.</p> |
| L.I.O.N. (Learning In Our Neighbourhood) | Fully-equipped mobile early learning resource program vehicles travel to high growth, under-served communities throughout Peel to ensure that all children start school prepared with literacy, numeracy and social skills. Children enjoy interactive, play-based programs while parents talk to early childhood professionals about parenting and development. |
| Special Needs Resourcing | Special Needs Access Point-Peel (SNAP-Peel) provides a single point of access to coordinate services supporting inclusion of preschool children with special needs in licensed early learning and child care programs; this occurs in collaboration with Peel Early Learning Special Needs Resource Agencies (PELSNA). |
| Early Learning in Peel Homeless Family Shelters | The early learning and child care program in family shelters provides sensitive care and developmentally-appropriate activities for children and their parents or guardians who are homeless. |
| Neighbourhood Capacity Support Strategy (NCSS) | Since 2007, the Region of Peel's Neighbourhood Capacity Support Strategy (NCSS) has been instrumental in establishing and facilitating community events, programs, activities and space for service providers to deliver programs to residents within identified priority neighbourhoods. In collaboration with community agencies, NCSS has helped facilitate concerted, proactive and inclusive opportunities as a supportive intervention for seeking positive changes in the lives of children and families. |

Appendix F: Maps

Map 1: Proportion of Population Aged 0-6 Years in Peel Region (2006)



Map 2: Population Growth from 2001 to 2006 in Peel by Census Tract



Appendix G: Quality Assurance

The Region of Peel is committed to providing and enhancing the overall quality of early learning child care services. Research shows that early child development is an investment opportunity for society that outstrips any other type of human capital investment. The type of setting and the implementation of child care standards and quality systems have a direct correlation to the overall development of the child.

The development of quality early learning child care services depends upon four key factors:

1. Effective policies, funding and infrastructures
2. Knowledgeable, committed practitioners with post secondary education in early childhood development who are appropriately compensated for their work
3. Well designed programs with the capacity to meet the physical, cognitive and social/emotional needs of all children
4. Strong partnerships with parents and community services

Appendix H: Special Needs Resourcing Agencies

The Region of Peel provides funding to special needs resourcing agencies to support the inclusion of children with special needs in licensed child care programs within the community. Consultation and support are provided through these agencies for children from birth to six years of age.

Special Needs Resourcing Agencies

| Agencies | Number of children served May 31 | Current waitlist May 31 | Overview | Service priorities |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Community Living Mississauga | 125 | 63 | A non-profit, charitable organization which provides support to individuals who have an intellectual disability | 2-6 years attending child care |
| Brampton Caledon Community Living | 77 | 39 | A non-profit, charitable organization which provides support to individuals who have an intellectual disability | 2 -6 years attending child care |
| ErinoakKids | 155 | 6 | The mission of ErinoakKids is to support children and youth with physical, developmental and communication disabilities | 0-6 years attending child care |
| Ontario Foundation for Visually Impaired Children | 37 | 0 | The mission of OFVIC is to enable babies and young children who are blind or low-vision to learn, experience and live all aspects of a full, productive life. | 0-6 years |
| Peel Children's Centre | 106 | 101 | An accredited children's mental health agency offering a range of services for children who are experiencing emotional, social and or behavioural difficulties | 0-6 years attending child care |
| Total | 500 | 209 | | |

This list includes but is not limited to the agencies listed below. These agencies are not funded by the Region of Peel but are supported by provincial funds:

- Infant and Child Services Peel
- Halton Peel Preschool Speech & Language Programs
- Peel Behavioural Services
- Kerry's Place Autism Services

Appendix I: Community Consultation

Informants: Early Identification Committee
Peel Early Learning Special Needs Network Advisory Committee

Pressures and Issues

Funding

- Lack of funding to support children and families
- Lack of fee subsidies for families
- Infants with special needs have increased higher costs

Re-engineering of programs and services

- Programs and services need to stay unique to meet the needs of children and families and each community
- Lack of parental choice and access to inclusive services
- Agencies may need to offer off-hour services which do not meet children and families needs
- Disrupted services and flawed day

Enrolment and Waitlist

- Lack of identification in school system until formal learning stage, increases special needs resourcing agencies' waitlist
- Lack of support in schools may result in children returning to child care without resourcing supports

Subsidy availability

- Subsidy needs to be reviewed and made a priority

Staffing

- Grievances with unionized positions working within the schools
- Roles need to be clearly defined for school board staff and community agencies
- Lack of qualified support staff
- Fear lay-offs

Future Direction

- Intervention awareness within education system to support bigger concept of early learning
- Supportive transitions
- Proactive planning for non FDK children or re-routed children from FDK
- Well prepared documentation of children's steps and suggestions
- Possibly early identification
- Off-hour service provisions