

For Information

DATE: September 12, 2012

REPORT TITLE: **ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRES - TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY**FROM: Janet Menard, Commissioner of Human Services
Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services**OBJECTIVE**

To provide information about the ten year anniversary of Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYC) and celebrations occurring across the Region of Peel. This report accompanies a delegation by Peel OEYC (Executive Directors Lory Wolter and Jane van Berkel, with parent Angela Michelak) to Peel Regional Council on October 11, 2012.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYCs) were created by the Ontario government in 2002 to support the healthy development of children from birth to six years of age.
- In 2011, OEYCs in Peel received approximately 150,000 visits.
- OEYCs are celebrating their ten year anniversary by hosting celebration events during the week of October 15, 2012.

DISCUSSION**1. Background**

In 2002, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) launched the creation of Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYCs) in an effort to support the healthy development of children from birth to six years of age. These local centres are places for children and their parents and caregivers to participate in programs and activities together. They can also get information about their children's development and support services. OEYCs have varying schedules with some being open throughout the day, in the evening and the weekend. The programs and services are free to all parents and caregivers of young children and include:

- Early learning and literacy programs for parents and children
- Programs to help parents and caregivers in all aspects of early child development
- Programs on pregnancy and parenting
- Links to other early years programs in the community
- Outreach activities so all parents can get involved with their local OEYC

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2. Role of Ontario Early Years Centres

The focus of OEYCs is to help all parents and caregivers give their young children, including children with special needs, the best start in life. They employ staff with a range of expertise in early childhood development including trained early years professionals and volunteers. Staff often works closely with other organizations in the community that provide services for children and make referrals as necessary.

In Ontario, there are over 100 OEYCs (many also have satellite sites) located at schools, child care centres and community centres. They are normally managed by community organizations, often referred to as "lead agencies". The Ontario government provides 100 per cent of the funding for OEYCs.

There are currently 39 OEYC locations in the Region of Peel (see Appendix I) and they are managed by six non-profit lead agencies:

- 1) Caledon Parent Child Centre
- 2) Child Development Resource Connection Peel
- 3) Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre
- 4) Family Day
- 5) Malton Neighbourhood Services
- 6) Mississauga Parent Child Resource Centres

In 2011, the OEYCs in Peel received approximately 150,000 visits and served 22,825 children and 23,213 parents and caregivers. They also made 4,579 referrals to community services.

3. Celebration Events

The OEYCs in Peel will be hosting celebrations to commemorate their ten year anniversary and their contribution to families in the community. On Thursday, October 18, 2012, each OEYC location in Peel will have family celebrations that will include an open house, cake cutting and family activities. On Friday, October 19, 2012, a partner appreciation tea party will be hosted to recognize the work of supporting agencies.

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CONCLUSION

OEYCs began operations in Ontario in 2002, and since then have helped thousands of children and families through a wide range of programs and support services designed to foster the healthy development of children from birth to six years of age. The Region of Peel congratulates the OEYCs on their ten year anniversary and thanks them for their invaluable support to children and families.

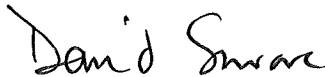


Janet Menard
Commissioner of Human Services



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Approved for Submission:



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c. Legislative Services

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APPENDIX I

Ontario Early Years Centres are in **bolded font**. Satellite and outreach locations are in regular font.

Brampton

OEYC Address	Ward
YMCA – 20 Union Street, L6V 1R2	1
Chapters Bookstore – 52 Quarry Edge Drive, L6V 4K2	1
Heart Lake Town Centre, 180 Sandalwood Parkway, L6Z 4N2	2
190 Bovaird Drive (near Highway 10), L7A 1A2	2
Kennedy/Clarence - 83 Kennedy Road South, Unit 15, L6W 3H1	3
Four Corners Library - 65 Queen Street East, L6W 3L6	3
57 Mill Street North, L6X 1S9	5
Fortino's - 35 Worthington Avenue, L7A 2Y7	6
Bramalea Civic Centre, 150 Central Park Drive, L6T 1B4	8
Springdale - 1090 Peter Robertson Blvd, Unit 208, L6R 1Z7	10

Caledon

OEYC Address	Ward
Alton Public Library - 35 Station Street, L7K 0E2	1
Cheltenham Baptist Church – 14520 Creditview Road, L7C 1N5	2
Margaret Dunn Valleywood Library – 20 Snelcrest Drive, L7C 1B5	2
East Community Complex – 6215 Old Church Road, L7C 1N5	3
Mono Mills United Church - 60 Richmond Street, L7K 0A4	4
Stationview Place – 25 Stationview Place, L7E 1L1	4
150 Queen Street South, L7E 1E3	5

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Mississauga

OEYC Address	Ward
Westacres Public School – 2165 Breezy Brae Drive, L4Y 1N3	1
Queen of Heaven Elementary School – 1198 Alexandra Avenue, L5E 2A5	1
Turtle Creek Plaza – 1801 Lakeshore Road West, L5J 1J6	2
Sheridan Villa – 2460 Truscott Drive, L5J 3Z8	2
3160 Tomken Road, L4Y 2Y6	3
Havenwood Public School – 3255 Havenwood Drive, L4X 2M2	3
3070 Queen Frederica Drive, L4Y 3A9	3
Central Parkway Mall – 377 Burnhamthorpe Road East, L5A 3Y1	4
Malton Neighbourhood Services – 3540 Morning Star Drive, L4T 1Y2	5
Barondale Public School – 200 Barondale Drive, L4Z 3N7	5
St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School – 1060 White Clover Way, L5V 1G7	6
719 Central Parkway West, L5B 4L1	7
70 Mineola Road East, L5G 2E5	7
Erin Mills – 3476 Glen Erin Drive, L5L 3R4	8
3420 The Collegeway, L5L 5T2	8
Erin Meadows - 2309 Erin Centre, L5M 7M4	9
6677 Meadowvale Town Centre Circle, Unit 60, L5N 2R5	9
5602 Tenth Line, L5M 7L9	10
Courtneypark Library, 730 Courtneypark Drive West, L5W 1L9	11
6611 Falconer Drive, Unit 1C, L5N 1R3	11
154 Queen Street South, L5M 2P4	11