

July 23, 2018

Secretariat for Centres of Excellence for Early Years and Child Care

Executive Summary

The Secretariat coordinates 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 educators in Ontario who work with or on behalf of young children. This Secretariat:

- embraces the unique vision of each Centre
- generates a collective voice that is greater than the sum of its parts to advocate for and with children, families, and educators
- acts on and sustains the calls for action of the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#)
- acts on and sustains the principles of the [French Language Services Act](#) as articulated in the preamble to the Act
- creates a critical public conversation about the views of children, families, and educators articulated in [How Does Learning Happen](#) and [The Kindergarten Program](#)
- 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
- recognizes and nurtures the linguistic and cultural diversity within and across each Centre
- supports transformative, sustainable professional learning.

Running independently from the Centres, the Secretariat has its own organizational governance and is run under a steering committee. In addition, a Secretariat advisory committee, coordinated by the Ministry of Education, provides advice that supports the articulated mission, vision, values principles and initiatives of the Secretariat.

The Secretariat's structure ensures that it 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.

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