

memo



Secretariat for the Centres of Excellence
Secrétariat pour les centres d'excellence

To: Early Years and Child Care Partners
From: Secretariat for the Centres of Excellence
Date: August 10, 2018
Re: Centres of Excellence for Early Years and Child Care

Dear Early Years and Child Care Partners,

It is with great delight that we write to you to announce the Secretariat for the Centres of Excellence for Early Years and Child Care, and kindly request your support on the Secretariat's initiatives.

The Ontario Ministry of Education, in partnership with the Government of Canada, has established three Centres of Excellence – Indigenous, Francophone and Provincial – to support a shared vision of professional learning pedagogical networks. Attuned to the differentiated and local interests and concerns of professional learning, the three Centres represent an innovative initiative that signals the provincial and federal governments' commitment to long-term sustainable professional learning across the sector in Ontario.

In conjunction with this initiative, the Ontario Ministry of Education has established the Secretariat for the Centres of Excellence for Early Years and Child Care. Attached is a list of the individuals involved in the Secretariat. Briefly, the key role of the Secretariat is to work closely with each Centre's co-directors to coordinate shared initiatives for consistency, collaboration, and accountability. In other words, the Secretariat supports the Centres to develop pedagogical networks that promote the view of the child, family and educator that is articulated in *How Does Learning Happen* (2014), to act on and sustain the calls for action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and to act on and sustain the principles of the French Language Services Act as articulated in the preamble to the Act.

Importantly, the Secretariat also plans to work closely with all early years stakeholders across the province. In fact, collaborating with stakeholders like yourselves will be key to the success of the Secretariat. We hope that you agree, and are as excited as we are, to collaboratively support the innovative work of the Centres of Excellence for Early Years and Child Care. More details about the Secretariat and Centres' engagement plans with the sector will be shared in the upcoming months.

Any general inquiry questions about the Secretariat for the Centres of Excellence for Early Years and Child Care can be forwarded to Tammy Johnson at tjohn64@uwo.ca.

With gratitude, optimism, and partnership,

Randa Khattar
Executive Director, Secretariat for the
Centre of Excellence for Early Years and
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Francophone Centre of Excellence for Early
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