

Ontario Early Years Centre in Your Community Region of Peel



For additional resources, information and to find out what programs are available for families and children in your community, please visit one of the Ontario Early Years Centres listed below or call for a location near you.

Brampton Centre - Brampton Neighbourhood Resource Centre

Bramalea-Gore-Malton-Springdale

Heart Lake Town Centre
180 Sandalwood Parkway East,
Unit 8C
Brampton, ON L6Z 4N2

Malton Neighbourhood Services
Bramalea Civic Centre
150 Central Park Drive, Unit 101
Brampton, ON
L6T 2T9

Phone: 905-495-3430

Phone: 905-791-9650

Brampton West - Mississauga Child Development Resource

Caledon Parent - Child Centre

Connection Peel
57 Mill Street North, Unit 105
Brampton, ON
L6X 1S9

150 Queen Street South
Bolton, ON
L7E 1E3

Phone: 905-452-1973

Phone: 905-857-0090

Mississauga Centre - Family Day Care Services

Mississauga East - Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre

Grand Park Centre Plaza
719 Central Parkway West, Unit 212
Mississauga, ON
L5B 4L1

Tomken South Senior Public School
3160 Tomken Road
Mississauga, ON
L4Y 2Y6

Phone: 905-566-4785

Phone: 905-276- 6392

Mississauga South Mississauga Parent -
Child Resource Centres

Turtle Creek Plaza
1801 Lakeshore Road West
Unit 101 Mississauga, ON
L5J 1J6

Phone: 905-822-1114

Mississauga West - Mississauga Parent -
Child Resource Centres

Brittany Glen Plaza
5602 Tenth Line West, Unit 106
Mississauga ON
L5M 7L9

Phone: 905- 286-4455

For more information check their website www.ontarioearlyyears.ca
or Toll free: 1 866 821 7770



Peel Community Information Database

Record Details

ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE

Peel Region, Bramalea-Gore-Malton-Springdale

Record #: PEY0006	Last Modified: 31 Mar 2005	Last Update: 19 Feb 2004
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Description & Services

Description

The Ontario Early Years Centre offers a range of FREE education and parenting services for all parents/caregivers and their children up to 6 years of age.

The OEYC offers various programs for parents of young children:

Pre/Postnatal Education, Early Learning and Literacy Education, Parenting and Family Support/Nutrition, Information and Referral

Programs:

MOTHER GOOSE (0-18mths)

- Parents and children learn rhymes, songs and stories
- Children improve language and pre-literacy skills

BABY TIME (0-12mths)

- Parents explore early learning activities with their baby and network with other parents and caregivers

EXPLORING TIME (12mths-6yrs)

- Children explore with glue, paint, scissors, recyclable materials... to develop imagination and fine motor skills
- Parents engage in activities to develop children's social and language skills

DAD AND ME (0-6yrs)

- Activities include songs, stories, and exploration of different materials
- Fathers participate in children's activities to promote healthy relationships

TEEN PRENATAL SUPPER CLUB (Expectant Teen Women)

- Learn how to have a healthy pregnancy, cope with labour and delivery and caring for you baby.
- Enjoy a free, healthy meal and meet other pregnant young women.
- Receive free bus tickets and food vouchers every week.
- Talk with understanding health professionals
- For more information, call Health Line Peel 905-799-7700

GROWING AS PARENTS (GAP)(young mothers in need)

- Free life skills, relationship building and

parenting skills instruction

- Presentations by qualified professionals, snack & parent resources available
- For more info call: 905-858-0329

ESSO MATH (4-6yrs)

- Introducing games and activities that reinforce skills and develop math skills
- Fostering an enjoyment for mathematics

SCHOOL HERE I COME! (3-6yrs)

- Learning through numeric, drama, language, song, and story activities
- Children develop skills to prepare them for school

MOVE AND GROOVE (18mths-6yrs)

- Children develop coordination, language and pre-reading skills through music, movement and rhymes
- Parents develop practical skills to use at home to enhance child development

WHAT'S COOKING? (3-6yrs)

- Children participate in age appropriate food preparation with their parents
- Learn about nutrition and the role it plays in healthy development of children

FUN WITH NUMBERS (3-6yrs)

- Math concepts through creative pretend play; creative and sensory activities
- Stories and rhymes for math development
- Pre-reading and math concepts through stacking, matching, sorting, counting and identifying

	<p>STORYTELLING (0-6YRS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storytelling • Parents learn how to use books with their children to promote language and literacy skills <p>GAMES NIGHT (3-6yrs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents and their children participate in cooperative games • Children develop thinking skills
Sup. Description	<p>3 Satellite Locations: Call Health Line Peel at (905) 799-7900 or check the website for further details.</p> <p>Faith Alive Church 3595 Nashua Drive Malton, ON (off Goreway below Derry)</p> <p>Malton Neighbourhood Service (will move to Malton Community Centre in September 2004)</p> <p>Springdale Site (Alpha Daycare Centre Peter Robertson Boulevard - to open in September 2004)</p>
Areas Served	Bramalea ; Malton ; Springdale
Eligibility	Parents and Caregivers with children up to 6yrs
Application	Please call Health Line Peel for further details
Fees	None
Contact Information	
Accessibility	Fully Accessible
Mailing	Bramalea Civic Centre

Address	150 Central Park Dr, Unit 101 Brampton, ON
Office Phone	(905) 791-9650 (905) 791-9713
Website	www.ontarioearlyyears.ca
Primary Executive	Joyce Temple-Smith, OEYC Manager
Other Details	
Funding	Provincial
Service Level	(30) Provincial Government
Subjects	
Subjects	Drop-in centres ; Nutrition ; Parent and child programs ; Parenting support ; Pregnancy ; Prenatal care ; Teen mothers ; Toy libraries
Broader Terms	Family support ; Health services ; Parenting support ; Parents ; Patient care ; Womens health

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This database runs on [CIOC Software](#)

Child Care

Early Learning and Child Care Initiative Service Plan, 2004-2005

2004-2005 Early Learning and Child Care Initiative Service Plan

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Print out entire [Service Plan](#) (PDF, 22 pgs, 206 kbs)

Section 1 - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Identification of the principles and outcomes which guide the service planning process

The Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care Service Plan provides the direction for the planning and delivery of services for children within Peel Region. This updated service plan reflects the requirements and the format outlined in the Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care document.

The Region of Peel has a long history of supporting the provision of quality services for children and families throughout the Region. Both through direct services and through close and active collaboration with other government departments and with community organizations and agencies, Peel Region is committed to ensuring that children and families have access to a broad range of services designed to meet the multiple needs of the diverse Peel population.

We recognize that the pressure on both families and services providers is increasing, both as a consequence of rapid population growth and a dramatic increase in diversity within the Region. *"Planning for Peel's Children: Child Care Service System Management Plan"* (March 2004) provides detailed information about the current challenges facing the community.

The Children's Services Division remains committed to a proactive approach to the planning and management of services for children and families in Peel. It is important to note that while the funding available through the Multi-lateral Framework is primarily targeted towards increasing the available number of preschool spaces, the many challenges that face the broader child care community in Peel remain. This new funding stream will ameliorate some of the pressures but will not resolve all the issues identified in the service system management plan. Most notably, future funding allocations must address not only Peel's portion of Ontario's child population but also an equity adjustment related to historic under funding.

One hallmark of Peel Region is a strong commitment to collaboration. This has not changed and despite the challenges facing families, the children's services community and the Division, a collaborative approach to increasing the range of services for children continues to be seen as critical.

Key objectives and commitments

The Children's Services Division will continue to work cooperatively with the community and with other service providers within Peel Region to support the provision of comprehensive, high quality services for children and families. In addition to the key priorities delineated in the Service Management Plan, the following priorities have been identified:

- Increasing the number of subsidized spaces available for preschool children within the Region
- Increasing the number of physical spaces available for licensed centre based and home based child care through the use of minor capital funding available through the Multi-lateral Agreement
- Supporting programs providing services for children with special needs as a step towards meeting a continually increasing demand for services
- Improving quality of care through an equitable distribution of health and safety funding. The priority will be on increasing access for children 0 to 6
- Developing strategies in collaboration with other service providers including the Ontario Early Years Centres and local school boards to facilitate seamless access to services
- Increasing caps on the maximum per diems paid to service providers

Solution focused strategies to address challenges

- Children's Services staff will ensure that increasing the number of subsidized child care spaces strengthens the ability of agencies and programs to deliver high quality early learning and child care that meets the needs of parents. Higher enrolment will reduce the high costs of vacancies potentially resulting in lowered per diem costs.
- The Region will collaborate with community agencies to create a comprehensive plan for the physical expansion of the child care system. In keeping with the requirements of the Multi-lateral agreement, emphasis will be placed on the creation of preschool spaces that can be operational by January 2005.
- Children's Services staff will work cooperatively with the broader children's services community to foster early childhood development, early learning and school readiness.
- Funding for wage subsidy that becomes available through the Multilateral

Framework will be distributed based upon the plan developed together with the community.

- Through child care operator rates, the Region will support agencies providing transportation and supervision for kindergarten children to their local community school.

Highlights of new initiatives planned for the coming year(s) with a focus on the Early Learning and Care Initiative

- The continued development of, and support for, a quality system of early learning and care for children within Peel Region is the priority of the Children's Services Division.
- New funding available under the Early Learning and Child Care Initiative will enable the Region to collaborate with community partners to increase the care and support available for children with special needs who attend or are preparing to attend licensed early learning and child care programs.
- Children's Services staff will work actively to strengthen partnerships between Ontario Early Years Centres, child care programs (both centre and home based) and the education system. Efforts will be made to reduce the number of transitions that children must cope with and to move towards a seamless system of early learning and care. For example, there are 42 child care centres located within schools and more than 196 programs providing care for school age children in schools. This represents a significant number of children for whom effective collaboration between child care and early education has the potential to make a significant difference.
- The additional funding will enable the Region to begin to return to the legislated cost sharing ratio of 80/20 and will enable the Region to increase the number of spaces available.

Community Consultation Process

Peel Region has a long-standing commitment to active involvement of the community in the planning and delivery of children's services within the Region. ***"Planning for Peel's Children: Child Care Service System Management Plan"*** (March 2004) was only developed after an extensive public consultation process.

Much of what is identified in this report builds upon the recommendations and directions articulated in the March document. A community meeting took place in September to identify the additions made to the Service Plan as a consequence of the additional funding made available through the Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care. The community identified the following areas that need to be addressed. These were consistent with the priorities identified in the previous

community consultations meetings.

- Cross jurisdictional agreements need to be strengthened to allow families more flexibility in choosing child care outside of the municipality they reside in.
- Funding inequity between the non-profit and commercial sector
- Funding not used in other municipalities are transferred to support service increases in Peel
- Lack of wage subsidy funding available to bring all service providers up to the same level
- Increase the cap on rates paid to operators
- Remove the allowable administration portion paid out to operators receiving wage subsidy and centralize the payments to staff through the Region of Peel

It must be noted, that every effort will be made to use the additional funding to implement the strategies identified in "*Planning for Peel's Children: Child Care Service System Management Plan*" (March 2004) with a focus on immediate implementation of those strategies that fit within the mandate of the Multilateral Framework.

Identification of the local review approval process

- a. Development of amended Service Plan building on Plan submitted earlier in 2004 (September 2004)
- b. Community Consultation and Discussion (September 2004)
- c. Departmental Staff Review and Discussion (August and September 2004)
- d. Regional Municipality of Peel Council Approval (September 2004)
- e. Ministry of Community and Social Services Review and Feedback (September 2004)

Section 2 - ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

Historical Overview of the Local Child Care System

One of the striking features of Peel Region is the way in which the population is distributed. Part of the Region is highly urban while other areas are rural with low population density. This creates significant challenges for the planning and delivery of services. Both rural and urban families need care and support for their children. It is also important to note that families in the Region are increasingly driving significant distances to work. Throughout the community consultation process, both service providers and parents themselves talked about the impact on service delivery when families live and work considerable distances apart.

While the range of available services is diverse and extensive, and there is a history in the Region of co-operative and collaborative planning, there is a tremendous demand for service in Peel Region that is currently unmet. The population in Peel is growing rapidly and there are a number of critical indicators in the population that present challenges for the provision of child care services. Peel is the second largest municipality in Ontario with a population of over 1.1 million projected in 2005 and 1.16 million by 2008. It is also the second most diverse community in Ontario. 28.12 percent of children 0 to 12 come from households where English is not the first language. (2001 Canada Census; Statistics Canada)

The diversity of the Region and the increasing demand for services for children have resulted in considerable pressure on both service providers and on the Region. In an effort to meet at least some of the demand for services, the Region is contributing funding above the 80/20 legislated cost-sharing agreement with the province. In 2004 the Regional share represented 29.3% of all funding.

YEAR	Regional Share	Provincial Share	Legislated Split
2000	21.3%	78.7%	80% / 20 %
2001	23.6%	76.4%	80% / 20 %
2002	27.5%	72.5%	80% / 20 %
2003	26.7%	73.5%	80% / 20 %
2004	29.3%	70.7%	80% / 20 %

Breakdown of Child Care Spending and Service Levels

Program	Net Expenditure	Number of Children Served
DNA 579 Fee Subsidy	14,165,346	4,590
DNA 580 Special Needs	2,339,684	671
DNA 548 OW Formal	1,464,239	527
DNA 549 O.W. Informal	282,000	543

Statistics shown are based on service level actuals as of December 31, 2003.

Resources within Peel have been stretched as identified in the chart below indicating the serious over expenditures in all program areas.

Program Over Expenditures

Child Care Fee Subsidy	O.W. Formal	O.W. Informal	Special Needs Resources	Resource Centres	Wage Subsidy Commercial & Non Profit	Administration
1,302,033	41,174	0	145,291	41,408	2,157	195,800

Description of Local Services

Within Peel Region, families have access to a full range of services including full-time and part-time care for infants through school age children. Infant care is extremely limited and there is an identified shortage of school age care. Licensed care in rural communities is more difficult to access than is licensed care within the urban areas of the region. The Region of Peel provides extended hour care at one Brampton location currently. Emergency care is available at this site in very limited circumstances.

It is critical to note that the vast majority of non-subsidized children receiving child care services in Peel Region are receiving care outside the licensed child care system.

Description of Local Services

The number of full time equivalent days of subsidized care provided are 669,568 as of December 31, 2003.

Licensed Centre Based Care	Non-Profit	Commercial	Total
Number of licensed child care centres	274	96	370
Number of infant spaces	200	153	353
Number of toddler spaces	675	703	1,378
Number of pre-school spaces	4,356	3,933	8,289
Number of school-age spaces	7,658	409	8,067
Total Number of spaces			18,087
Number of child care centres providing care for children 2.5 - 5 years	100	95	195
Number of licensed child care centres in schools			42
Number of school-age programs in schools			192

Subsidized child care spaces in schools (0-6 yrs)		333
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Licensed Home Care Agencies	Non-Profit	Commercial	Total
Number of home care agencies	5	4	9
Number of approved homes (active homes)	400	57	457
Number of spaces	1,240	174	1,414
Number of subsidized spaces	603	26	629
Number of agencies providing care for children 2.5 - 5 years	5	4	9

Resource Programs and Special Needs	
Resource Centres	2*
Ontario Early Years Centres	7+1**
Special Needs Resource Programs	6***

* The child care resource programs are also designated Ontario Early Years Centre

** 7 OEYC's and 1 satellite location for the Caledon Community

*** Number of programs is based on those funded through child care

Assessment of Local Needs Related to the Early Learning and Child Care Initiative

The following chart identifies the number of children on the fee subsidy waiting list for licensed child care services. This clearly demonstrates the lack of resources to support families and meet their child care obligations. Many of these families are forced to use the unlicensed child care sector until they are able to access licensed child care programs.

Services for children with special needs has also been stretched far beyond the capacity to provide quality resource services. Services are watered down in order to provide minimal support to children and families struggling to cope with the added pressures. Agencies are unable to meet the demand for assessments and services and have had to develop extensive waiting lists. Waiting lists for special needs resource services exceed over 90 children (August, 2004).

Fee Subsidy Wait list Analysis

	Number of Children	Percentage (%)
Infant	414	19.58%
Toddler	348	16.46%
Preschool	871	41.20%
School Age	481	22.75%
Total	2,114	100%
Special Needs	21	0.99%

Forecast of Local Early Learning and Child Care Service Needs

Within the Region, there is considerable need with respect to all services for children. Despite the best efforts of the Region and the community there remains a tremendous gap between demand and capacity. The funding available through the Multi-lateral Agreement will provide some of the desperately needed resources to expand capacity. However, as identified in the Service Plan submitted in March of 2004 there is much work to be done.

Over the next several months and years, the following priorities have been identified: (for a complete summary, please see *"Planning for Peel's Children: Child Care Service System Management Plan"* (March 2004))

These service priorities reflect the shared expertise and experience of service providers and the staff of the Children's Services Division. They demonstrate a shared commitment to the health and well being of children and their families.

Within the context of available resources, the Children's Services will work together with the community and with other departments and levels of government to:

1. Use all available resources (financial, physical plant and human) efficiently and effectively to maximize available services for children in the Region of Peel.
2. Work together with other levels of government and with the community to review and update the subsidized child care eligibility criteria so that they are more reflective of current financial realities.
3. Recognizing the tremendous need for additional resources for children with special needs within the Region of Peel, actively seek additional funding to support the provision of special needs services. Work with the community and providers of programs and services for children with special needs to focus on developing prevention strategies as opposed to only developing intervention

programs. Focus on meeting the needs of preschool children and developing the relationship between child care programs and schools.

4. Actively support the development of additional training opportunities for front line staff in both home and centre based child care to support the successful inclusion of children with special needs into the licensed child care system.
5. Continue to manage the wage subsidy system within the established provincial guidelines while working to develop solutions to the continued inequities within the allocation system.
6. Assume responsibility for effectively and efficiently managing the allocation of pay equity funding within the framework of provincial guidelines.
7. Within the Region of Peel there are areas of significant growth. Work collaboratively with the community and with other levels of government to secure capital funding for services within these newly developing neighbourhoods.
8. Develop a fair and equitable strategy to allocate committed Federal funding through the Multilateral Framework Agreement on Early Learning and Child Care that addresses the ever-increasing need within the context of provincial spending guidelines.
 - a. Work with the community to strengthen relationships between the education system, the Ontario Early Years Centres and child care providers
 - b. Recognizing that there 196 school age programs located within schools and 42 child care centres serving younger children also located within school buildings, seek out opportunities to develop and implement strategies that will enable seamless transitions between child care and school.
9. Utilize funding mechanisms such as the Ontario Early Years Challenge Fund to secure the resources necessary to ensure that services for children are incorporated into social service initiatives such as programs addressing homelessness.
10. Ensure that programs and services directly operated by the Region of Peel provide a quality benchmark for community based services.
11. Ensure that the work of the Children's Services Division in managing the service system is conducted in an open, accessible manner with opportunities for community participation.
12. Continue to provide leadership and support the Success by 6 initiative with the two Peel School boards and community agencies through representation on the

Council of Champions.

13. Continuing to co-chair the Success by 6 Advisory committee during the amalgamation process and committing staff time ½ day a week to be involved in the management committee.
14. Work closely with the school boards in the implementation of the Early Development Instrument and actively participate in the analysis and mapping of data to develop the EDI report and present findings to the community together with the school boards.
15. Continue to provide and expand the family literacy program in partnership with the school boards and OISE UT to ensure early literacy opportunities and school readiness for all children in Peel.
16. Collaborate with the Boards of Education and other community partners on the BEST Start initiative as the details emerge.

Section 3 - ANALYSIS OF GAPS/OVERLAPS

An analysis of the services currently available and of the continuing demand for a broad range of children's services identified significant gaps in service delivery and very few overlaps. There is not enough service available for children in any age group including those under 6. The chart attached on page 12 provides a detailed identification of service gaps/challenges and the service management strategies to address these issues.

Child Care Fee Subsidies

- There are waiting lists for all ages of care, including for preschoolers 2 ½ to 5.
- The cost-sharing of child care fee subsidies has moved from 80/20 to 70.7/29.3. The municipal contribution above 20% limits the capacity of the Region to cost-share new subsidy spaces.
- A lack of geographic equity remains with respect to allocation of fee subsidies and some areas lack available spaces or have little or no licensed child care available.
- Increasing the number of physical spaces requires appropriate physical plant, which is difficult to come by. Increased cooperation with the Boards of Education may increase capacity. However, the increases in the child population have put pressure on school space, making it difficult for child care programs to secure space in school buildings.

Wage Subsidies

- In order for programs to expand their capacity, and to increase the number of child care spaces available for children 0 to 6 and particularly for preschool children 2 ½ to 5 many centres will require additional wage subsidy funding in order to pay adequate salaries.
- The current inequity in wage subsidy allocation has created service pressures for programs that receive a less than equitable share.

Special Needs Resourcing

- The community has identified a critical need for additional funding for special needs for all age groups including those 0 to 6.
- The PEP Start clinics providing prescreening to families has increased the number of children requiring formal assessments increasing wait lists for services
- The increase in programs and services for children 0 to 6 (Ontario Early Years Centres, Healthy Babies/Healthy Children and Early years Initiatives for example) has increased the number of children who are identified early with special needs creating even longer waiting lists and more pressure on available services.
- Strengthening relationships between the child care system and the education system is not made easier by the fact that resource teachers often leave for the education system where salaries are higher and hours are more manageable.
- Throughout the consultation process, concerns were expressed that wait lists will continue to increase due to the more complex needs of children within the community.

Section 4: SERVICE PRIORITIES

To ensure limited resources are used effectively and efficiently, the Children's Services Division will collaborate with the broader community, with other departments and with other levels of government to:

1. Use every available resource (financial, human and physical plant) to provide as much quality service as possible for families and children living in Peel Region.
2. Create as many subsidized child care spaces as possible with the resources available thereby increasing the number of families who have access to quality, licensed child care.
3. Increase the number of child care fee subsidy spaces available throughout the

Region by at least 10%, particularly for children 0 to 6, focusing on increasing the number of pre-school spaces.

4. Use newly available minor capital funding to increase the number of physical spaces for children 0 to 6 available throughout the Region.
5. Continue to explore strategies to increase the access to resources for children with special needs.
6. Use newly acquired funding for health and safety to stabilize the current non-profit system
7. Work with the community to develop and implement on going strategies to resolve the challenges created by the lack of fairness and equity with respect to the way in which wage subsidy dollars are allocated.
8. Continue to build and strengthen the quality of available services by supporting training and professional development opportunities for staff providing services for children and their families.

Section 5: SERVICE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

The Children's Services Division is charged with developing and implementing service management strategies to ensure that the priorities set at both Provincial and Regional levels are achieved. Under the terms of the Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care these priorities include increasing access to services for children 0 to 6, particularly preschoolers who are 2 ½ to 5.

Service Management Strategies have two primary functions. They must address ongoing management responsibilities and begin to resolve identified service gaps.

The Children's Services Division will:

SERVICE GAPS/CHALLENGES	SERVICE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES	IMPLEMENTATION DATE
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<p>Increase the number of fee subsidies by a minimum of 10% in 2004/2005. This will result in an increase in the number of spaces of 330. There continues to be a need for additional child care subsidies for working families and for those who are searching for work or who find themselves in emergency situations such as family shelters.</p> <p>If funding is provided, an additional 10% per year will be added.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate with child care service providers to fill vacant spaces. 2. Using Early Learning and child Care funding, reduce the waiting lists for subsidized spaces by increasing available subsidy spaces. 3. Work to streamline access to subsidized child care. 4. Maintain and strengthen current initiative with Peel Children's Aid to provide immediate access for children who are at risk 5. Continue to advocate for additional funding for child care fee subsidies. 	<p>2004 and on-going</p> <p>2004 and on-going</p> <p>2005/2006</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>
<p>The current eligibility guidelines are limiting the number of families eligible for subsidy. Many working families are not eligible for subsidized support and are not able to pay the full cost of licensed child care. For example, the restrictions on RRSP and RESP savings and other assets make it difficult for families to save for their futures and pay for child care. Parents believe that</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Work together with parents, service providers, other municipalities and OMSSA to advocate for changes to the eligibility requirements including asset levels. 	<p>2004</p>

<p>the child care system is increasingly tiered, with those who can afford quality and those who receive subsidy accessing quality care and many more middle income families not able to access the licensed system.</p>		
<p>There is an inherent conflict between the need to increase the number of subsidized spaces and the pressure to pay per diem rates that reflect the actual cost of providing childcare when resource levels are not increasing. Service providers expressed concerns about the range of rates being paid for the same service. (For example, centres receive different rates for the provision of infant care).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Review the rate review policy annually with service providers. 8. Provide consultation support to operators requesting purchase of service agreements. 9. Provide continued financial consultation to operators. The Divisional financial analyst will review financial information being submitted and will provide feedback to operators. 10. Explore the concept of paying a market rate that reflects an average of the costs of providing care in consultation with service providers 	<p>2004 and ongoing</p> <p>2004 and ongoing</p> <p>2005 and ongoing</p> <p>2005 and ongoing</p>
<p>Service Providers and the Children's Services</p>	<p>11. Develop a strategy to increase the</p>	<p>2005 and ongoing</p>

<p>Division must collaborate to enhance the provision of services to families. Good communication builds trust and better relationships.</p>	<p>notice to service providers about changes in the subsidy rates being paid by families.</p> <p>12. Where possible, inform providers more quickly about changes to the subsidy status of a family.</p>	<p>2005 and ongoing</p>
<p>School age child care subsidy continues to raise challenges. Due to costs, lack of availability and transportation issues, families are choosing alternatives to licensed care.</p>	<p>13. In collaboration with all stakeholders, develop strategies to increase subsidy availability to quality, developmentally appropriate school age programs.</p> <p>14. Support the development of improved and strengthened relationships between the child care community and the Board of Education</p> <p>15. Support operators through child care rates providing transportation and supervision of children accessing kindergarten programs</p>	<p>2005 and ongoing</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>ongoing</p>
<p>WAGE SUBSIDY/ PAY EQUITY/ HEALTH & SAFETY FUNDING</p>	<p>SERVICE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES</p>	<p>IMPLEMENTATION DATE</p>

	16. Manage the wage subsidy program within the Region of Peel following MCSS guidelines.	2004 and ongoing
The inequity in wage subsidy distribution creates staffing difficulties for programs that are getting either no wage subsidy or a smaller allocation than those receiving the full amount. Some programs state that this has an impact on the quality of care that they are able to provide	17. Continue to allocate any additional wage subsidy dollars according to the policy established in consultation with the community.	2004 and ongoing
	18. Advocate with the province to address the inequities inherent in the current distribution guidelines.	2005/2006
	19. Continue wage subsidy payments for programs that relocate without disruption to service contingent upon a signed agreement.	ongoing
	20. When ownership is transferred, continue wage subsidy payments with no disruptions to service.	ongoing
	21. Continue to foster a high level of accountability for the use of wage subsidy dollars by implementing clear, effective reporting guidelines.	ongoing
Responsibility for managing distribution of provincial pay equity	22. Manage the distribution of pay equity funding	2004 and ongoing

<p>funding now falls to the Children's Services Division</p>	<p>within provincial guidelines. 23. Foster a high level of accountability for the use of pay equity dollars by developing and implementing clear, effective reporting guidelines</p>	<p>2005</p>
<p>Pay equity guidelines are unclear and are inherently inequitable. This has created confusion and financial pressure in the community.</p>	<p>24. Provide information and advice to programs struggling to meet pay equity requirements</p>	<p>2004 and ongoing</p>
<p>Current provincial policy has created a system that penalized programs that met their pay equity obligations.</p>	<p>25. Develop a strategy to address shortfalls in pay equity funding that will enable programs to meet their obligations.</p>	<p>2004 Distribution of pay equity funding based on MCSS guidelines</p>
<p>Health and Safety funding is now available to certain programs but not to the entire system. This creates challenges for those that are not eligible. It increases the inequity in the system.</p>	<p>26. Manage the distribution of health and safety funding following provincial guidelines. 27. Develop and implement a process to ensure accountability for health and safety expenditures.</p>	<p>2004 and ongoing ongoing</p>

<p>There is a sense that a human resources crisis is looming. It is difficult for programs to keep quality staff; there are inequities between programs and within programs as funding for age groups differs. The increase in minimum wage is also anticipated to have an impact on staffing.</p>	<p>28. Work together with service providers to develop strategies to address staffing needs in recognition of the reality that staffing is the most significant cost driver in children's services</p>	<p>2005/2006</p>
<p>SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING</p>	<p>SERVICE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES</p>	<p>IMPLEMENTATION DATE</p>
<p>Special needs service providers, centre, home child care agencies and parents all identified in the clearest terms possible that there is a crisis within the Region of Peel. There are simply not enough services available for children with special needs and there is insufficient support for child care programs that accept children with special needs.</p>	<p>29. Complete the review of special needs programs that began in 2003 with the intent of identifying and quantifying the true gap in service provision. Continue to include those programs not funded through the Region of Peel to ensure that the final report and model provides a comprehensive picture of the crisis and an effective action plan.</p> <p>30. Implement the SNAP-P, single point of access line for preschool special needs referral co-ordination.</p>	<p>2004</p> <p>2004</p>

<p>The number of children with identified special needs is increasing and these children require support in order to be integrated into child care settings. There is currently limited short-term support available but this is not sufficient to meet the needs of all the children or to assist the programs that are working to integrate children with more challenging needs.</p>	<p>31. Maintain the \$90,000 of funding being used to provide short-term support to children with special needs integrate into child care programs.</p> <p>32. Utilize 2004/2005 additional funding to provide short-term support for 20 additional children.</p> <p>33. Develop a plan to meet the needs of those children who need longer term support to integrate into child care programs and advocate for additional funding to implement the plan.</p>	<p>2004 and ongoing</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>2005/2006</p>
<p>Front line staff in child care centres and home child care providers require additional training in order to adequately meet the needs of children with special needs.</p>	<p>34. Work with the providers of special needs programs and services; develop training and education opportunities to increase the capacity of front line workers.</p>	<p>2006</p>
<p>There is a significant increase in the number of children diagnosed with Ausberger's syndrome. Agencies providing services for children with special needs do not have sufficient numbers of staff</p>	<p>35. Support agencies to provide additional training to meet the increasing demand for expertise in this specific area.</p>	<p>2005/2006</p>

<p>trained to provide services for these children.</p>		
<p>Parents and service providers identified the PEP Start programs as providing a non-threatening entry point for identifying potential special needs. The PEP Start programs also served the function of reassuring parents that their children were developing normally.</p>	<p>36. Continue to actively support the PEP Start programs and to seek strategies to expand the number and location of clinics provided.</p>	<p>2004 and ongoing</p>
<p>Families and service providers are challenged by the division of services before and after children enter the formal education system. Children may receive additional support at school that is not available in child care settings. On the other hand, some services are no longer available once a child enters the education system or turns six. This creates a disruption in service that can create serious challenges for children with special needs and their families. This is an example of a gap in service that the Multi-lateral funding criteria are targeted towards addressing.</p>	<p>37. Work with service providers, other departments, levels of government and the boards of education to develop strategies to smooth the transition between the child care system and the Education system especially for children with special needs.</p>	<p>2005</p>

<p>Agencies providing services for children with special needs identify a tremendous level of good will and a willingness to look closely at how resources are being used. For example, staff identified situations where two agencies might each have a resource staff in a child care centre providing services to two different children. In some circumstances, one staff could provide the support to both children, freeing up the other staff to work within another centre. Staff express a high level of frustration at their inability to meet the increasing demand for their services.</p>	<p>38. Take the lead in developing a community based work group charged with looking at all the funding allocated to special need programs, utilization of the funding and developing strategies to utilize this funding as efficiently and effectively as possible, breaking down artificial boundaries and barriers where possible.</p> <p>39. Continue to support and participate in the transition to school committee ensuring a seamless transition for children with special needs entering the school system</p>	<p>2006</p> <p>ongoing</p>
<p>Child care for medically fragile children and children with complex medical needs is difficult to find.</p>	<p>40. Work together with the providers of services for children with special needs to develop strategies to meet the needs of medically fragile children.</p>	<p>2004 and ongoing</p> <p>2004 and ongoing</p>

	<p>41. Continue to lobby for additional funding for services for children with special needs.</p>	
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Section 6: ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL IMPACT

Fiscal Strategies

Increasing the level of funding available to child care and early learning initiatives is an important first step towards filling some of the gaps in service provision throughout Peel Region. The Children's Services Division will work with the community and with other organizations and agencies to begin implementing the service planning priorities. The first task is to implement the directives in the Multilateral Framework on Early Learning & Child Care.

Multilateral Framework funding should allow the Region to return to an 80/20 cost-sharing arrangement with the Province. Filling current vacancies in the system should serve to reduce per diem costs as vacancies drive up the cost of child care. Additional funding for both expansion and health and safety funding will improve both access to child care and the quality of care available.

Within the context of the Multilateral Framework funding guidelines Children's Services staff will begin to address the priorities developed through the service planning process:

1. Increasing the number of subsidized spaces available.
2. Increasing the number of physical spaces available.
3. Increasing access to special needs resources.
4. Increasing available wage subsidy funding reducing the inequities in allocation. (Within the context of Provincial regulations)
5. Providing minor capital and health and safety funding.

As additional Multilateral Framework funding comes into the system there are identified priorities for allocating the funds:

1. Additional increases in the number of subsidized spaces available for families living in Peel Region.
2. Continuing towards a more equitable allocation of wage subsidy dollars to reduce the financial pressure on programs that do not currently receive an equitable share.

3. Increase per diem rates to reflect approved actual costs of operation.
4. Provide funding for minor capital and health and safety funding on an ongoing basis.
5. Increase access to services for children with special needs through an increase in funding levels to agencies providing these services.
6. Decrease the minimum user fee of \$6.00/day.

In order to move forward, administrative support is essential. It is anticipated that additional administrative funding for the Children's Services Division will enable Regional staff to support the implementation of increased service levels.

As part of its commitment to collaboration, the Children's Services Division will consult annually with the broader child care community and the school boards. Through consultation, the Division can ensure that the priorities remain current, reflective of the ongoing needs of children and families in Peel Region.

Financial Requirements

Fiscal Requirements

[Appendix II](#) outlines the fiscal requirements over the next three years in order for the Region to begin to address the current existing gaps in local child care services.

[Appendix I](#) outlines the 2004/2005 program funding proposal. The Region continues to reassess and confirm the fiscal requirements based on what has happened in the previous year. Therefore the financial strategies are subject to revision and Regional Council approval.

Wage Subsidy

The three year projected budget has provided for an increase in wage subsidy on an annual basis. The requested increase will not meet the inequities which currently exist in the system but will begin to provide operators with some support that will help to keep child care fee increases to a minimum. Wage subsidy will be made available to both commercial and the non-profit sector based on the wage subsidy policy that was developed in consultation with the child care community in 2002.

Health and Safety/ Minor Capital

In order to work towards stabilizing and keeping child care fees to a minimum, the projected budget includes on going funding to meet health and safety needs and provide capital to operators in order to expand the existing child care spaces to meet the growing needs. Ongoing support through minor capital and health and safety funding will further support and start to meet the needs of the Peel community.

Strategies to Support Child Care Operators

Quality Assurance

The Region strongly supports quality child care services and provides consultative

support to licensed child care providers through the purchase of service consultant. This position works closely with Ministry child care licensing staff to ensure DNA standards are met and encourage operators to exceed the minimum standards set out under the legislation. The Metro Operating Criteria is the benchmark used with operators when monitoring and assessing programs. The demand on this position has continued to grow as the number of programs develop to meet the growth within Peel. In order to continue to meet this demand, further staffing is required as well as the ability to provide resources in the way of printed materials. Fiscal support from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services will be required in order to meet the demand and help to ensure quality child care services are available.

Training Needs

Further staff training is required to ensure the goals and objectives as outlined in the strategies are met. Child Development Resource Connection Peel is the key agency in Peel that provides training to front line child care staff. The demand for training has escalated as the needs of children and their families become more complex. CDRCP works in partnership with the child care community identifying training needs and providing opportunities that are appropriate for staff. Resources have been stretched and further financial support to this agency is required to meet the demand for professional timely training. The ELCC funding does not provide the opportunity to support resource programs that provide this valuable and much needed service. The Region is committed in supporting this service and are requesting separate funding be made available to support his service.

Technology Support

Service Providers

OCCMS has the ability to provide attendance information to operators electronically in a timely manner resulting in the potential for faster service delivery and a more streamlined payment process. In order to use the system to its advantage, operators will need to be able to access the hardware and the internet to take advantage of the process. For the majority of operators, the costs associated in purchasing the necessary hardware and software as well as the ongoing maintenance is prohibitive. As a leader in the use of technology, the Region supports operators in this area. Funding to provide operators with the necessary technology would become a long term cost savings measures and both families and child care providers would benefit.

Special Needs

The special needs community in Peel has been working together over the past year to review services with the aim to provide a service co-ordination model providing a single point of access to services for families. In order to successfully implement the program, the telephone system will need to be updated to meet the anticipated demand. The costs associated with this service are minor when compared to the streamlined access that will be made available. The Region has been instrumental in supporting this initiative and has been requested to provide this service on behalf of

the special needs community. Anticipated costs for the development of the phone access is approximately \$35,000.

One of the opportunities provided to the community and special needs agencies through the new service co-ordination model is the potential to address the duplication of waiting lists therefore providing accurate information on community needs. This will require further data base development and technology needs. Children's Services continues to advocate for early intervention and prevention. To this end, the Region is exploring the need to provide an infant therapeutic program that will support early intervention. Partners in this initiative include PCAS, Peel Children's Centre, Healthy Babies/Healthy Children and Peel Infant Development. The program will provide parenting support and quality care and development opportunities for infants at risk. The long term gains drastically outweigh the capital and ongoing costs needed to sustain and support this program and will eventually decrease the need for long term mental health intervention for parents and children. We look forward to the opportunity to meet with the Province and review the funding requirements to address the needs of families within Peel.

CONCLUSION

This funding will make a real difference in Peel. The recognition of the importance of early learning and care on behalf of senior levels of government reflects the long held commitment of Peel Region. With this funding, it will be possible to begin to fill some of the gaps in services for children and families.

While there is a range of services available within Peel, there is not enough of any of the available programs. There are waiting lists and for some families, access to early learning and care opportunities is simply not available.

The new funding has been anxiously awaited and there are many in the community who will be disappointed by the limitations to the funding. Managing expectations is always a challenge. Preschool children and programs providing services to these children will receive relief through this funding while infants and school age programs, where the need is still very high, will not benefit immediately.

Whatever the level of funding available, the Region will sustain and continue to strengthen relationships with service providers, with families, and with other levels of government, all with the intent of maximizing the quality and the quantity of services available for children and families.

APPENDICES

[Appendix I - 2004/2005 Program Funding Allocation Proposal](#)

[Appendix II - Fiscal requirements over the next three years](#)



What is an Ontario Early Years Centre?

An Ontario Early Years Centre is a place for parents and caregivers of children, up to the age of six, to get information about their children's development and about services to support that development. Every Ontario Early Years Centre offers the services listed below. The programs and services are free to all parents and caregivers of young children.

- 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 Ontario Early Years Centre.

Who works at Ontario Early Years Centres?

Trained early years professionals and caring volunteers work at Ontario Early Years Centres. The Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services provides training for staff of Ontario Early Years Centres to help them offer quality services across the province.

Why are the early years important?

The years before six are the most influential to a child's development. How we care for our children during the first six years sets the stage for their lifelong learning, behaviour and health.

What types of services do the Ontario Early Years Centres offer?

Ontario Early Years Centres offer services and programs for parents of children up to the age of six. Staff at the Centres can help you:

Teach your child to read

- Get ready to be a parent if you are going to have a baby.
- Learn new parenting skills.
- Meet the needs of your family by offering information about other community programs.

Are there services to help children with special needs?

Yes. Ontario Early Years Centres are designed to meet the needs of all parents with young children. Each Centre is linked to child and family health and social services in the community. Staff at the Centres can refer parents to other services as needed. The focus of the Ontario Early Years Centre is to help all parents give their young children the best start in life.

Are the services free?

Yes. All services at Ontario Early Years Centres are free to parents and caregivers of young children. If you are a parent or caregiver of a child, up to the age of six, you are welcome at the Ontario Early Years Centre in your community. To find out the nearest centre in your community, call 905-890-9432 or visit www.ontarioearlyyears.ca/locations/

Are there services at Ontario Early Years Centres for children above the age of six?

Ontario Early Years Centres offer programs and services for children up to the age of six. Staff at the Centres also help families find information about other community services.

Where is the Ontario Early Years Centre in my community?

Many Ontario Early Years Centres will also have satellite locations and mobile programs to serve parents and caregivers in their own communities. To find out the nearest centre in your community, call 905-890-9432 or visit www.ontarioearlyyears.ca/locations/

Where does the money to fund the Ontario Early Years Centres come from?

Funding for Ontario Early Years Centres comes from the Canada Health and Social Transfer. Through this, the federal government transfers funds to provinces to improve early years programs and services.

I already use the types of services that Ontario Early Years Centres offer somewhere else. Why should I visit one?

Ontario Early Years Centres are a gateway to services and programs for young children. There may be programs, services and resources that you don't know about but would find helpful.

When is my Ontario Early Years Centre open?

Every Ontario Early Years Centres has different hours.

To find the hours for your Ontario Early Years Centre, call 905-890-9432 or visit the Ontario Early Years Centre website at www.ontarioearlyyears.ca/locations, then go to the Centre Info page for information about its hours. You may also contact the Centre directly for more information.

I need to find child care for my kids. Can you help?

Yes. Ontario Early Years Centres can provide you with a list of child care services in your community. Call 905-890-9432 or call the centre directly.

What is the Newborn Literacy Kit?

The Newborn Literacy Kit is a set of items created to encourage parents and caregivers to read to their children right from birth. The kit includes a book by award-winning author, Barbara Reid, a video, a CD or audiocassette by Kathy Reid-Naiman and a passport to store records like immunization cards. As well there is information on early childhood development and about the Ontario Early Years Centres.

www.ontarioearlyyears.ca is the source for this information.





Brampton West-Mississauga Centre Home

Welcome to the website of the Brampton West-Mississauga Ontario Early Years Centre!

The Ontario government created Ontario Early Years Centres to be a place where parents and caregivers can get answers to questions, information about programs and services that are available for young children, and an opportunity to talk to early years professionals, as well as other parents and caregivers in the community. You and your child can visit the Brampton West-Mississauga Ontario Early Years Centre for a range of free services including:

[Early learning and literacy programs for parents and their children;](#)

[Parenting programs that support parents and caregivers of young children in all aspects of early child development;](#)

[Information and training for new parents about pregnancy and parenting.](#)

The Brampton West-Mississauga Ontario Early Years Centre also brings together in one location information about children's services and programs in the community. If you have questions about your child's development, or want to know how to get information or services for your child aged 0-6 in Brampton West-Mississauga, please visit your Ontario Early Years Centre at 105-57 Mill Street, Brampton ON or call us at 905-452-1973 or email noreen@cdrep.com.

Our main satellite is located at 75 Watline Avenue, Unit #103, Mississauga ON, and other satellite locations are also available for your convenience. Call 905-890-9432 for more information, or for a site nearest to you.

Brampton West-Mississauga

Centre Info

Brampton West-Mississauga Ontario Early Years Centre

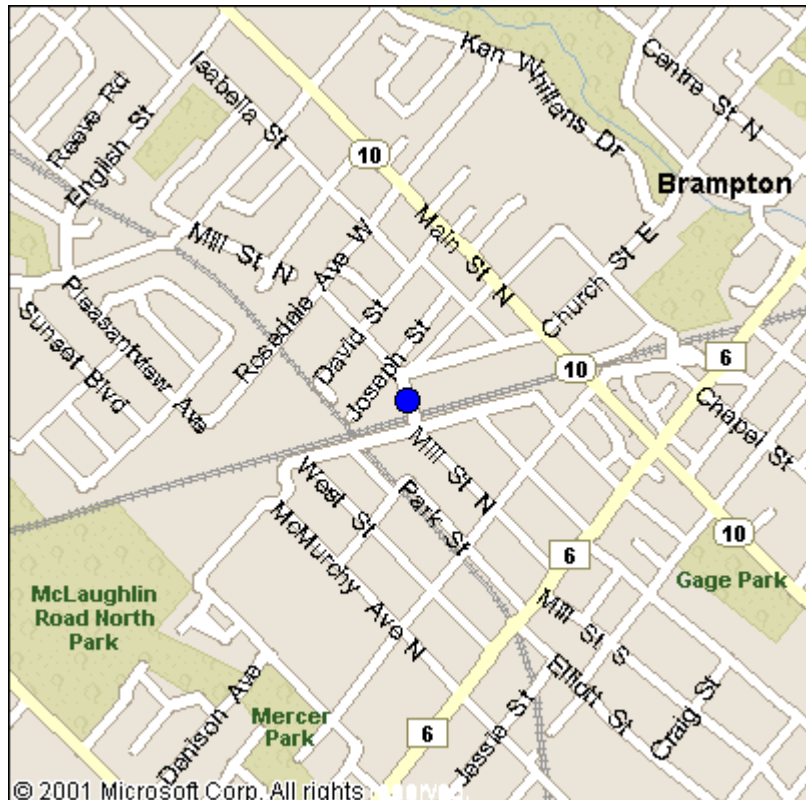
105-57 Mill Street
Brampton, ON
L6X 1S9

Phone: 905-452-1973
Fax: 905-452-0760
Email: noreen@cdrcp.com

Hours / Programs

Monday:	9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday:	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Thursday:	9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday:	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Saturday:	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Sunday:	1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Directions



One block west of Main Street off Church Street.



Brampton West-Mississauga Satellites

Fortinos Satellite

35 Worthington Ave.
Brampton ON
L7A 2Y7

Phone: 905-452-1973
Fax: 905-452-1246
Email: noreen@cdrpc.com

Gardenview Satellite

20 Ceremonial Drive
Mississauga ON
L5R 3E5

Phone: 905-452-1973
Fax: 905-452-0760
Email: noreen@cdrpc.com

Watline (CDRCP) Satellite

75 Watline Avenue, Unit
#103
Mississauga ON
L4Z 3E5

Phone: (905) 452-1973
Fax: (905) 452-0760
Email: noreen@cdrpc.com

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