



early childhood
community development centre

Henley Square Plaza, 395 Ontario Street
St. Catharines, ON L2N 7N6
P. 905.646.7311 | F. 905.646.2692
eccdc@eccdc.org | www.eccdc.org

Who We Are

The Early Childhood Community Development Centre (ECCDC) is an independent, community development organization mandated to enhance the quality, range, and affordability of child care services in Niagara, and strengthen the area's child care and early learning industry. Since its creation in 1993 by local volunteers, the ECCDC has become Canada's leading child care resource, referral, and support organization.

What We Do

In addition to maintaining a professionally staffed curriculum workroom and a lending library with over 3,000 educational toys, classroom equipment items, and curriculum kits, the ECCDC offers free and low-cost training to owners, managers, staff, and boards of early childhood development programs. The ECCDC also excels in event planning and management, data collection and analysis, information and communications technology, and communications initiatives for the child care and early learning industry.

Who We Serve

The ECCDC's clients include child care, early learning, and family resource programs; centre and home based child care practitioners; teachers; parents; employers; government agencies; manufacturers, distributors and marketers of early learning products and services.

Why We're Successful

As both an industry and occupational field, child care and early learning has made tremendous progress in recent years. The ECCDC communicates and celebrates these successes, working locally, provincially, and nationally to attract greater public and private investment to this sector of Niagara's economy. To do this, we've had to diversify our revenue base by developing strengths as a community based service partner to all levels of government and to the child care and early learning industry.

What it Means to Niagara

There's no question that Niagara is one of Canada's most progressive communities when it comes to child care and early learning. The ECCDC is in the business of facilitating this success. By tracking and analyzing its interactions with various client groups involved in child care and early learning, anticipating their needs, and delivering the *what's next* products, services, and information they require, the ECCDC helps give all of Niagara's children the best possible start in life.

Resources

Over 850 individuals working in Niagara's child care and early learning industry are members of the ECCDC's Resource Library. More than 75% of Niagara's child care and early learning programs are organizational members.

Training

Every year, the ECCDC hosts over 100 training events, attracting more than 2,000 participants.

Communication

The ECCDC produces its own publication and partners with others to bring our clients the latest industry news. We offer Home-based and Licensed Child Care Centres free advertising for their child care programs on our webpage "Child Care Choices".

We are grateful for the Regional Municipality of Niagara Children's Services' ongoing support, making it possible for Niagara's licensed child care and early learning practitioners to access the ECCDC's Resource Library, training events, and supports at little or no cost.

THE ECCDC

What's in it for employers?

Professional Development

Every month the Early Childhood Community Development Centre (ECCDC) offers more than a dozen professional development seminars, workshops and training sessions. Our instructors are experienced, professional and have been carefully screened before being included on our list of presenters.

Free, On-line Access to Niagara's Most Comprehensive Child Care Directory

Does an employee need help to find licensed child care near home or work? Visit *Child Care Choices* at www.eccdc.org to search for child care vacancies by geographic region in Niagara.



THE ECCDC

What's in it for parents?

Help finding and choosing quality child care

Child Care Choices - Niagara's only on-line, comprehensive directory of home and centre based child care programs, parent resources, preschool special needs services, and family recreation programs.

Checklists, advice, and answers

Got a question about child care, child development, or local services for families? Print handy child care checklists from www.eccdc.org, use our in-house reference library, or call the ECCDC to talk to one of our Early Learning and Child Care Resource Consultants.

