

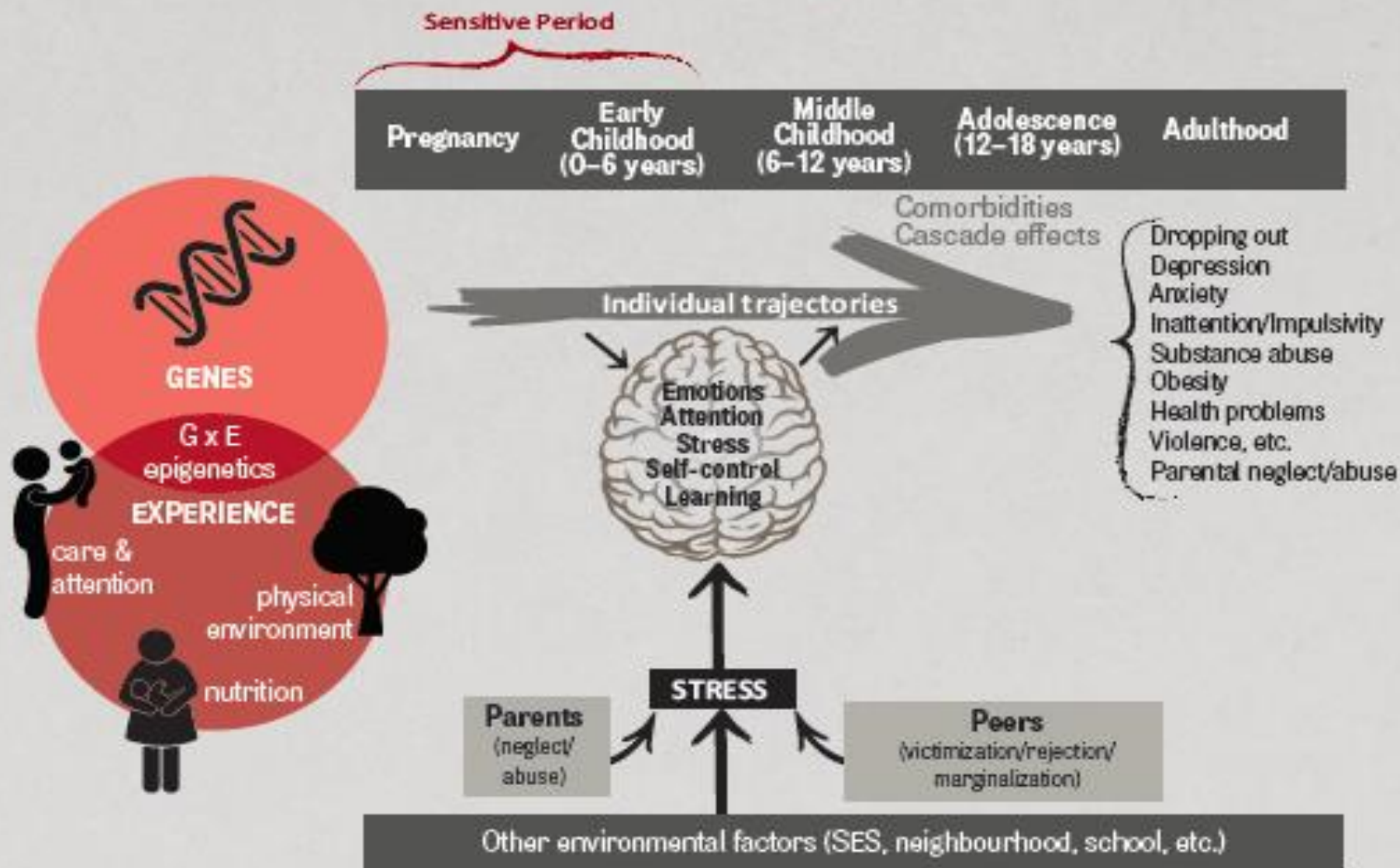
Canadian trends in early education: Learnings for BC

November 3, 2016

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Figure A2

Adverse Influences on Early Brain Development and Potential Outcomes

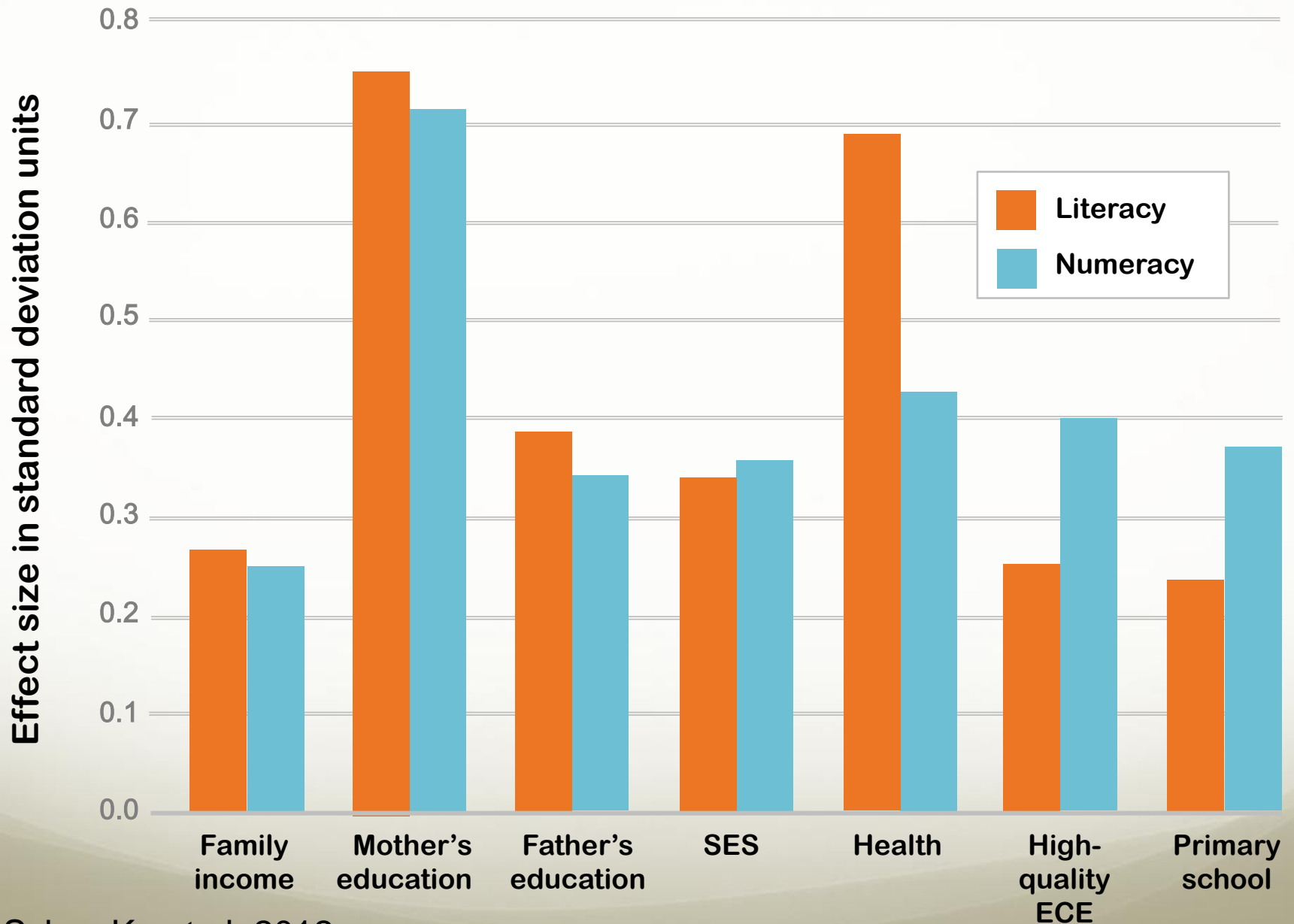


Adapted from: Garner, A., Shonkoff, P. (2012); Kandel, E., Schwartz, J. & Jessel, T. (2000); Mustard, F., McCain, M., Shanker, S. (2007)

Third of BC's 5-year olds are vulnerable at Kindergarten

- The Early Development Instrument (EDI) data collection found 32 per cent of 5-year-olds enter school with one or more vulnerabilities.
- Vulnerabilities include physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, communication skills and general knowledge.

Effects at age 14 on literacy and numeracy



Early childhood education

- International trends take a life long approach to learning with early childhood defined as birth to age 8
- ECE refers to programs for young children based on an explicit curriculum delivered by qualified staff and designed to support children's development and learning.
- Attendance is regular and children may participate on their own or with a parent or caregiver.

Effects of Preschool on Education

Grade Retention
24%

**Special
education
savings
\$5,000
per student**

Drop out rates -18%

+1yr



Reading Age

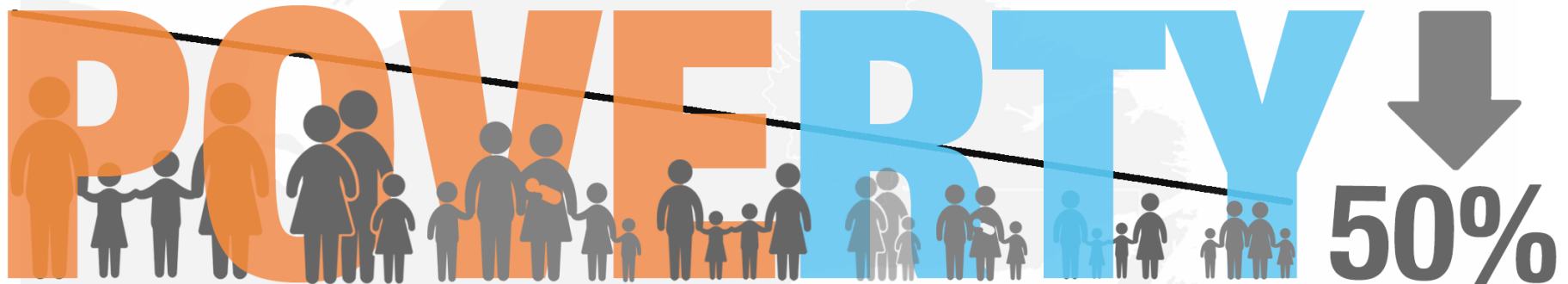
@ **15**
yr's old

Attended
Pre-School



Preschool

Programs Reduced



For families & Children



BENEFITS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

CHILD



A strong start for school and for life

FAMILY



Economic stability and work/life balance

SOCIETY



Equity, prosperity, inclusion

Every \$1 invested in early education returns \$2 in reduced social costs and increased tax revenue from working parents.

% of GDP devoted to ECE:

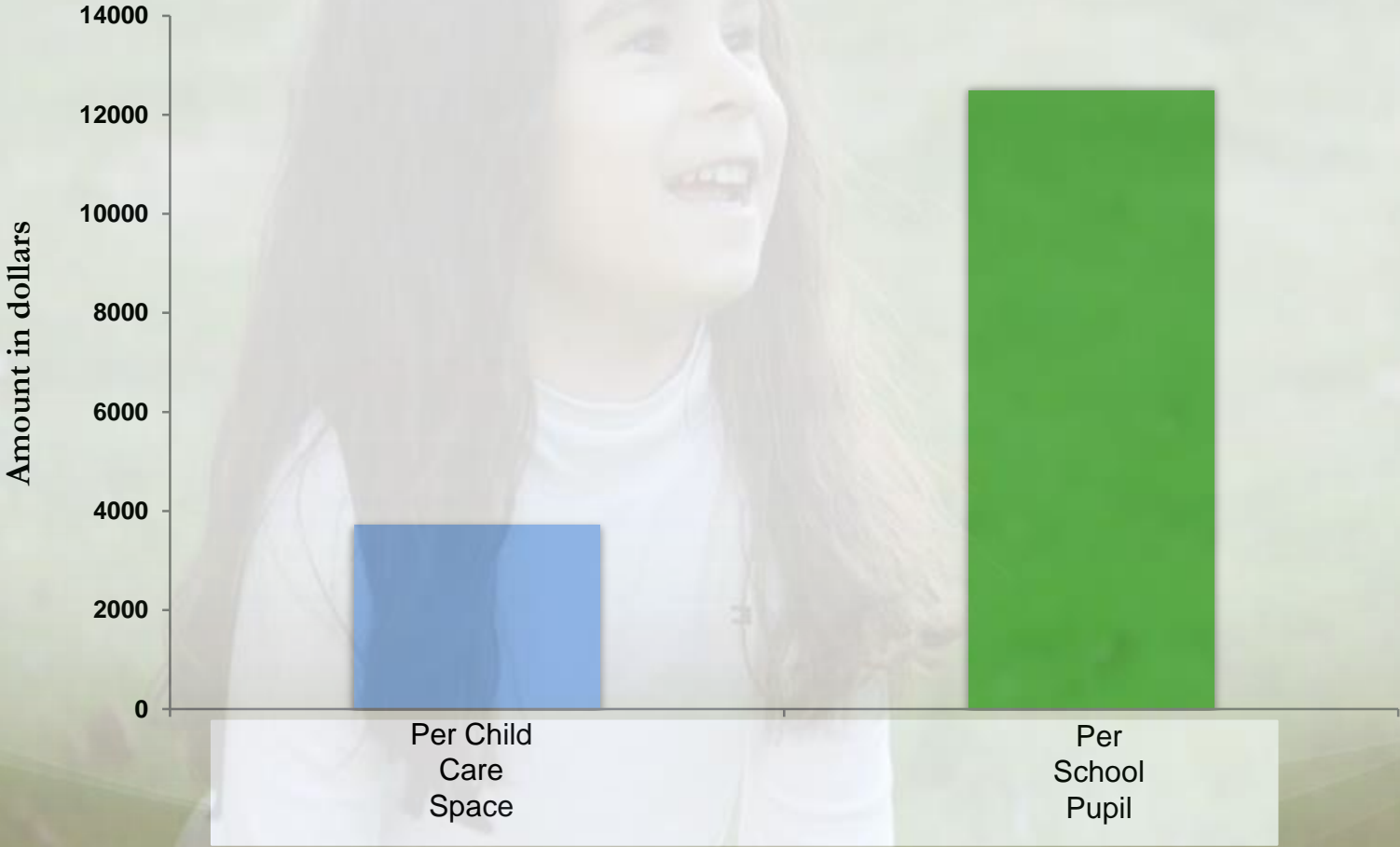


*The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is composed of 34 of the world's richest countries.

Canadian governments need to invest an additional \$8-billion to meet the OECD average.

Canada needs to catch up

Operating expenditure per cc space and per pupil in schools



The need for early education

YOUNG POPULATION

- Indigenous population is young with a median age of 25 years
- 4 times more likely to be teenage mothers than non-Indigenous women
- Children twice as likely to live in a lone-parent family as compared to non-Indigenous Canadians

FEW SUPPORTS

- 67% (of 430) First Nations communities have licensed child care serving 22% of children 0 to 5 years

ECE opportunities are critical for providing a strong foundation on which to build healthy and confident First Nations individuals that succeed in life

First Nations Health Authority on **October 1, 2013,**

Truth & Reconciliation Commission

Early childhood education programs are vital to support the development of young children and, by extension, address some of the deficit in parenting skills that is the legacy of residential schools.

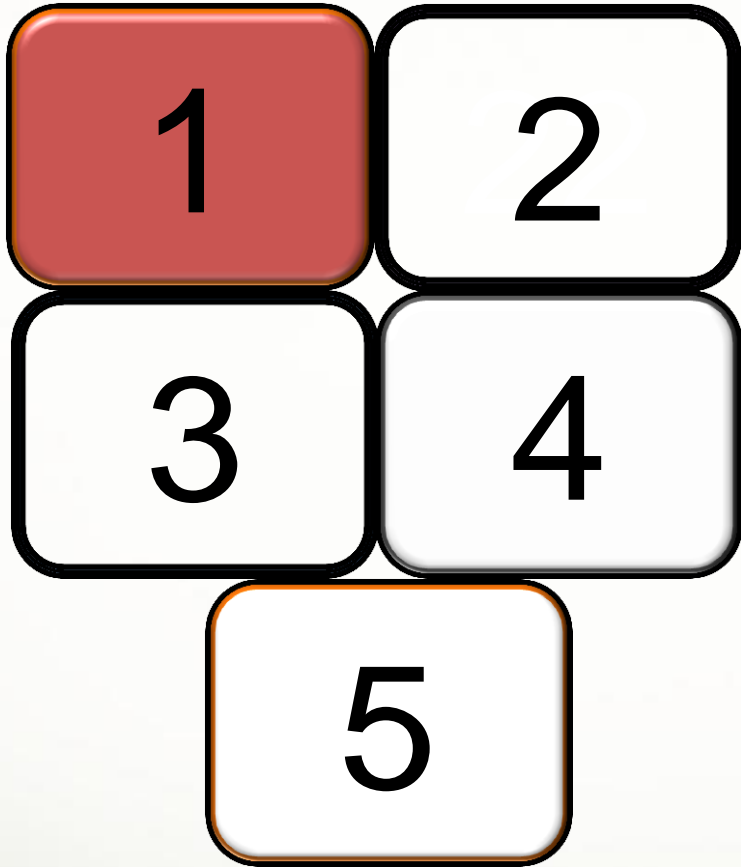
Call to Action

- We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to develop culturally appropriate early childhood education programs for Aboriginal families.
- To close the education and income gaps, there needs to be stable and adequate funding of Aboriginal education that takes into account the challenges of the legacy of residential schools as well as other challenges faced by Aboriginal people. In addition to fair and adequate funding, there is also a need to maximize Aboriginal control over Aboriginal education, and to facilitate instruction in Aboriginal cultures and languages. These educational measures will offer a realistic prospect of reconciliation on the basis of equality and respect.

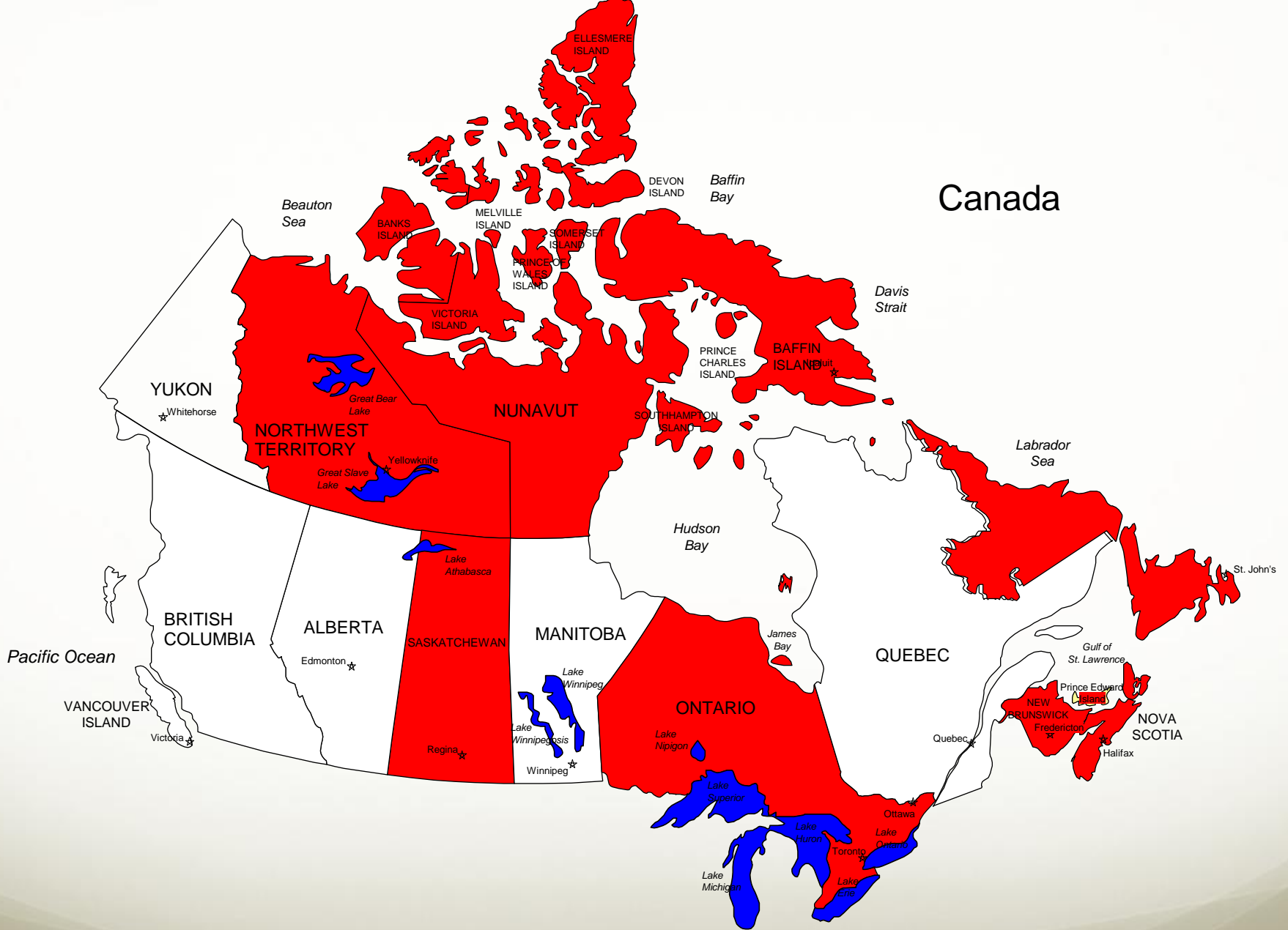
Truth & Reconciliation Commission P. 152



14 Jurisdictions, 14 ECE systems

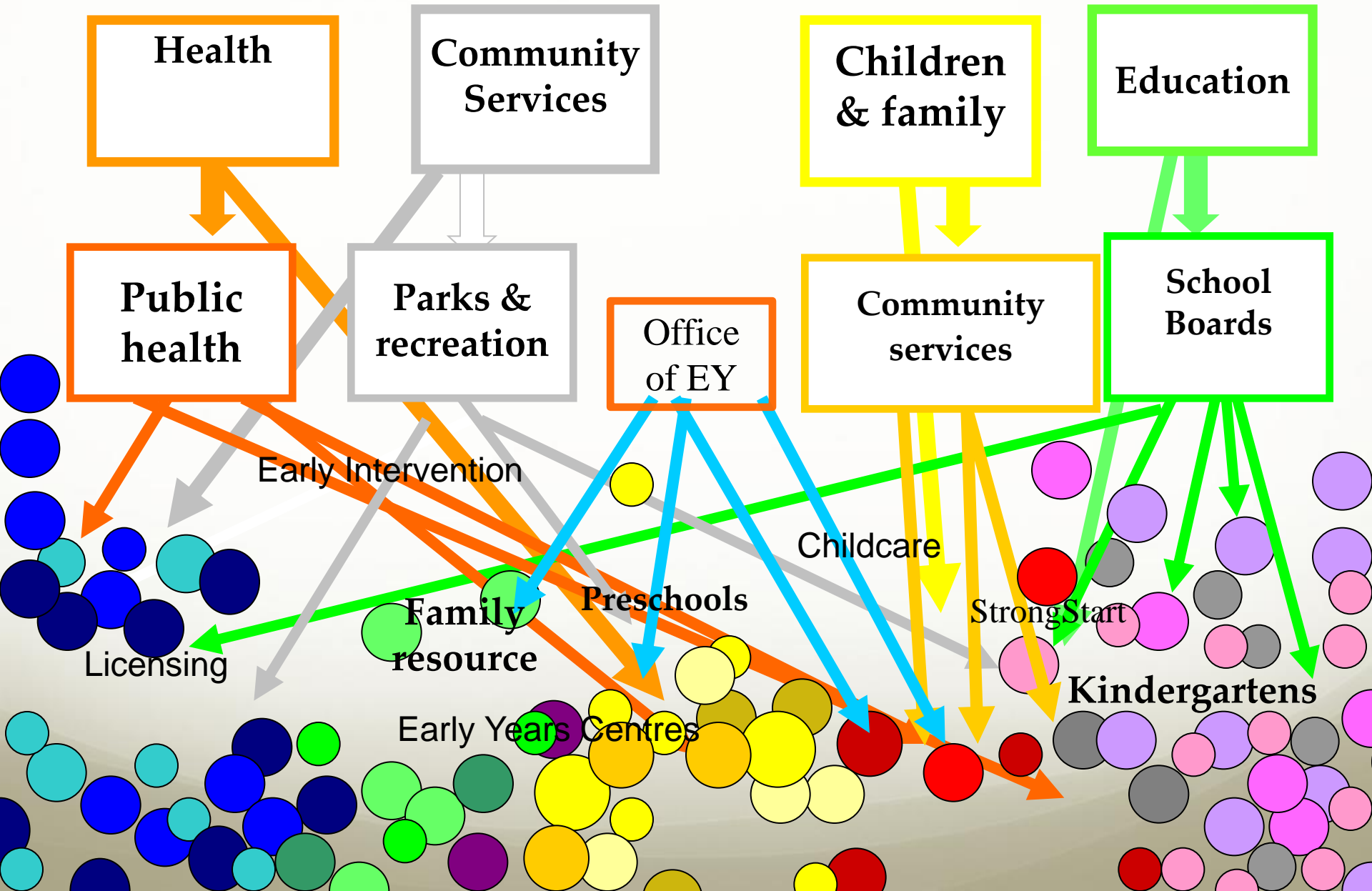


**More attention to
governance and
oversight**



INTEGRATED GOVERNANCE

Chaos

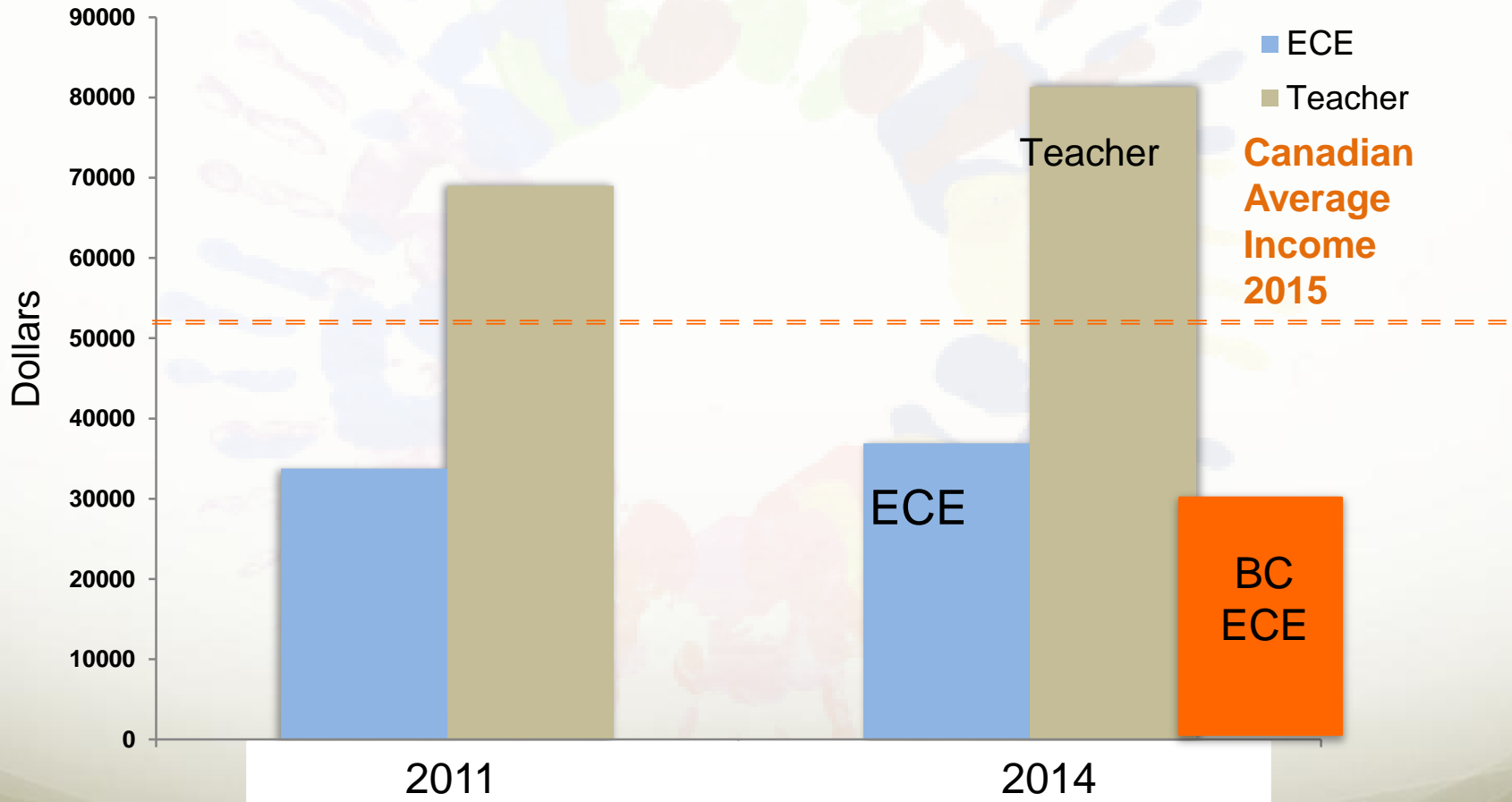


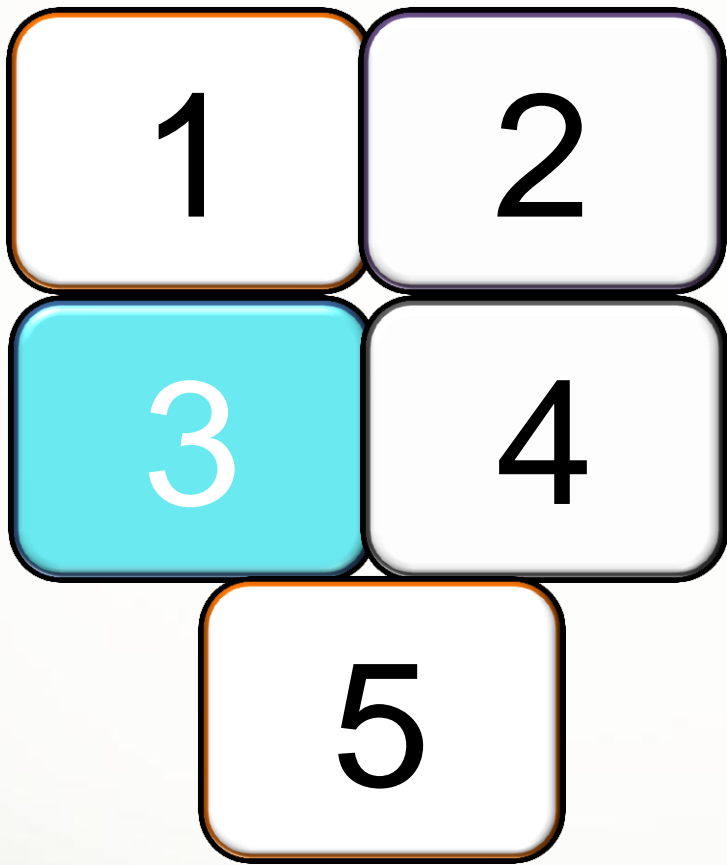


Majority of ECE workforce have post secondary qualifications

ATTENTION TO THE ECE WORKFORCE

Change in Teacher / ECE Remuneration





All provinces
have developed
Early learning
curriculum
frameworks

How play based?

- An analysis of current and previous kindergarten curricula in five Canadian provinces
- Play is integral to kindergarten curricula in SK and ON, but only implicitly mentioned in the AB, BC and MB curricula
- When play isn't in the curricula it doesn't play



**Access has
increased mainly
through school-
provided
programming**

ACCESS

Moving forward

- Federal/provincial/territorial framework on early learning and care
- New federal funding - \$400-million/\$100-million for Aboriginal ECE
- Base in StrongStart – 326 programs, trained staff, curriculum, integrated with schools

Challenges

- Early years programs are frayed
- Avoid another boutique program
- Expand access and supports without leaving community behind



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Thank You