

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM & POLICY UPDATE



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The Canadian Context



- In 2012 OECD reports Canada's ECE age 4 enrolment rate as the 4th lowest in the OECD countries (just over 50%)
- Integration varies jurisdictionally
- Influenced by socio-political factors
- Cancelling of federal/provincial ECE agreements has not prevented provincial and territorial progress
- Integration at multiple levels includes:
 - Policy framework
 - Curriculum and pedagogy
 - Professional education of workforce
 - Governance

Newfoundland & Labrador - Overview



Lead Ministry/ Department

SPLIT

- Department of Education, Early Learning Division is responsible for 5-year-old part-time kindergarten
- Department of Child, Youth and Family Services oversees early childhood programs delivered outside education

Policy framework

- Early Childhood Learning Strategy: Learning from the Start

Curriculum framework

- In discussion

Professional recognition

- Association of Early Childhood Educators NL.
- 30 hours PD annually

Newfoundland & Labrador



- **2012** Ministry of Education launches a multi-media campaign to highlight & encourage play-based learning
- Memorial University with support from Foundations undertake feasibility study on integration of early learning programs
- 10 year funding strategy , increases budget by 50%, and ties funding to parent fees

Prince Edward Island - Overview



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| Lead Ministry/
Department | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INTEGRATED • Department of Education and Early Childhood Development responsible for ECE |
| Policy
framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing The Future For Our Children: Preschool Excellence Initiative (May 2010) |
| Curriculum
framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PEI Integrated Kindergarten Curriculum • Early (0-4) Learning Framework/Curriculum |
| Professional
recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification: Child Care Facilities Board, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development • PD: Minimum 30 hours every three years to maintain certification • Salary scale |

Nova Scotia - Overview



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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Lead ministry/
department | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPLIT • Department of Community Services responsible for child care • Department of Education responsible for primary programs for 5 year olds and some pre-primary for 4 year olds. |
| Policy framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No |
| Curriculum framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In development |
| Professional recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Care Classification, Department of Community Services • 30 hours every 3 years |

Nova Scotia



- **2012** – Released results of consultation document, *Giving Children the Best Start*
- Established an inter-ministry Early Years Advisory Committee – collaborative between health, education and community services

New Brunswick - Overview



**Lead ministry/
department**

INTEGRATED

- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

**Common supervisory
unit**

- Early Childhood Development Division
 - Responsible for all early childhood programs including licensed child care and preschool, early intervention, preschool autism and early childhood development centres.

Policy framework

- **Under discussion**

Curriculum Framework

- 0-8 years aligned with kindergarten
- Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum (English) Curriculum éducatif pour la petite enfance. (French)

Professional recognition

- None – only 1 year pre-service for ECEs

New Brunswick



- **2012** – *Early Childhood Services Act* introduced
- \$38-million action plan, *Putting Children First*, focused on integrating early childhood services into the school system
- Wage enhancement for child care staff re-instated

Québec - Overview



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| Lead ministry/
department | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPLIT • Ministère de la Famille et des Aînés • Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport |
| Policy framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family policy framework |
| Curriculum framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Early Childhood Needs |
| Professional recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None – salary scale |

Québec



- New government plans to move 4 year olds into school system (no fee)
- Eliminate wait lists for child care by 2015/2016

Ontario - Overview



Lead ministry/ department

INTEGRATED

- Ministry of Education – kindergarten, child care and Parent Family Literacy Centres
- Ministry of Children and Youth Services – OEYC, FRP, Intervention and home visiting

Policy framework

- none

Curriculum Framework

- FDK Program
- Early Learning for Every Child Today

Professional recognition

- College of Early Childhood Educators

Ontario



- **2010** – Amended *Education Act* establishes full day kindergarten for all 4-5-year-olds with ECE/teacher team. Requires school boards to secure extended day care where required. Full implementation by 2015
- **2012** - Department of Education releases discussion paper *Modernizing Child Care in Ontario* including revisions to Day Nurseries Act
- Review of EDI and Kindergarten Parent Survey

Manitoba - Overview



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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Lead ministry/
department | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPLIT • Department of Family Services and Consumer Affairs responsible for child care • Department of Education – kindergarten and nursery schools • HCM committee of cabinet |
| Policy framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Choices: Manitoba's 5-Year Agenda for Early Learning and Child Care |
| Curriculum framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Early Returns: Manitoba's Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum Framework for Preschool Centres and Nursery Schools</i> |
| Professional
recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification, Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care |

Manitoba



- **2012** modest increase in licensed child care spaces
- Abecedarian model of early learning, child care and family supports introduced in the Lord Selkirk Park Child Care Centre in partnership with Healthy Child Manitoba and Red River College

Saskatchewan - Overview



**Lead ministry/
department**

- **INTEGRATED**
- Ministry of Education, Early Years Branch

Policy framework

- No
- *Play and Exploration: Early Learning Program Guide*

Curriculum framework

**Professional
recognition**

- Certification, Early Learning and Child Care Branch, Department of Education

Saskatchewan



- **2012** Additional professional development funding for staff and board members of child care centres
- 500 new child care spaces to 15 communities across the province

Alberta - Overview



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| Lead ministry/
department | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SPLIT• Ministry of Human Services – child care• Alberta Education – kindergarten and preschool |
| Policy framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No |
| Curriculum framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Alberta Child Care Accreditation Program Accreditation |
| Professional
recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child Care Staff Certification, Human Services |

Alberta



- **2012** - \$21 million to provide full child care subsidies to families making \$50,000 per year or less
- New 10-point plan for the education system, which includes "examining the operational requirements of full-day kindergarten"

British Columbia - Overview



Lead ministry/ department

- **SPLIT**
- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Ministry of Education

Policy framework

Curriculum framework

- No
- *British Columbia Early Learning Framework*

Professional recognition

- Licence to practice: ECE Registry in Ministry of Child and Family Development
- 40 hours every 5 years

British Columbia



2012

- Overview of the variety of child and family programs from pre-natal, though early childhood

Yukon - Overview



**Lead ministry/
department**

- **SPLIT**
- Department of Health and Social Services
- Department of Education

Policy framework

- No

Curriculum framework

- In discussion

Professional recognition

- Yukon Child Care Board

Northwest Territories - Overview



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| Lead ministry/
department | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INTEGRATED • Ministry of Education, Culture and Employment |
| Policy framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No – under development |
| Curriculum framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under discussion |
| Professional recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No |

Nunavut - Overview



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| Lead ministry/
department | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INTEGRATED • Department of Education |
| Policy framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No |
| Curriculum framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under discussion |
| Professional recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No |

First Nations- Overview



**Lead ministry/
department**

- Health Canada delivers Aboriginal Head Start On Reserve (AHSOR) 300 sites/ 9,000 children
- Public Health Agency of Canada, Aboriginal Head Start for Urban and Northern Communities, 140 sites/4500 children
- Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative, 8,500 spaces in 486 First Nations and Inuit communities
- Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada has intergovernmental agreements that support about 800 on-reserve spaces in Alberta and 3,000 in Ontario

Policy framework

- No

Curriculum framework

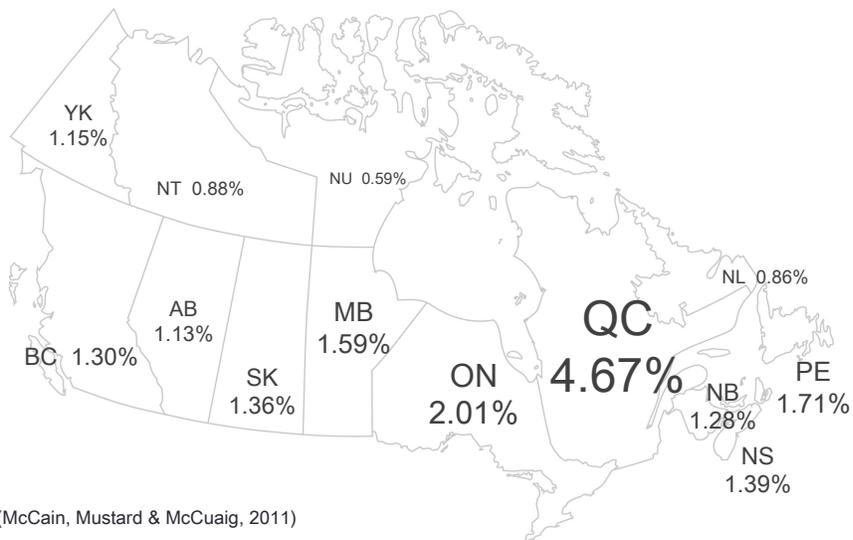
- No

Professional recognition

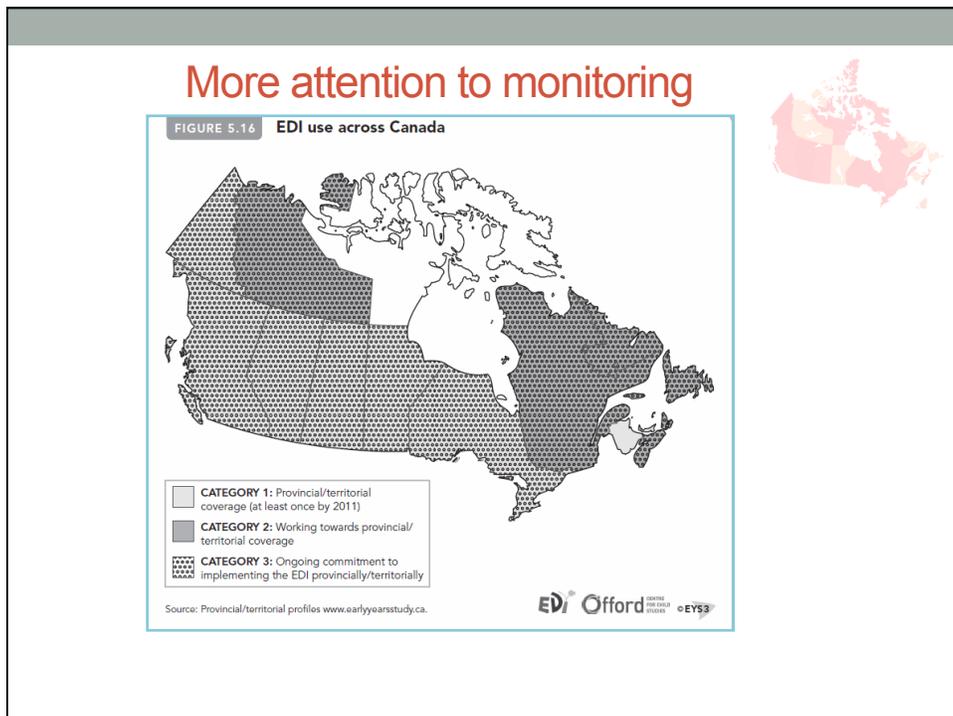
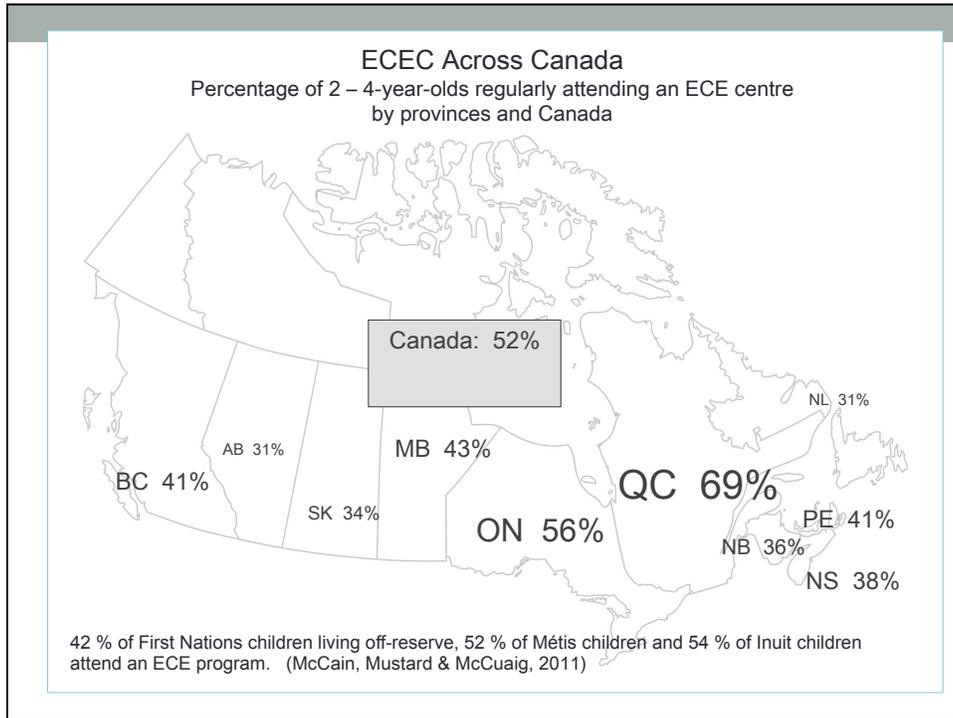
- No

ECEC Across Canada

ECE budget as a percentage of provincial/territorial budgets 2011-12



(McCain, Mustard & McCuaig, 2011)



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