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## What is the AECEO?

The Association of Early Childhood Educators Ontario is the professional association for ECEs in Ontario; established in 1950.

- We are the only organization whose primary purpose is to support all ECEs, no matter where they work.
- The AECEO has organized and administered important developments in the field of ECEC in Ontario.

We are raising the voice of our members and ECEs across Ontario.



**Mission:** To build and support a strong collective voice for Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) so they can participate in and influence positive change that benefits children, families, communities, and ECEs.



**Purpose:** Building the capacity and leadership of ECEs to advocate for their profession and the children and families they care for.



## **Professionalization Gap**

**Expectations & Responsibilities vs. Professional Pay & Decent Work Principles** 

- ECE Act (2007) established CECE (2009); ECE as a profession; annual fee
  Ministry of Education jurisdiction
  Full Day Kindergarten (2010)
- -Ontario Early Years Policy Framework (2013)
- -How Does Learning Happen? (2014)
- -Continuous Professional Learning (2015)

-Renewed Policy Framework (2017)

Association of Early Childhood Educators Ontario

- -Remuneration across the sector remains at minimum wage or slightly above; median wage \$17.29/hr
- -25% of RECEs employed FT in the sector also maintain PT employment (i.e. retail, hospitality industries)
- -Wage levels directly linked to parent fees → market model (supply and demand)
- -Decent Work principles: lack of paid prep time, paid time for PD, cost of PD remain responsibility of RECE

Educators are competent and capable, curious, and rich in experience. They are knowledgeable, caring, reflective and resourceful professionals....they collaborate with others to create engaging environments and experiences to foster children's learning and development.

How Does Learning Happen (2014)