

**Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres (OEYCFC)
Facilitated Discussion Report for Success by 6 - Final
October 27th, 2016
Kirsten Barnes & Aarti Soni,
Strategic Planning, Management and Evaluation
Human Services, Region of Peel**

**Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres
Facilitated Discussion Report for Success by 6
October 26th, 2016**

The purpose of the facilitation on September 28th, 2016, was to identify what is important for Peel to guide the planning for the Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres (OEYCFC), including a vision, principles, strengths of mandatory core services, and areas of opportunity.

1. Vision Check-In – Provincial and Success by 6 Vision Alignment

Provincial OEYCFC vision:

“Ontario’s children and families are well supported by a system of responsive, high-quality, accessible and increasingly integrated early years programs and services that contribute to healthy child development today and a stronger future tomorrow.”

Success by 6 vision:

“In Peel, all children thrive.”

Vision for Peel’s OEYCFCs:

“Peel’s children 0-6 years and their families thrive, supported by an integrated system of responsive, high-quality, and accessible early years programs and services.”

**Note: see Appendix I for all feedback*

2. Principles to Inform OEYCFC Planning in Peel (2016 – 2018)

As noted in the Province’s Planning Guidelines (July 2016), the guiding principles for all OEYCFCs are as follows:

- Child and Family Centred
- Welcoming
- High Quality
- Inclusive
- Integrated
- Community-led

Success by 6 prioritized that additionally, the top five areas of focus to guide the planning process for the OEYCFCs in Peel should be:

1. **Build on existing strengths** – Recognize the strengths of Peel’s current family support programs and work with all community agencies to build strong collaboration.
2. **Data driven** – Use relevant data from the local needs assessment to inform decision making.
3. **Minimize service disruption** – Engage all partners to minimize service disruptions for children, parents and caregivers through a seamless transition process.
4. **Peel Children’s Charter of Rights** – Reinforce the [Peel Children’s Charter of Rights](#).
5. **Responsive** – Support a responsive system that meets the changing realities of the community.

**Note: see Appendix II for all feedback*

3. Strengths of Mandatory Core Programs in Peel – Family Support Programs

The group identified and prioritized the current strengths of family support programs and areas to further strengthen. Working groups are encouraged to refer to the table below when planning for OEYCFC in Peel.

Current strengths of Peel’s Family Support Programs (Top 5)	Areas to further strengthen Peel’s Family Support Programs (Top 5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff (e.g., knowledge, skills) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural competence/sensitivity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships/collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing training support for staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible/responsiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gap in prenatal services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reputation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having awareness/understanding of other programs to provide best service (e.g., one stop shop)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeting to local needs • Established knowledge of community <p>Note: Tied for #5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen outreach (i.e., special needs)

**Note: See Appendix II for all feedback*

4. Strengths of Mandatory Core Programs in Peel – Working with Agencies

The group identified and prioritized the current strengths of working with other agencies and areas to further strengthen. Working groups are encouraged to refer to the table below when planning for OEYCFC in Peel.

Current strengths of working with other agencies (Top 5)	Areas to further strengthen working with other agencies (Top 5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate more as a hub
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative in delivering programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More connection between pre to post-natal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB6 table 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving more thought to outcomes to measure performance/impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating seamless accessibility for families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking more at what works for parents (i.e., increasing family engagement and tailoring programs to meet their needs)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well connected expertise/sitting around different tables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility (i.e., people are there for different reasons) • Creating apps/virtual site for better reach <p>Note: Tied for #5</p>

**Note: See Appendix II for all feedback*

Appendix I

Discussion #1 Feedback - Provincial vision and Success by 6 vision alignment:

- There was no consensus that the Provincial and Success by 6 (Peel) vision aligned.
- Success Bb 6 vision is viewed as the outcome/impact to the Provincial vision.
- The visions need to be communicated as building upon one another.
- Both visions are missing the definition of child (age) and family (unit).
- Review [Charter of Rights](#) to build upon Success by 6 vision (see below note).
- Social connectivity is missing.

Note - Peel Children's Charter of Rights as follows:

The right to basic needs

The right to make friends and freely meet in groups

The right to religion, culture and beliefs

The right to privacy

The right to justice, protection and treatment

The right to education

The right to a caring home environment

The right to be heard

The right to an identity

The right to peace

The right to equal access

The right to play

Appendix II

Discussion #2 Feedback - Planning principles for Peel OEYCFC:

- Building on existing strengths/asset based - 12
- Data driven - 11
- Minimize service disruption - 9
- Charter of rights - 7
- Responsive – 4 (e.g. location to meet need – 6)*
- Evidence-based decision making/research - 2
- Community knowledge/experience/broader learning - 2
- Transparency - 1
- Social connectivity - 1
- Inclusive, high quality, community-led, integrated = all encompassing
- Political climate
- Equitable
- Design/plan based on achieving outcomes
- Family support principles
- Flexible

**Note: combined feedback to reflect “responsive” as the principle and “location of need” as an example of “being responsive”*

Discussion #3(a) Feedback - Current strengths of Peel’s Family Support Programs:

- Staff (e.g., knowledge, skills) – 9
- Partnerships/collaboration – 9
- Flexible/responsiveness – 9
- Reputation (good branding/marketing) – 8
- Targeting to local needs – 6
- Established knowledge of community - 6
- Sharing expertise – 2
- Good at helping make connections – 1
- Existing range of programs – 1
- Can bring families in/not always refer out
- Education – we learn from parents/what we provide
- Advocating for families
- Building families together
- Ability to engage parents
- Good at providing programs for specific areas/communities

Discussion #3(b) Feedback - Areas to further strengthen Peel's Family Support Programs:

- Cultural competence/sensitivity – 9
- Ongoing training support for staff – 9
- Prenatal gap – 9
- Having awareness/understanding of other programs to provide best service (e.g., one stop shop) – 8
- Strengthen outreach (i.e., special needs) – 6
- Coordinate programming better to offer variety – 3
- Strengthen settlement sector – 3
- Advertising of website – 2
- Strengthening traditional communication methods – 2
- Knowing who the experts are in other fields, i.e., crisis centres – 2
- Building on schools first approach – 1
- Disconnect with what is happening/need to be more cohesive

Discussion #4(a) Feedback - Current strengths of working with other agencies:

- Strong collaboration/strengths of agencies work well together – 20*
- Creative in delivering programs – 9
- SB6 table – 7
- Creating seamless accessibility for families – 6
- Well connected expertise/sitting around different tables – 4
- Resourceful with funds – 3
- Good relationship with ROP as SSM – 2
- Ability to promote programs – 1
- Ability to get buy in for space (i.e., free rent) – 1
- Sharing/good networking

**Note: combined feedback around “strong collaboration” and “strength of agencies work well together” due to similar interpretation*

Discussion #4(b) - Areas to further strengthen working with other agencies:

- Operate more as a hub – 13
- More connection between pre to post-natal – 11
- Giving more thought to outcomes to measure performance/impact – 8
- Looking more at what works for parents – 5
- Try to be flexible (i.e., people are there for different reasons) – 4
- Creating apps/virtual site for better reach – 4
- Don't be afraid of losing – 2
- Creating a variety of ways so people know where to go for information – 1