



Ideas Connect

2018 COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

Canada's Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

- Conestoga received grant funding through the community and college social innovation fund pilot program from SSHRC
- The project will be implemented over 3 years in partnership among Conestoga College, the Region of Waterloo, Children's Services Division and the early years community
- **PROJECT GOAL:** To implement a collaborative model (Ideas Connect) that supports the Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Sector as they navigate through the many shifts and transformations in the field in order to optimize resources and create improved processes for community decision-making and transforming of services.

SSHRC  CRSH

 Social Sciences and
Humanities Research
Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches
en sciences humaines
du Canada

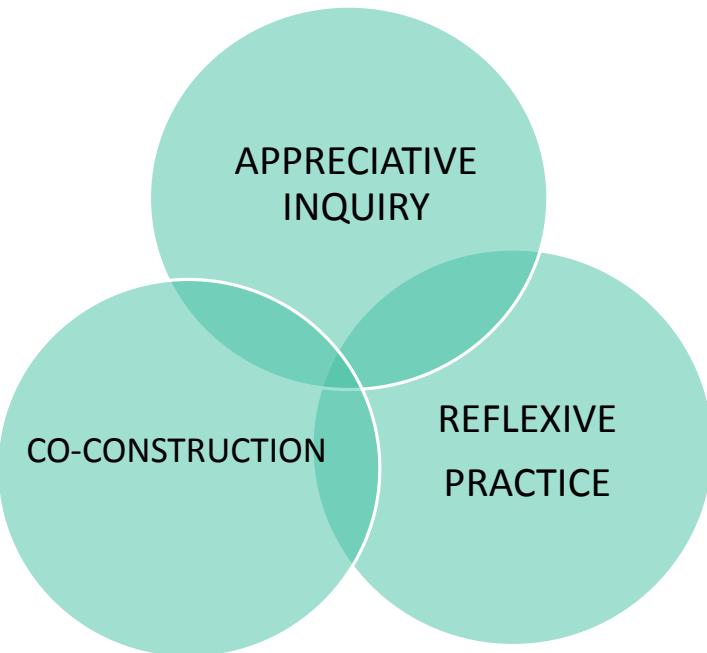
Canada



CONESTOGA

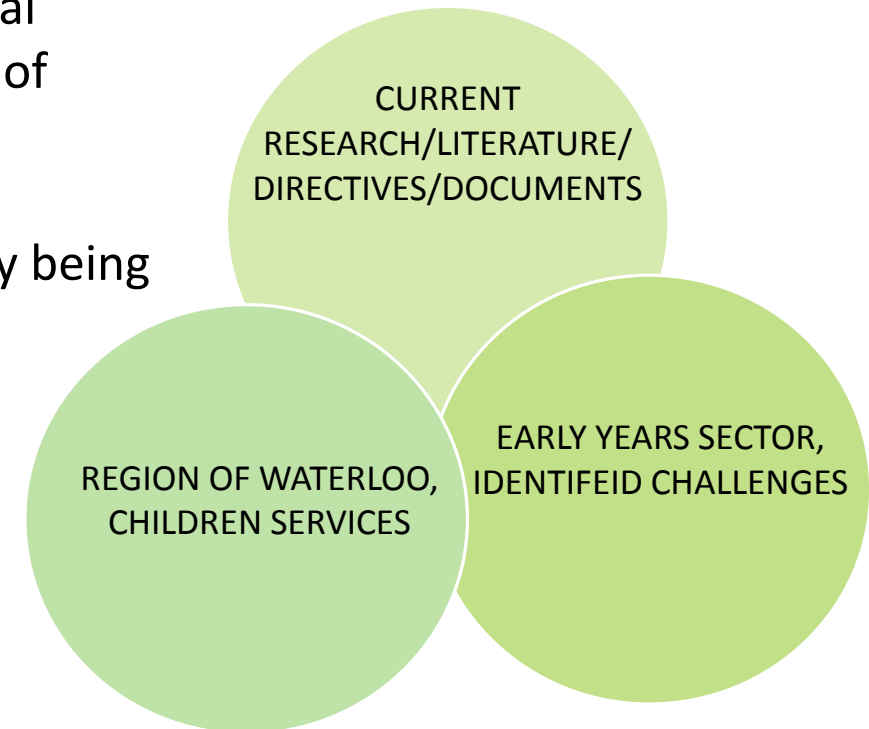
Connect Life and Learning

Guiding Principles

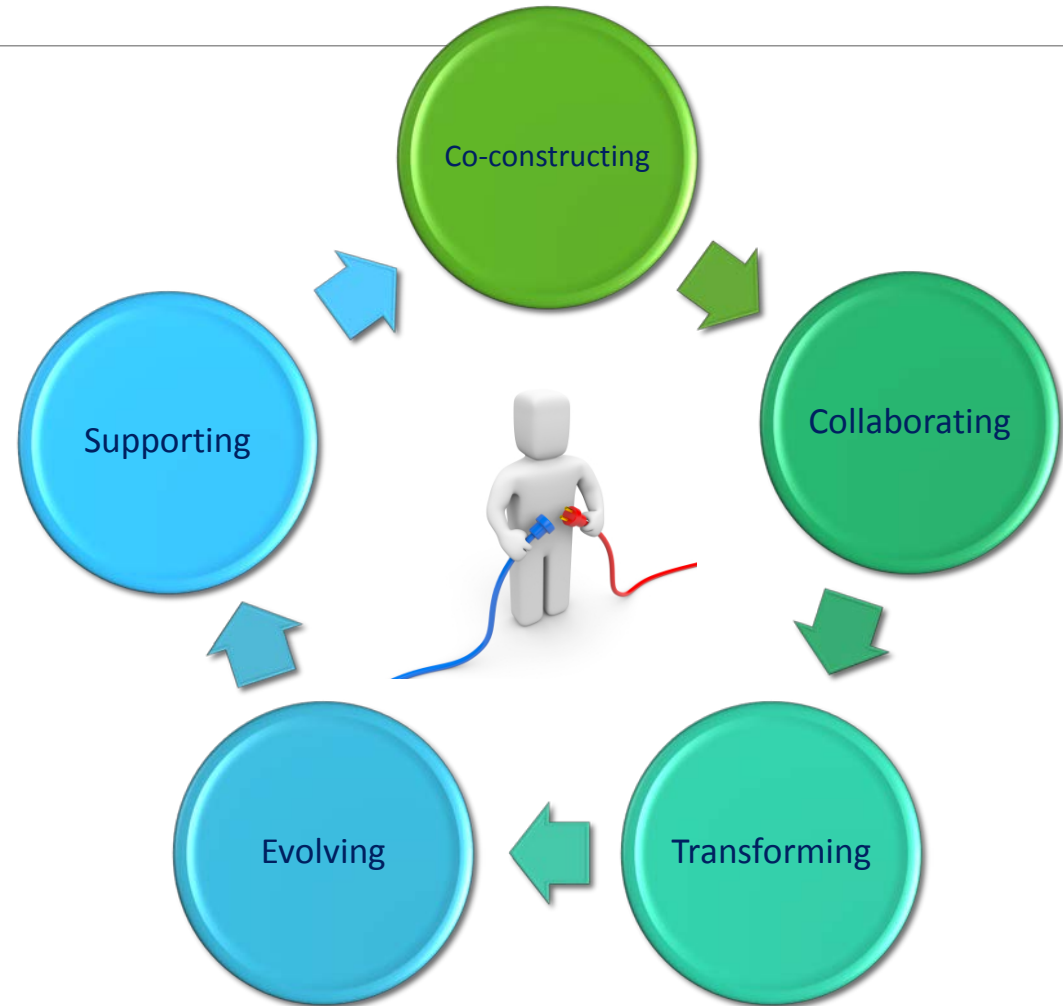


To uncover community, college and regional needs, issues, dilemmas through a variety of sources:

- ❖ **The Project-** advance the work currently being done in the ELCC Sector
- ❖ **The Sector-** regional, provincial, federal (fragmented)
- ❖ **The Talent-** professionals in the field, students, faculty



In the beginning.....



Project's Regular Engagement with the Early Years Community

- Regional Children's Services Division (ROW)
- ECE Professional Resource Centre (PRC)
- Program teams from Bachelor of Early Learning and Program Development (BELPD); Bachelor of Community and Criminal Justice (BCCJ); Bachelor of Applied Health Information Science (BAHIS)
- Child Care Network Waterloo Region (CCNWR)
- Shared Foundation Implementation Team
- Elmira Family Centre Planning Team
- Children & Youth Planning Table (CYPT)
- Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Forum
- Special Needs Resourcing Collaborative (SNRC) Team
- Continuous Professional Learning Coordinating Committee (CPLCC)
- Educators working directly with children and families



The Projects

NAME	PROJECT WORK	OUTCOMES
<p>Emerging Topics for Practice Improvement</p>	<p>CHALLENGE: Emerging shifts and changes in sector requiring updated, accessible knowledge and information</p> <p>ACTION: Research of key topics related to the work in the sector uncovered through consultations</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS: BELPD Faculty, BELPD Field placement & co-op students, Educators working directly with children and families, Child Care Centre Supervisors, Special Needs Resourcing Collaborative Team.</p>	<p>Completed Annotated Bibliographies, available and accessible through Ideas Connect webpage on following topics: Inter professional collaboration Communities of Practice, Collaborative Models</p> <p>Annotated Bibliographies in progress: Quality in early learning</p> <p>Created and delivered topical workshops Communities of Practice Educator as Researcher STEAM education in early years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

The Projects

PROJECT	PROJECT WORK	OUTCOME
Child Care Early Years' Act (CCEYA) Release	<p>CHALLENGE: Release of new Child Care Early Years' Act (CCEYA) and Regulations</p> <p>ACTION: Creation of summarized charts of CCEYA & Regulations with comparisons of changes from previous Act & Regulations to new Act & Regulations</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS: BELPD Faculty, BELPD & BAHIS Field placement & co-op students, Educators working directly with children and families, Child Care Centre Supervisors</p>	<p>Document charts now available and accessible in one area</p> <p>It can be found on the Ideas Connect webpage www.prccharts.site</p> <p>Completed</p>

The Projects

NAME	PROJECT WORK	OUTCOMES
Technology Enabled Planning and Design Calculator	<p>CHALLENGE: New operators not knowing how to calculate operating costs for licensed child care programs</p> <p>ACTION: Developed and created a technology enabled tool and resource site to assist with calculating space requirements, rent, children to staff ratio, group size and payroll</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS: Region of Waterloo Children’s Services, BELPD & BAHIS Field placement & co-op students, Educators working directly with children and families, Child Care Centre Supervisors</p>	<p>Planning and Design Calculator is now available and accessible on the Ideas Connect webpage www.prccharts.site</p> <p>Completed</p>

The Projects

NAME	PROJECT WORK	OUTCOMES
<p>So Many Committees, So Many Terms of Reference....</p>	<p>CHALLENGE: Many committees with similar/same members resulting in overlapping mandates and inefficient coordination amongst committee objectives</p> <p>ACTION: Identified key committees/networks/working teams. Analyzed for common themes, mandates, contributions to the sector, overlaps and opportunities for efficiency and collaboration.</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS: BELPD Faculty, field placement & co-op students, SNRC, CCNWR, ELCC Forum, Shared Foundation Implementation Team, CYPT, CPLCC, Public School Board-Extended Day, Early Literacy Alliance</p>	<p>Committees empowered to update their terms of reference and mandates to support collaboration of work</p> <p>Recognition of “professional learning” as a significant theme for many committees</p> <p>Strengthened collaboration between 2 committees, Shared Foundation Implementation Team and CPLCC through their work related to professional learning</p> <p>CPLCC rises to challenge of redefining their role as central, supportive committee for professional learning in region</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

The Projects

NAME	PROJECT WORK	OUTCOMES
<p>SNRC Inter Professional Collaboration</p>	<p>CHALLENGE: The need for intentional inter professional collaboration surfaced following the realigning of special needs services in the Region.</p> <p>ACTION: Examined the research, facilitated discussion unpacking the principles and practices of inter professional collaboration.</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS: BELPD Faculty, field placement & co-op students, SNRC- KW Habilitation, Kids Ability, Family & Children Services, PRC, & educators working directly with children and families in role as pedagogical consultants</p>	<p>Literature review on inter professional collaboration available on Ideas Connect website</p> <p>Created opportunity to include the voice of educators working directly with children and families to the SNRC Inter-professional collaboration discussion</p> <p>A developed action plan by SNRC regarding inter-professional collaboration</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

The Projects

NAME	PROJECT WORK	OUTCOMES
Quality in Early Years	<p>CHALLENGE: Contribute to the Early Years Engage Initiative by creating a common understanding of system and program quality in the early years</p> <p>ACTION: Examined research and literature related to quality in early years, collected survey data from members of the early years community,</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS: BELPD Faculty, BELPD & BCCJ field placement & co-op students, educators working directly with children and families, child care centre Supervisors, SNRC, ROW-Early Years Engage, CCNWR</p>	<p>Annotated bibliography on quality in the early years</p> <p>Carried out research project related to quality in early years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

The Projects

NAME	PROJECT WORK	OUTCOMES
Supply Registry System	<p>CHALLENGE: Early years programs experiencing difficulty in accessing qualified supply staff</p> <p>ACTION: Engaged in consultations with the sector to determine sector strengths, needs and opportunities; explored the development of a supply registry system across the Waterloo Region, conducted a market analysis on existing supply registry system, presented findings and recommendations</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS: BELPD Faculty, BELPD field placement & co-op students, CCNWR</p>	<p>The uncovering of a larger issue and concern around workforce development for the sector</p> <p>Creation of Workforce Development Initiative</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

2018 WORKPLAN

- 1) Emerging Topics for Practice Improvement
 - Annotated bibliography on Quality
 - Supporting creation & sustainability of communities of practice related to emerging topics
- 2) Support CPLCC as they continue to redefine their role as central supportive committee for professional learning in the region
- 3) Facilitate implementation and evaluation of SNRC action plan regarding inter-professional collaboration
- 4) Quality in Early Years:
 - Analyze Quality Data
 - Develop principles for quality to support work of Early Years Engage
 - Collaborate with Early Years' community to operationalize principles of quality
 - Connect research results with CPLCC's strategic plan for professional learning for region
- 5) Lead Workforce Development Initiative
 - Recruiting
 - Training and Education
 - Sustainability
- 6) Communicating results of work to date
 - PRC website, community meetings, symposium, workshops, publications
- 7) Weave support of Indigenous and Newcomer Canadian communities throughout work
- 8) Expand college program reach throughout work