

EARLY CHILDHOOD UPDATE

September 2020

Early Learning and Childcare Designation

81/97 facilities/homes are now Designated Early Learning Facilities.

84% in ASD-S as of September 2020



- More than 712 infant and preschool children are receiving subsidy through the Parent Subsidy Program as of March 2020.
- Number of possible spaces in designated facilities is 2601.
- 27% of spaces are held by children receiving parent subsidy.
- 100% have their inclusion policies completed.
- 100% of parent committees have commenced.
- 100% of facilities have completed their second environmental assessment (ECERS & ITERS) which saw an overall increase from 4.92 to 5.3 on a 7 point scale.
- 100% of facilities continue to work on their Quality Improvement plans.

NB Curriculum Framework: Professional Learning Opportunities

With the onset of COVID-19 and necessary safety parameters, professional learning opportunities have been redesigned to be offered online. In person session will resume in September.





- September 2019 August 2020
 - (majority completed before March 16)
- 16 Professional Learning Opportunities have been provided
- 415 participants
- 2175 hours of professional learning completed







Talk with Me

The Talk with Me redesign was launched January 2020 with the aim to create consistency across the province in core program names, content and brand awareness.

Goal of the redesign was to:

1. Ensure all families have access to programming to support their children's speech, language, literacy and social skills.

2. Ensure children and families at risk receive services of an SLP early to help mitigate delays.

3. Ensure the right service provider was providing the right programs, in the best location in a timely manner.





Talk with Me

From March to May TWM focused on offering services to families using a variety of tele-practice platforms and working on provincial committees to create content and guidelines for core programs.

TWM team members returned to in-person visiting in June. Referrals numbers have increased drastically with over 100 new referrals since June.





Bridging Project – seamless transition from the early years to the formal school system.

- **INTENTION**: Kindergarten teachers and early childhood educators form relationships for the continued growth and development of children transitioning from early learning programs to kindergarten. The quality of our work will be enhanced by these relationships, and will develop a deeper understanding of our shared roles in the lives of children and families.
- WORK: Using the alignment of NB Curriculum Framework-English and Global Competencies; create and use research question to guide our meetings and conversations, as we shared challenges, questions and strategies to rethink our approach and what was possible for our future work.
- **FINDINGS**: Participants stated the desire and need to continue to share information between facilities and schools, in an effort to best guide children, families and the professionals they work with, in both early learning facilities and elementary schools. In addition to improved communication, participants look to continue to share strategies specific to the development of children, as well demonstrative styles of children's learning (i.e. learning stories).