# **Children's Services** Ray Hannah, Children's Program Supervisor Conseil des Services du District de Manitoulin-Sudbury 1

Licensed Child Care: Overview and Update:

Licensed child care is regulated under the Day Nurseries Act (DNA).

Licensing and quality assurance was transferred from MCYS to MEDU effective January 2012.

Providers / daycares must be licensed through MEDU.

The Day Nurseries Act provides many standards through which providers must operate. These standards are intended to ensure safety and quality in licensed settings.



## DSB Provider/Relationship

# The DSB holds Purchase of Service Agreements (POS) with child care providers

The POS allows the DSB to support providers via eligibility for the following funding streams:

- Fee Subsidies
- Wage Subsidies
- Special Needs Resourcing
- Health and Safety Grants
- Best Start Hubs



#### The Importance of Child Care Economic Health

#### Healthy Economies Depend on Child Care:

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) indicates that child care and early childhood education is critical to nations' wealth.

#### Employment levels are connected to child care availability

Research shows that a 10% increase in the cost of child care can result in a 2% decrease in maternal employment in the population.

#### Children are the future of the Economy

A child's early years have been identified as critical for development.

(The Economic value of Child Care: paper by Wellington Child care Services)



#### Child Care Subsidy Statistics Snapshot of 1 Month – Feb 2012

Geographic Region	Ongoing	Terminated	New	Total Cases
First Nation	5	0	0	5
LaCloche	79	0	3	82
Manitoulin	49	1	1	51
Sudbury East	25	1	3	29
Sudbury North	32	0	0	32
TOTALS	190	2	7	199



## Best Start Network (BSN)

Developed to promote and implement the early learning vision embraced from Dr. Pascal's report. The BSN consists of members from various children services agencies.

BSN's are involved with planning and supporting the vision of Best Start / early learning towards children's services integration.

They provide support and planning to Best Start Hubs which are located in our 4 main catchment areas.



#### **Best Start Hubs**

Developed to capture and implement the vision of early learning, and integration of children's services by providing "one stop shopping".

They provide:

- screening of child milestone / development
- referrals to appropriate children services
- access to flexible programs for parents



### **Best Start Hubs**

**Manitoulin Best Start Hub** 

Sudbury East Best Start Hub

LaCloche Best Start Hub

Sudbury North Best Start Hub



## **2011 Highlights**

Transfer of Responsibility from MCYS to MEDU.

Support of new Child Care Centre to open in Noëlville.



## Up and coming ...

#### **Quality Assurance:**

**Module 1:** Encouraging Language Development workshop was conducted in 2011 for staff working directly with children.

**Module 2:** Teacher Talk 2: Fostering Peer interaction in Early Childhood Settings is to be presented in summer of 2012.

#### **Early Learning:**

5 year plan for Full-Day learning of 4 and 5 year olds is in year 3.

7 more schools in DSB catchment to offer Full-Day learning in 2012/13 school year. Full implementation to be complete for 2014.



## Thank You

