

Ministry of Education
Mowat Block
900 Bay St.
Queen's Park
Toronto ONM7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation
Édifice Mowat
900, rue Bay
Queen's Park
Toronto ONM7A 1L2



MEMORANDUM TO: Children's Service Leads/Directors, CMSMs/DSSABs

FROM: Pam Musson
Director, Early Learning and Child Care Implementation Branch
Early Learning Division
Ministry of Education

DATE: June 6, 2013

SUBJECT: **Clarification regarding Early Years Strategy – School Board
Early Years Leadership Positions**

I am writing to provide clarification in follow-up to the EL2 memorandum to Directors of Education you would have received earlier today regarding funding being provided by the Ministry of Education to school boards to support an early years lead position within school boards across the province.

As stated in the memo, the ministry is providing new dedicated funding to school boards to support a minimum of 0.5 FTE Early Years Lead position funded at the supervisory level. The position will facilitate coordination of school board efforts to further provide support within the *school board system* to coordinate an increasingly integrated system of child care, full-day kindergarten and family supports within local *school communities*.

This position will create a further opportunity for increased coordination and collaboration between CMSMs/DSSABs and School Boards in each community, as it creates a lead role *within the school system* that each CMSM and DSSAB can now more easily engage with.

We want to take this opportunity to reinforce that this position will in no way diminish the role of the CMSM/DSSAB as the service system manager. As outlined in the Ontario Early Years Policy Framework, CMSMs/DSSABs will continue to act as system managers to plan and deliver community based early years programs and services. Today, and even more so in the future, our ability to improve system integration will depend on municipalities taking a lead role in working with partners, including

school boards and community service providers to initiate and sustain locally based planning and development under the shared vision of the Ontario Early Years Policy Framework.

We will be providing an opportunity for municipal partners to join the early years leads in a symposium in the early fall. Further details regarding this event will follow in the near future.

We thank you for your continued collaboration and partnership.

Pam Musson

Copy: Jim Grieve, Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Learning Division, Ministry of Education
Child Care Advisors, Early Learning and Child Care Implementation Branch, Ministry of
Education
Education Officers, Early Learning and Child Care Implementation Branch, Ministry of
Education
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association
Early Years Leads in School Boards