

PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE INITIATIVES The Municipal Perspective

Community Forum
January 7, 2005



Guiding Principle

Everyone benefits from high quality, universal, inclusive early learning and child care services.



Optimism

- All levels of government in agreement on principles
- Winnipeg conference
- Region is ready to move forward on Best Start



Peel Profile

- 206,175 children 0-12
- 19,795 licensed spaces (HCC & Group)
- 16,589 in programs with POS agreements
- 3884 children subsidized

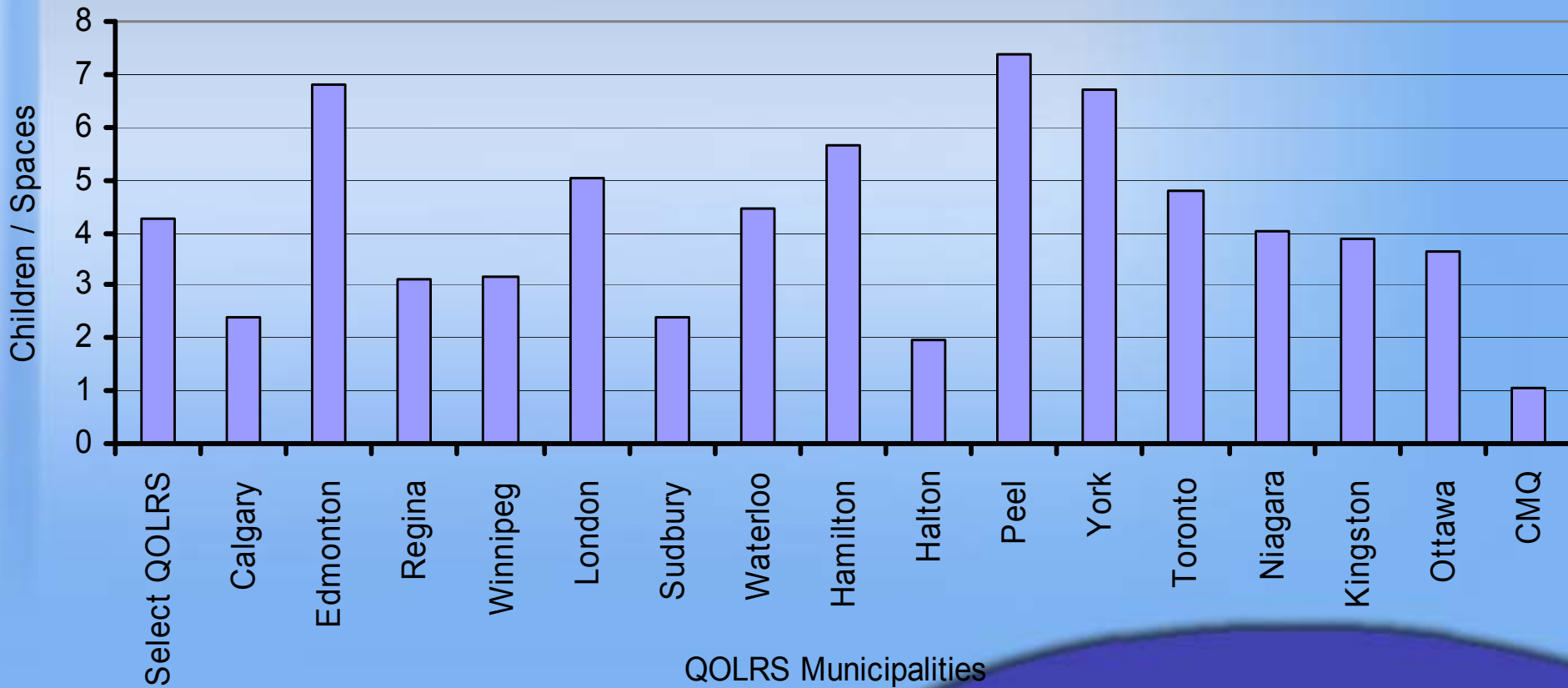


Peel Profile

- High rate of immigration and migration
- High growth
- 35,570 children living under LICO (\$27,000 family income) in Peel



Chart 16 Ratio of Children aged 0-12 in Families with incomes below LICO to Subsidized Child Care Spaces, Select QOLRS Municipalities – 2001



Peel's Strengths

- Strong collaboration and networks
- Success by Six
- Peel Preschool Special Needs Review
- OEYC's in 8 ridings
- Parenting supports; Family Literacy
- Evening care
- Shelter supports



Peel's Strengths

- Growth
 - New schools
- Diversity
- Understanding the Early Years
- EDI
- Human capital, including education and health, better than Ontario average



Peel's Challenges

- Services for growth communities
- Accessibility
 - Special needs
 - Eligibility criteria discourage universality principle
 - Transportation
 - Rural



Peel's Challenges

- Fair Share
- Risk factors for poverty
 - Single parents
 - Underemployed immigrants
 - Cost of and time required for transportation



Peel's Challenges

- Space in schools for Best Start vision
- Outreach
- Children in shelters
- Children at risk for mental health issues



Impact of Early Learning & Child Care Funding



2000 Early Childhood Development Initiative

- Federal, provincial & territorial agreement
- To support full range of early learning & development priorities including fee subsidy
- Ontario created OEYC's and other initiatives through Ministry of Health
- Anything but child care



2003 Multilateral Framework on Early Learning & Child Care

- 2nd agreement
- To invest in early learning & child care in child care centres, home child care and nursery schools
- Also capital and operating costs, fee subsidy, wage enhancement, professional development & support, and parent information and referral



Federal Early Learning & Child Care Funding

- \$1.05 billion over 5 years
- Regulated early learning and child care
- Under age 6
- In Ontario \$58.2 to CMSM's



Ontario's 5 Year Allocation

| (\$ millions) | 03/04 | 04/05 | 05/06 | 06/07 | 07/08 |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total Federal Funding | 25.0 | 150.0 | 225.0 | 300.0 | 350.0 |
| Ontario's Share | 9.7 | 58.2 | 87.6 | 117.3 | 137.3 |



Peel's Allocation 2003/2004

- \$1,048,100
- Health & safety for non-profit child care
- 79 child care programs for:
 - Physical plant
 - Replacement appliances
 - Washrooms
 - Indoor & outdoor play area renovations
 - HVAC



Peel's Allocation 2004/2005

| | Increase Service Levels | Admin | Minor Capital Preschool | Minor Capital General | Total | New Spaces |
|------|-------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Peel | 3,009,200 + 533,273 | 189,600 | 1,015,700 | 1,077,600 | 5,825,373 | 390 |



Annualized Base Funding 2005/2006

| | \$\$'s to Increase Service Levels | Admin | Total |
|------|--|---------|------------------|
| Peel | 4,508,400 | 288,500 | 4,796,900 |



Fair Share for Peel

- Peel's child population 2001 census: 10.5% of Ontario's child population
- Funding represented 9.06% of Ontario total
- Peel Council wrote to Minister asking that future funding have an equity component
- Additional \$533K = 10%



ELCC Service Plan

- Submitted September 15
- Provided service descriptions to MCYS
- Identified need
- Proposed spending plan



2004/2005 Plan

Focus on increased services levels:

- Increase subsidized spaces by 390 under 6
- Increase service to children with special needs by 90
 - Resource consultation
 - ACCAS funding
- Increase cap on rates to service providers



Fee Subsidy

- 4,000 across Ontario; 390 for Peel
- Encourage parents in your programs and agencies who need subsidy to apply now
- Short wait
- Placement strategies



Fee Subsidy

- Provincial Guidelines amended
 - RESP, RRSP removed from assets
 - Contributions now eligible expense
- Peel's discretionary items amended
 - Debt allowance
 - Life insurance, telephone, cable



Special Needs

- Funding for agencies to provide more resource consultation
- ACCAS funding to support 20 more children to access child care



Per Diem Rate Caps

- Remaining funds to address caps on rates:
 - \$15 for infant
 - \$1 for all others



Decrease Parental Contribution

- Minimum fee of \$6 per day will be decreased by \$1 in the 1st year



Wage Subsidy

- Focus for 2004/2005 ELCC is increasing service levels.
- Recovered \$\$'s allocated
- Plan developed with community
- Toddlers current priority



One Time Minor Capital Funding

- Minor capital improvements
- To stabilize and expand capacity
- Preschool (2.5 to 5 yrs): \$1,015,700
- General (0 to 5): \$1,077,600
- 100% funding – no Peel or program contribution



Capital Funding Allocations

- 80 applications received
- 75 approved



Increased Capacity

- \$571K approved to increase by 202
- o Re-open rooms
- o Adjust room size
- o Add new space



Special Needs

- Equipment and supplies to enable children with special needs to attend licensed programs: \$67K
 - o Upgrades to playground or washrooms
 - o Other minor renovations



Health & Safety

- Upgrades to meet licensing Standards and stabilize system (\$1,389,151)

- o Flooring, windows, lighting

- o Air conditioning/Heating

- o Playground fencing, surfaces, drainage



Health & Safety

- o Kitchen appliances
- o Install storage, shelving, cubbies, change tables
- o Washroom renovations to meet health requirements
- o Equipment replacement such as cots, tables, chairs, indoor and outdoor toys



Anticipated Impact of Best Start in Peel



- Increased capacity to address Fair Share – close the growth gap
- Supports to parents
- Build on existing partnerships
- Creative delivery models resulting from space issues
- Opportunity to create space in new schools being built now



- New approach to funding for service providers and parents
- Joint planning
- Further goals of Success by Six
- Prevent further growth in poverty
- Move closer to universality and inclusion
- Review of Day Nurseries Act



- Improved outcomes for children
- Improved chances in the labour force for young parents.
- Support neighbourhoods most in need of resources and supports
- Address school readiness issue as the full vision is implemented



Everyone Benefits

