



DRAFT

CHILD CARE Matters

Child Care Service Plan
2005-2008



September 2005

Community Services and Housing Department
Family and Children's Services Division



Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary	5
1.1 Context	5
1.2 Demographics	5
1.3 Service Management	6
1.4 The Child Care Service Plan	7
1.5 Community Consultation, Information and Advice Gathering	8
1.6 Communication	10
1.7 Human Services Strategy	10
1.8 Best Start Network	11
1.9 Local Review Approval Process	11
2. Environmental Scan	15
2.1 Growth, Demographic Change and Trends	15
2.2 Early Development Instrument	17
3. Major Components of the Child Care System	21
3.1 Licensed Child Care Spaces	21
3.2 Child Care Fee Assistance	32
3.3 Wage Subsidy	37
3.4 Special Needs Resourcing	40
3.5 Early Child Development and Parenting Supports	45
4. Management Strategies	51
4.1 Planning: Service System Management Responsibilities	51
4.2 Funding: Allocation/reallocation of Available Services	53
4.3 Quality Assurance and Service Quality	53
4.4 Service Delivery: Administering the Program and Actual Client Service Delivery	54
4.5 Child Care Strategies to Address Priorities Identified Through the Local Child Care Planning Process	56
5. Analysis of Fiscal Impact	65
5.1 New Funding Announcements	65
5.2 Proposed Allocation of Funding	65
5.3 Technology to be Used to Support the Service Planning Process	66
5.4 Mechanisms to Implement/Support Self-Monitoring by Child Care Programs	66
5.5 Staff Training Required to Support Excellence in Child Care	66
5.6 National Child Care Benefit Reinvestment Strategy	66
Appendices	69

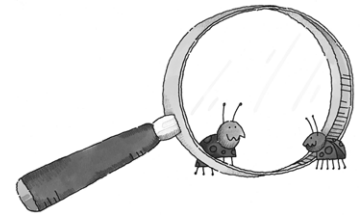
I. Executive Summary



1. Executive Summary

1.1 Context

The Ministry of Community and Social Services announced its Best Start Strategy in the fall of 2005 and requires Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) to revise their Child Care Service Plan to include Best Start components within their child care planning and management responsibilities.



York Region's Child Care Service Plan (2005 - 2008) is now revised to provide the framework for the Best Start Strategy within York Region's larger child care service system. The Service Plan continues to build on previous York Region child care planning initiatives and includes processes for community consultation, and for gathering information and expert advice.

The Service Plan and its proposed allocation of provincial 100% funding 2005 - 2008 will enable York Region to address the following top priorities:

- Expand the licensed child care system by 1,480 spaces.
- Increase the number of child care fee assisted spaces for children 0 to 5 years by 1,500, with an emphasis on spaces for JK/SK children.
- Implement an increase in wage subsidy for the 80% of licensed child care centres which are not receiving the level of wage subsidy funding for which they are eligible under provincial guidelines.
- Increase the number of children with special needs receiving services by 20%.

1.2 Demographics

Child Care

York Region faces distinctive challenges due to its rapid growth, demographic profile and changing population patterns:

- The number of children and youth is growing rapidly. According to 2001 Census data, York Region's child population between 0 and 14 years grew by 16.4% (18,759) from 136,951 to 155,710 between 1996 and 2001.
- There is an increasing polarization of income levels and a growing number of low income households emerging.
- The number of low income economic families has increased by 108% from 8,340 in 1991 to 17,370 in 2001. *(Source: 1991 & 2001 Census, Statistics Canada).*
- Within York Region, the proportion of foreign-born individuals increased from 36% to 39% of York Region's total population during the period 1996 to 2001.

As a result of growth in the population and an increase in the number of low income families, the current level of provincial funding for fee subsidy does not meet the community need. While there were 2,564 children in receipt of Child Care Fee Assistance in December, 2004 (62% of whom were 5 years and under), over 1,000 children 5 years and under remained on the wait list.

The growth in licensed child care spaces to 21,503 has been significant and reflects the growth in child population. However, it addresses only a portion of the need of the 101,451 children, aged 0 to 12 years, in York Region who live in families where either both parents or the lone-parent are employed.

In addition, while there has been a 63% increase in licensed spaces since 1999, the provincial wage subsidy funding approval has increased by 13%. This has resulted in over 80% of licensed child care centres not receiving the level of wage subsidy funding for which they are eligible under provincial guidelines.

Service demand continues to exceed available resources and families in York Region continue to be placed on the wait list for Early Intervention Services. The monthly average wait list has increased to 102 in 2005, an increase of 56.7% since 2000. The increased enrolment reduces the intensity of services children receive with Early Intervention Services, thus making the services delivered less effective than optimal. Service hours per child have decreased by 42.2% since 1999.

1.3 Service Management

While child care services are a shared responsibility among the federal, provincial and local levels of government, it is the local government, in this case York Region, that is responsible for the administration and provision of child care services, in accordance with the Day Nurseries Act (the Act).

In the mid 1990's the provincial government, as part of its reform agenda, began a review of "Who Does What" which led to the legislated realignment of local services under the Services Improvement Act. In the case of child care services, this resulted in amendments to the Day Nurseries Act that changed York Region's role and responsibilities.

The ministry retains a number of responsibilities including federal and provincial relations, setting the provincial legislative framework, strategic planning, and determining cost sharing arrangements for local government based on legislated funding formulae and budgets approved by the ministry.

As a result of changes to the Act, and in addition to retaining its existing responsibilities for the administration of fee assistance and for delivery of services to children with special needs, York Region became responsible for service system management in July 1999. York Region's Child Care mandate now includes:

- Service system planning
- Service delivery
- Resource allocation
- Administration of:
 - o Fee Assistance (including fee assistance previously administered by approved corporations)
 - o Child Care Special Needs Resourcing
 - o Wage Subsidy
 - o Pay Equity
 - o Resource Centres
- Quality assurance
- Governing the service delivery organizations

1.4 The Child Care Service Plan

The ministry refers to its municipal partners as Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs). York Region is a CMSM and the Family and Children's Services Division of the Community Services and Housing Department is responsible for the Region's child care service system management.

Effective 2001, the ministry requires CMSMs to submit an annual Child Care Service Plan in compliance with provincial planning guidelines.

The Child Care Service Plan (2005 - 2008) includes service mapping of centre and home-based licensed child care spaces, by type of space, including those located in schools. Services, capacity, wait lists and other indicators are provided for services delivered and/or administered by Family and Children's Services Division. These services include Child Care Fee Assistance, the Wage Subsidy Program, Early Intervention Services and Special Needs Programs, including Speech and Language Services, Services for Visually Impaired Children, the Paediatric Seating Clinic and Enhanced Funding for children with special needs.

York Region's Child Care Service Plan is supported through a fiscal strategy that includes the effective disbursement of Child Care Best Start funds based on a commitment by the province for increased funding support through 2008.

1.4.1 Principles

The principles that guide York Region's child care services system planning process and the Child Care Service Plan are:

- Shared Responsibility
- Community Based
- Comprehensive
- Co-ordinated and Integrated
- Customer Oriented Services
- Fair and Equitable Provision of Service
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Accountability

Refer to Appendix 13 for a description of these principles.

1.4.2 Objectives

Among its objectives, the Service Plan will develop a child care system that:

- Provides a range and continuum of community-based services that are accessible to children, their families and caregivers.
- Fosters and supports partnerships in planning and service delivery.
- Is innovative and identifies, shares and builds on best practices.

- Is co-ordinated, integrated, reduces or eliminates duplication.
- Is flexible, evolving and provides informed parental choice.
- Complements other social programs such as Ontario Works, to assist individuals to achieve self-reliance to the extent possible.
- Is affordable, with fee assistance provided to support parents who have children aged birth to 12 years, where the parents are in assessed financial need and are employed, in training, or involved in other employment activities, or where parents are in financial and social need where health, safety or well-being is at significant risk.
- Fosters early childhood development in children and provides services and supports for children with special needs, in a safe and nurturing environment in their community.
- Is a service sector that has a stable base of operation and is open to change, innovation and evolution.
- Meets standards of child care, as appropriate, to services and programs provided.
- Strives to ensure that services are provided fairly and sensitively, respecting diversity of needs.
- Recognizes the uniqueness, respects the dignity of all individuals and treats children, their families and caregivers in a respectful and caring manner.
- Provides open communication and timely access to information.

1.5 Community Consultation, Information and Advice Gathering

Previous child care planning initiatives (i.e. The Child Care Management Plan 1992, The Child Care Management Plan Framework 1993, Child Care Matters - York Region's Child Care Plan for 2001 to 2003, and The York Region Early Learning and Child Care Service Plan 2004) each included processes to enable community and service provider participation, consultation, input and advice.

The revisions to the York Region Child Care Service Plan 2005 - 2008, including Early Learning and Child Care and the addition of the Best Start child care components, include similar processes for community consultation and processes to solicit information and advice specific to its development. The processes are outlined below.

1.5.1 Service Provider Focus Groups

March 29 and 30, 2005	Review, discuss and identify opportunities and barriers related to child care components of Best Start.
August 3 and 4, 2005	Identify gaps, needs and priorities related to the child care components of Best Start.
August 17 and 19, 2005	Review findings and make additional recommendations.

The findings of these focus groups and a list of focus group attendees are included in Appendices 1 through 10.

1.5.2 Child Care Expansion Task Group

The Task Group met in April, May and August 2005 to verify child care information and identify opportunities for child care expansion in schools. The Task Group will continue to meet through 2005.

Members of the task group include:

Howard Dayton, *Manager of Licensing and Program Management, York Region*

Ruth Lambert, *Superintendent, Community Education, YRDSB*

Lewis Morgulis, *Coordinator of Accommodation Planning, Planning and Property Development Services, YRDSB*

Tom Pechkovsky, *Manager of Planning Services, YCDSB*

Kathryn Pelligrini, *Program Resource Teacher, YCDSB*

Joy Vance, *Coordinator of Child Care and Community Services, YRDSB (to August 2205)*

Elizabeth Wagle, *Director of Family and Children's Services, York Region*

Gayle Whitehead, *Manager of Community Programs, YRDSB (commencing August 2005)*

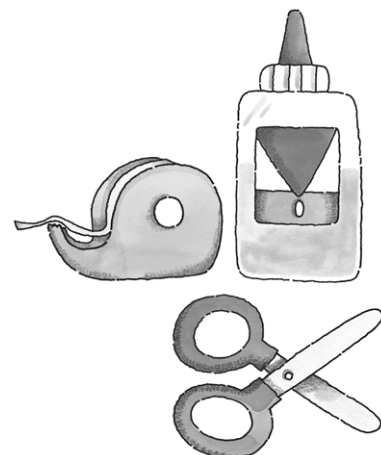
Connie Wilson, *Manager of Child Care Services, York Region*

Lee Wilson, *Superintendent of Education and Student Services, YCDSB*

Fran Zeppieri, *Manager of Child Care, YCDSB*

Local representatives of the following programs, sectors, and communities were contacted for information and advice and/or attended Focus Groups:

- Ontario Works Administrator, LEAP - Social Assistance Division, Community Services and Housing, York Region
- Community Development and Investment Fund - Policy and Program Support Division, Community Services and Housing, York Region
- Municipal Initiatives funded through the Nation Child Benefit Reinvestment Strategy.
- Ontario Early Years Centres
- Preschool Speech and Language Program
- Recreation Programs
- Healthy Babies, Healthy Children
- Local School Boards
- Resource Centre
- Human Services Planning Coalition
- Child Care Committee of York Region
- Advisory Forum on Children, Youth and Families



Other Sources

York Region's Child Care Service Plan also draws on a number of other recent planning, consultation and/or information gathering initiatives:

- Fee Assisted Child Care Customer Satisfaction Survey, 2004/2005
- Geomatic Information Systems
- Early Development Instrument
- Ontario Works Business Plan, 2003/2004
- Child Care Matters - York Region's Child Care Service Plan for 2001 to 2003
- Child Care Matters Update 2001
- Child Care Matters Update 2002
- Child Care Matters Update 2003
- Child Care Matters Update 2004
- Vision 2026
- York Ontario Early Years Centres Annual Plans
- Social Services Funding Paper - Human Services Planning Coalition, 2003
- A Canada Fit for Children 2004
- Our Children - A Preliminary Status Report on York Region's Children, 2004
- Early Intervention Services Customer Satisfaction Surveys 2004/2005
- York Region Child Care Service Plan including Early Learning and Child Care for 2004 to 2007

1.6 Communication

The Child Care Service Plan including the Best Start components will be accessible to the community at www.york.ca under the Community Services and Housing Department.

As required by the Child Care Service Management Requirements (page 4), the Child Care Service Plan will be shared with the Best Start Network and all members will be given a hard copy.

1.7 Human Services Strategy

Previous strategic planning initiatives in York Region gave rise to the mandate to develop a comprehensive Human Services Strategy. York Region, in partnership with Human Resources Development Canada and a broad range of community partners, undertook to develop a Human Services Strategy during 1999 and 2000. Regional Council approved the findings and recommendations of the Human Services Strategy in October 2000.

York Region refers to human services as those services that support a safe, healthy community and maintain and promote its quality of life. Human services can also be thought of as those dedicated to developing and protecting human capital. This includes services such as income support (e.g. Ontario Works, social housing, child care fee assistance), personal social services (e.g. development services such

as Early Intervention Services, homecare), preventative social services, (e.g. parks and recreation, resource centres, multicultural programming), protective services (e.g. policing), public health programs, education and social planning.

Major elements of the Human Services Strategy include:

- extensive and inclusive consultation
- community partnership
- twenty-four action-oriented recommendations

The Human Services Strategy has six key thrusts:

1. Coordination and leadership
2. Funding
3. Affordable housing
4. Public transit
5. Communication, sharing information and resources
6. Long-term, horizontally integrated planning

A major outcome of the Human Services Strategy was the establishment of the Human Services Planning Coalition (HSPC) in 2001. The HSPC partners include representatives of government, service provider agencies and corporations, the non-profit sector and consumers of human services. The HSPC promotes adequate and timely investment in human services so that quality of life in York Region is maintained and enhanced.

1.8 Best Start Network

The Best Start Networks have not been established at the time of this writing. The plan will be shared with the Best Start Network of York Region as stated on page 4 of the Provincial Child Care Service Management Requirements.

1.9 Local Review Approval Process

Following the consultation, input, advice, analysis and community review stages, and approval by the Commissioner of the Community Services and Housing Department, the Child Care Service Plan, 2005 - 2008 will be presented to York Region's Senior Management for review and approval.

Following Senior Management's approval, the Child Care Service Plan will be submitted to the Community Services and Housing Committee and Regional Council for approval.

Following Regional Council approval, the Plan will be submitted to the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

2. Environmental Scan



2. Environmental Scan

2.1 Growth, Demographic Change and Trends

York Region faces distinctive challenges due to its rapid growth, demographic profile and changing population patterns.

2.1.1 Growth

Since 1986, York Region has experienced the highest growth in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and continues to be one of the fastest growing regions in Canada. York Region's current population of 842,000 is anticipated to reach over 1 million by 2010 and approximately 1.28 million by 2026. York Region is forecast to continue as the fastest growing region in the GTA to the year 2031.

The number of children and youth is growing rapidly. According to 2001 Census data, York Region's child population between 0 and 14 years grew by 16.4% (18,759) from 136,951 to 155,710 between 1996 and 2001.

In 2001, there were 133,165 children between the ages of 0 and 12, living in York Region.

- 26,865 children between the ages of 0-2
- 29,045 children between the ages of 3-5
- 77,225 children between the ages of 6-12

(Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada)

Refer to Chart 1.

In 2004, it is estimated that there were 147,920 children between the ages of 0 and 12 living in York Region.

- 29,850 children between the ages of 0-2
- 32,270 children between the ages of 3-5
- 85,800 children between the ages of 6-12

(Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada.) Based on population growth in previous years.

Refer to Chart 2. Refer to Appendix 14, Maps 1 and 2 for where children 0 to 4 years and 5 to 9 years are living in York Region.

It is projected that by 2026 there will be 195,569 children 0 to 14, an overall increase of 43% (58,618) from 1996-2026. Of the 2026 increase, 37.8% is projected to occur in the 0 to 5 age grouping, 27.6% in the 6 to 9s, 20.9% in the 10 to 12s and 13.7% in the 13 to 14 age grouping. (Source: Child Care Matters, 2003)

Income and Child Poverty

In 2001, York Region had the highest median income in the GTA. However, there is an increasing polarization of income levels and a growing number of low income households emerging. Children living in low income families are vulnerable. These families include:

- lone parent families whose financial well-being is dependent on a single income
- recent immigrant families who often have difficulty finding adequate employment

Chart 1

Number of Children by Age Group, York Region, 2001

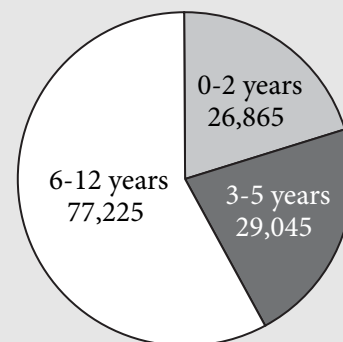


Chart 2

Estimated Number of Children by Age Group, York Region, 2004

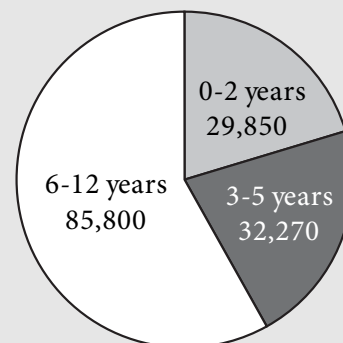
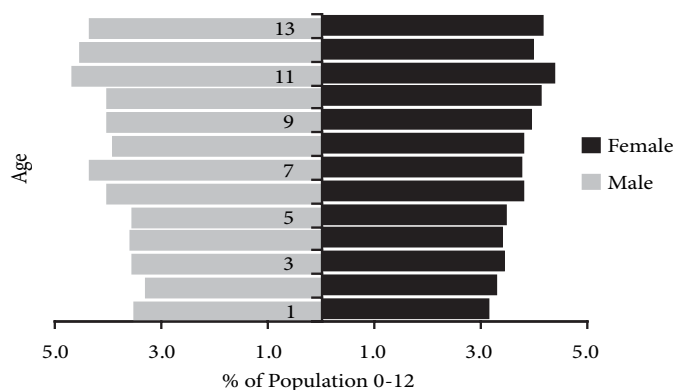


Chart 3

Population 0-12 by Age and Gender, 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001

Table 1

Children Living in Low Income Families and Incidence of Low Income by Age, 2001

Age	Total Children	Low Income	Incidence of Low Income, by Age
0-2 years	26,865	2,470	9.1 %
3-5 years	29,045	2,790	9.6 %
6-12 years	77,225	8,650	11.2 %
0-12 years	133,165	13,910	10.4 %

Source: Statistics Canada Custom Tabulations, Census 2001

Chart 4

Number of Children Living Below the Low Income Cut-Off by Age Group, York Region, 2001

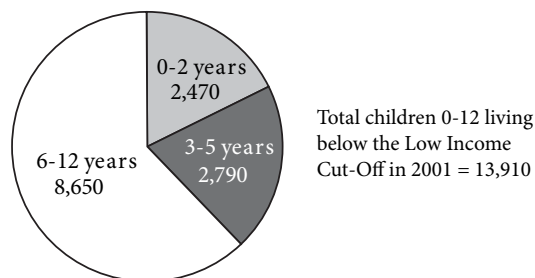
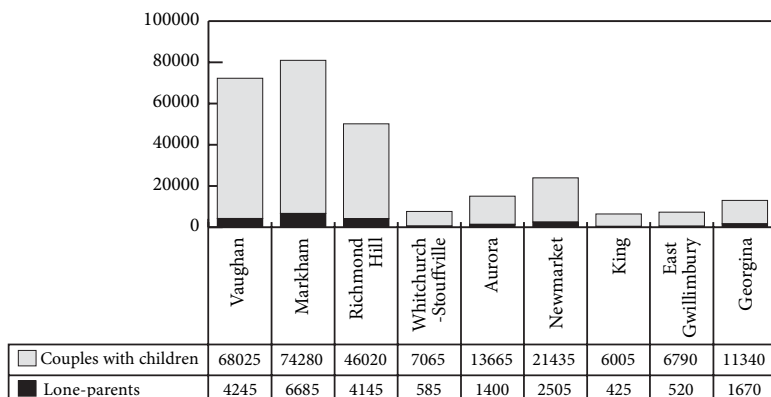


Chart 5

Number of Families with Children, by Municipality



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001

- families of low income earners whose lower wage employment keeps their income below the low income cut-offs.

The number of low income economic families increased by 108% from 8,340 in 1991 to 17,370 in 2001. (Source: 1991 & 2001 Census, Statistics Canada)

In 2001, 13,910 children, 0 to 12 years of age, lived in low income households. (Source: Statistics Canada Custom Tabulations, Census 2001)

- 3.2% (6,430) between 0 and 6 years
- 3.8% (7,480) between 7 and 12 years

Refer to Table 1 and Chart 4.

2.1.2 Family Structure

Family structure has an impact on income security of the family and on early child development. The National Longitudinal Study on Children and Youth found that children in lone parent families are more likely to experience learning or behavioural difficulty. (Source: *Reversing the Real Brain Drain - Early Years Report*, April 1999)

In 2001, 12,140 children aged 0 to 12 lived in single parent families an increase of 2,255 (22.8%) children over 1996. (Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada) The total number of lone parent families has increased by 47% between 1996 and 2001. By 2026, it is projected that the number of lone parents in York Region will increase by 171% from 1996. (Source: York Region Planning and Development Services Department)

Refer to Chart 5.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities reports that York Region has one of the largest average household sizes (3.3 people per household) among Canadian municipalities. The majority of families (85% or 127,315 families) were couple families in 2001 while 15% (22,180) were lone parent families.

2.1.3 Immigration

Within York Region, the proportion of foreign-born individuals increased from 36% to 39% of York Region's total population during the period 1996 to 2001. Six percent (43,405) of York Region's population immigrated to Canada during 1996 to 2001. (Source: 1996 & 2001 Census Statistics Canada and Report No. 8 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee, York Region, 2003)

In the 2001 census, 38% of York Region's population reported a non-official language as their mother tongue - an increase of 43.4% (83,360) since 1996. In 2001, according to the census, York Region was the third highest area in the province for households where neither official language was spoken at all. The 2001 census indicates that 2.1% (2,815) of York Region children, 0 to 12 years of age, were living in households where neither official language was spoken.

2.2 Early Development Instrument

The Early Development Instrument (EDI), which is administered in Senior Kindergarten, was designed to measure, at the group level, children's readiness to learn in the school environment in five domains:

- Physical health and well-being
- Social competence
- Emotional maturity
- Language and cognitive development
- Communications skills and general knowledge

For communities that want to ensure that all children are able to enter school ready to learn, the results of the EDI are meant to provide feedback on how their young children are doing. This

feedback will assist in mobilizing resources to support children's development in their first five years of life, so that they will be able to enter school ready to learn.

The EDI does not provide diagnostic information on individual children, nor is it designed to measure the school's performance.

In 2002/2003, the EDI was completed by teachers for all Senior Kindergarten students in York Region. Refer to Table 2.

26.1% of 7,938 Senior Kindergarten children in York Region had problems in at least one readiness to learn domain. 13.3% of 7,938 Senior Kindergarten children in York Region had problems in at least two readiness to learn domains. (Source: The Canadian Centre for Studies of Children at Risk 2003)

Refer to Chart 6.

Table 2

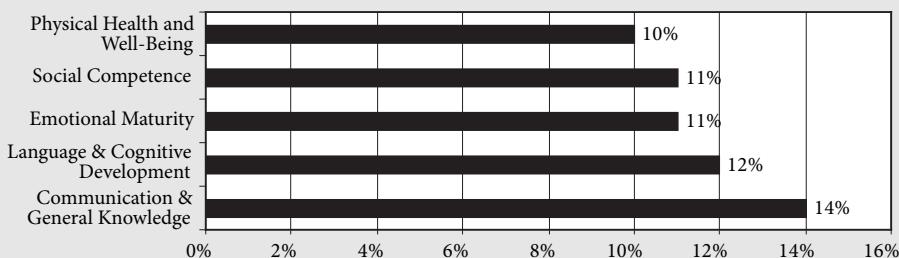
Number of Children in the Best 25% (definitely ready for school) and Lowest 25% (not ready for school) by Domain

Domain	# of Children in the Best 25%	# of Children in Lowest 25%
Physical Health & Well-being	2,203	1,724
Social Competence	2,016	1,105
Emotional Maturity	1,967	1,796
Language and Cognitive Development	2,386	780
Communication Skills & General Knowledge	2,234	1,891

Source: Early Development Instrument, York Region SK 2002/2003
The Canadian Centre for Studies of Children at Risk, McMaster University

Chart 6

Proportion of Students Scoring in the Lowest 10% on the EDI, by Domain



Source: Early Development Instrument, York Region SK 2002/2003
The Canadian Centre for Studies of Children at Risk, McMaster University

Comparisons

- Girls scored significantly better than boys in all five domains.
- Children born earlier in the year (i.e. older children) scored significantly better in all five domains than children born later in the year.
- Children with English as a Second Language (ESL) status scored significantly lower in all five domains than children without ESL status.
- Children who attended organized preschool scored significantly better in all five domains than children who did not.
- Children who had attended Junior Kindergarten scored significantly better in all five domains than children who had not.
- Children who attended child care arrangements part-time scored significantly better in all five domains than children who attended full-time.

(Source: *Early Development Instrument, York Region SK 2002/2003 and The Canadian Centre for Studies of Children at Risk, 2003*)



3. Major Components of the Child Care System



3. Major Components of the Child Care System

3.1 Licensed Child Care Spaces

3.1.1 Historical Overview

There were 6,036 licensed centre-based child care spaces in York Region in 1988. In 1993, York Region had approximately 6,161 licensed centre-based child care spaces, a 2% increase over 1988. The number of licensed centre-based child care spaces increased to 12,396 by 1998, a 105% increase in 10 years, (i.e. 1988 to 1998). The number of licensed centre-based spaces increased by 4% in 1999 (to 12,894), by 14% in 2000 (to 14,690), by 10.8% in 2001 (to 16,271), by 7.6% in 2002 (to 17,508), by 11.8% in 2003 (to 19,564) and by 6.3% in 2004 (to 20,799). Refer to Chart 7.

The estimated total number of spaces in use by licensed home child care agencies in 2004 was 704, an increase of 8% over the 651 estimated number of spaces in use in 2003.

In 2004, York Region had an estimated total of 21,503 licensed child care spaces including both centre-based and home-based child care spaces.

By June 2005, the estimated total of licensed child care spaces in York Region had increased by 563 to 22,066 including 21,328 centre-based and 738 home-based child care spaces. Refer to Appendix 14, Maps 7 to 16 for location of child care centres.

In December 2004, there were 349 licensed child care centres in York Region, providing 20,799 licensed centre-based child care spaces, 10,875 of which were full-day spaces for children 5 years and under. Table 3 provides a summary of the types of centre-based child care spaces, by municipality, that were licensed in York Region for 2000 and 2004. All spaces, except for school age and nursery school, are full-time spaces. However, a space can be split to accommodate part-time child care.

Between 2000 and 2004, the percentage increase in licensed centre-based capacity by municipality for infant, toddler,

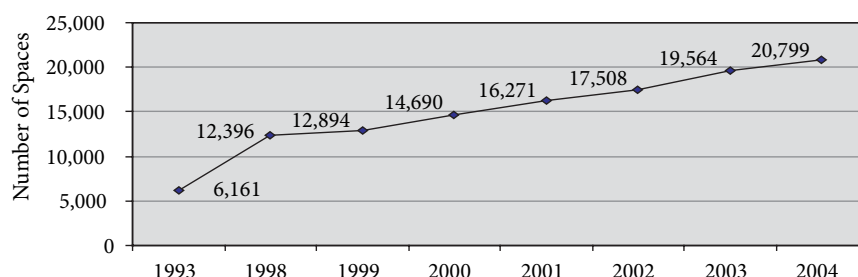
preschool and kindergarten spaces was highest in Vaughan (86.1%) and lowest in East Gwillimbury (8.1%) and Georgina (8.6%). Refer to Table 3.

Between 2000 and 2004, the percentage increase in licensed capacity by age group was highest in toddler spaces (81.1%), followed by infant spaces (66.6%), preschool spaces (33.2%) and kindergarten spaces (20.1%) respectively. Refer to Table 3.

Licensed capacity for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarten spaces increased by 47.6% overall between 2000 and 2004. Refer to Table 3.

Chart 7

Growth in Licensed Centre-Based Child Care Spaces in York Region – 1993, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004



Source: Child Care Study in York Region, 1989; York Region Child Care Management Plan Framework, September 1993; Total Licensed Capacity; Child Care Fee Assistance Update, Report to Regional Council, June 29, 1999; Child Care Fee Assistance Update, Report to Regional Council, June 29, 2000; York Region Child Care Licence Tracker

Table 3

Licensed Centre-Based Capacity for Children 5 years and under, by Municipality as of December 31, 2000 and December 31, 2004

Municipality	Infant		Toddler		Preschool		Kindergarten		Total		% Increase
	2000	2004	2000	2004	2000	2004	2000	2004	2000	2004	
Aurora	0	0	40	50	287	407	124	60	451	517	14.6%
East Gwillimbury	0	0	25	25	86	142	116	78	227	245	8.0%
Georgina	10	10	30	30	194	259	67	28	301	327	8.6%
King	6	16	34	40	62	89	35	30	137	175	27.7%
Markham	95	161	256	463	1,359	2,150	307	401	2,017	3,175	57.4%
Newmarket	33	53	120	155	336	516	197	115	686	839	22.3%
Richmond Hill	23	23	144	197	933	1,045	287	338	1,387	1,603	15.6%
Vaughan	46	92	210	610	1,279	2,114	374	738	1,909	3,554	86.1%
Whitchurch-Stouffville	0	0	30	40	140	278	83	122	253	440	73.9%
Total	213	355	889	1,610	4,676	7,000	1,590	1,910	7,368	10,875	47.6%

Between 2000 and 2004, the percentage increase in licensed centre-based capacity by municipality for school age programs was highest in King, Markham and Vaughan, while both Aurora and East Gwillimbury experienced a slight decline. Licensed capacity for school-age children increased by 54% between 2000 and 2004. Refer to Table 4.

Between 2000 and 2004, only East Gwillimbury (100%) and Richmond Hill (5.5%) experienced a percentage increase in licensed capacity for nursery school spaces. All other municipalities experienced a

decline in licensed nursery school spaces. Licensed capacity for nursery schools declined by 28% between 2000 and 2004. Refer to Table 4.

Commercial and Non-Profit

Licensed centre-based child care can be operated on a commercial, i.e. for profit, or non-profit basis. In 2004, there were 182 licensed centre-based operators in York Region, an increase of 28 over 2000. Of these, 104 (57.2%) were commercial operators and 78 (42.8%) were non-profit. Centre-based operators ran 349 licensed

child care centres in 2004, an increase of 75 over 2000. Of these, 127 (36.4%) were commercial while 222 (63.0%) were non-profit. The 349 centres provided a total of 20,799 licensed centre-based spaces, of which 7,134 (34.3%) spaces were commercial and 13,665 (65.7%) non-profit.

An analysis of the total 20,799 licensed spaces available through licensed centre-based care, based on the licensed capacity by type of space, ranges from a high of 41.94% for school-age children to a low of 1.7% for infant care. Table 5 indicates the capacity, by type of space, for the combined commercial and non-profit spaces, as well as the licensed capacity share of each of these sectors.

Table 4

Licensed Centre-Based Capacity for School Age and Nursery School by Municipality as of December 31, 2000 and December 31, 2004

Municipality	School Age			Nursery School		
	2000	2004	% Increase	2000	2004	% Increase
Aurora	496	454	(8.4)	138	128	(7.2)
East Gwillimbury	155	154	(0.6)	16	32	100
Georgina	239	420	75.7	72	16	(77.7)
King	46	107	132	100	99	(1.0)
Markham	1,392	2,569	84.6	596	331	(44.5)
Newmarket	762	903	18.5	237	234	(7.9)
Richmond Hill	1,132	1,474	30.2	162	171	5.5
Vaughan	1,200	2,395	99.6	290	142	(51.0)
Whitchurch-Stouffville	241	247	2.4	48	48	0.0
Total	5,663	8,723	54%	1,659	1,201	(28%)

Table 5

York Region Licensed Centre-Based Child Care Spaces, by Type of Space by Commercial and Non-Profit, 2002, 2003, 2004

Type of Centre	Total Licensed Spaces 2002	% of Total Licensed Spaces 2002	Total Licensed Spaces 2003	% of Total Licensed Spaces 2003	Total Licensed Spaces 2004	% of Total Licensed Spaces 2004
Total Commercial and Non-Profit:						
• Infant	223	1.27	296	1.52	355	1.7
• Toddler	1,117	6.38	1,406	7.18	1,610	7.74
• Preschool	5,994	34.24	6,640	33.67	7,000	33.66
• Kindergarten	1,374	7.85	1,741	8.90	1,910	9.10
• School Age	7,198	41.11	8,057	41.43	8,723	41.94
• Nursery School	1,602	9.15	1,424	7.30	1,201	5.77
Total	17,508	100.0	19,564	100.0	20,799	100.0
Total Commercial:						
• Infant	70	1.40	155	2.54	211	2.95
• Toddler	455	9.12	758	12.42	977	13.69
• Preschool	2,300	46.12	2,829	46.34	3,355	47.03
• Kindergarten	415	8.32	597	9.78	744	10.86
• School Age	1,204	24.15	1,269	20.78	1,321	18.52
• Nursery School	543	10.89	497	8.14	496	6.95
Sub -Total Commercial Centres	4,987	100.0	6,105	100.0	7,134	100.0
Total Non -Profit:						
• Infant	153	1.22	141	1.05	144	1.05
• Toddler	662	5.29	648	4.82	633	4.63
• Preschool	3,694	29.50	3,811	27.92	3,645	26.67
• Kindergarten	959	7.66	1,144	8.50	1,136	8.31
• School Age	5,994	47.87	6,788	50.79	7,402	54.18
• Nursery School	1,059	8.46	927	6.92	705	5.16
Sub -Total Non -Profit Centres	12,521	100.0	13,459	100.0	13,665	100.0

Since 2002, the number of licensed centre-based:

- infant spaces has increased by 132 (59.2%)
- toddler spaces has increased by 493 (44.14%)
- preschool spaces has increased by 1,006 (16.78%)
- kindergarten spaces has increased by 536 (39.01%)
- school-age spaces has increased by 1,525 (21.18%)
- nursery school spaces has decreased by 401 (25%).

Refer to Table 5.

Centre-Based Child Care: Integration in Schools

As an example of integration of licensed centre-based child care in schools, between 1989 and 1997, the York Region District School Board (YRDSB), through MET, received capital funding from MCSS to construct 31 child care centres in new schools - six in secondary schools and 25 in elementary schools. During the same period, the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) received capital funding to construct 17 child care centres in new schools - three in secondary schools and 14 in elementary schools.

Elementary school child care centres accommodate preschool and kindergarten children. School-age child care can be located in the school if compatible use of school space can be made available (e.g. lunch room, gym, shared classrooms, etc.), with priority enrolment given to children from the school's community.

Secondary schools usually accommodate infants and toddlers and, in most cases, preschoolers. The child care needs of high school students are given priority in admission criteria to provide support to student parents as they complete their secondary school education.

In 2004/05, there were 58 child care centres for children 0 to 5 years and 177 Before and After child care programs operating in schools. Of these, 38 child care centres and 109 Before and After programs were operating in YRDSB schools and 20 child care centres and 68 Before and After programs in YCDSB schools.

In 2004, the total enrolment in child care programs located in schools was 7,812, comprised of 2,592 in child care centres for children under six years and 5,220 in Before and After programs. Refer to Table 6.

The largest group served in child care programs located in schools is children aged 6 to 12 years with over 66% of enrolees served in this age group. Children in the preschool age groups, i.e. 2.5 to 5.8 years comprise approximately 31% of enrolled children. Infants and toddlers served in child care programs located in schools comprise 0.6% and 1.6% of enrolees respectively. Refer to Table 6.

The number of child care centres located in schools almost doubled between 1992 and 1997. However, there has been growth of less than 10% in the number of centres since then.

The number of Before and After programs almost tripled from 1992 to 2004 with growth per year ranging from 5% to 12%

per year through each of these years. Growth in Before and After school programs in York Region schools has been able to continue through shared use of school space.

The absence of growth in child care centres in schools, despite the need for more child care to serve increasing numbers of children in York Region, is due to the provincial government's termination of capital funding to school boards for the cost of building new child care centres. In 2004, there were a total of 17,205 children enrolled in junior and senior kindergarten in York Region schools - 8,402 in junior kindergarten and 8,803 in senior kindergarten.

In the fall of 1999, the YRDSB petitioned the Government of Ontario to restore capital funding for child care facilities in new schools and increase funding of subsidized spaces for child care programs in York Region.

Table 6

Enrolment in School-Based Child Care Programs by Age 2004/2005*

	YRDSB	YCDSB	Total
Infant	31	16	47
Toddler	75	54	129
2.5 – 3.8 years	535	184	719
JK – 3.8 – 4.8 yrs.	436	478	914
SK – 4.8 – 5.8 yrs.	531	252	783
School Age	3,238	1,982	5,220
Total	4,936	2,966	7,812

* not including Nursery Schools

Source: York Region District School Board and York Catholic District School Board, 2005

Market Rate

The average annual market rate of full day centre-based licensed child care in York Region, based on the rate charged to the public by child care operators for a full day licensed child care space in 2004, was \$9,538, an increase of 19.4% over the 1999 average annual market rate of \$7,991 and an increase of 2.9% over the 2003 average annual market rate of \$9,266. Refer to Table 7.

The average annual market rate of full day licensed home-based care in York Region, based on the rate charged to the public by child care operators of licensed home child care agencies in 2003, was \$8,711, an increase of 27.1% over the 1999 average annual market rate of \$6,851 and an increase of 1.7% over the 2002 average annual market rate of \$8,548. Refer to Table 8.

Table 7

Average Annual Market Rate of Full Day Centre-Based
Licensed Child Care in York Region – 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

Age Group	2001	% increase	2002	% increase	2003	% increase	2004
Infant	\$11,745	2.2	\$12,006	3.3	\$12,398	3.3	\$12,815
Toddler	\$9,448	2.2	\$9,657	1.4	\$9,788	3.4	\$10,133
Preschool	\$7,830	3.3	\$8,091	3.2	\$8,352	3.0	\$8,613
Kindergarten	\$7,439	5.2	\$7,830	3.3	\$8,091	2.5	\$8,299
School Age	\$7,073	3.3	\$7,308	5.3	\$7,699	2.0	\$7,830
Average	\$8,707	3.24	\$8,978	3.3	\$9,266	3.0	\$9,538

Source: York Region Survey of Rates Charged to the Public by Child Care Operators – 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

Table 8

Average Annual Market Rate of Full Day Licensed Home-Based
Child Care In York Region – 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

Age Group	2001	% increase	2002	% increase	2003	% increase	2004
Infant	\$9,396	2.7	\$9,657	1.45	\$9,788	3.0	\$10,087
Toddler	\$9,135	2.8	\$9,396	1.49	\$9,527	3.0	\$9,826
Preschool / Kindergarten	\$7,647	2.4	\$7,831	2.6	\$8,091	2.0	\$9,247
School Age	\$7,073	3.2	\$7,308	1.3	\$7,439	2.5	\$7,621
Average	\$8,313	2.8	\$8,548	1.7	\$8,711	2.0	\$8,945

Source: York Region Survey of Rates Charged to the Public by Child Care Operators – 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

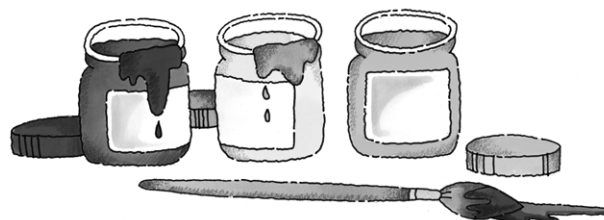


Table 9

Number of Child Care Centres and Home Child Care Agencies, by Commercial, Non-Profit in Schools

	Total	Non-Profit Total	Non-Profit in Schools	Commercial Total	Commercial in Schools
Centres	349*	222	158	127	18
Home-Based Child Care Agencies	13	10	0	3	0

*includes 197 centres licensed for Before & After School Programs

Table 10

Licensed Capacity by Age Group and Number in Schools December 31, 2004

Centre-Based Child Care	Age	Total Spaces	# In Schools	% of Total in Schools
		2004	2004	2004
Infant	0 – 18 m	355	47	13.2
Toddler	18m – 2 ½ yrs.	1,610	129	8.0
Preschool*	2 ½ – 5 yrs.	8,910	2,416	27.1
Subtotal **		10,875	2,592	23.83
School Age	6 – 12 yrs.	8,723	5,220	59.84
Total		19,598	7,812	39.86

Home-Based Child Care	Age	Total Spaces	# In Schools	% of Total in Schools
294 approved homes	***	704	0	0

* includes kindergarten (JK/SK) **does not include nursery school ***Home Child Care Agencies are licensed for a set number of approved homes and not for specific age groups. Therefore, the age of all children being served through home child care agencies is not readily available.

Table 11

Vacancies in Licensed Centre-Based Child Care in York Region by Municipality and Type of Space, December 31, 2004

Municipality	Infant	Toddler	Preschool	Kindergarten	School Age	Nursery School	Total
Aurora	0	2	5	1	22	0	30
East Gwillimbury	0	0	9	6	12	8	35
Georgina	1	5	15	2	38	0	61
King	0	0	11	0	10	16	37
Markham	16	28	136	11	130	0	321
Newmarket	4	5	10	0	32	15	66
Richmond Hill	0	34	33	17	62	0	146
Vaughan	11	35	106	65	158	8	383
Whitchurch Stouffville	0	5	19	12	7	18	61
Total	32	114	344	114	471	65	1,140

Source: York Region Child Care Operator Survey 2004

3.1.2 Description of Local Services

Licensed Child Care Centres and Home-Based Child Care Agencies

There were 349 licensed child care centres and 13 home-based child care agencies operating in York Region in December 2004. Refer to Table 9.

Licensed Capacity / FDE

There were 20,799 licensed centre-based child care spaces in York Region at December 31, 2004. Full-day spaces licensed for children 5 years and under totalled 10,875, with 2,592 (23.8%) of these spaces located in schools. Of the 8,910 licensed centre-based spaces for children 2 ½ to 5 years, 27.1% were located in schools. There were estimated to be 704 spaces in licensed private home child care. Refer to Table 10.

Since the beginning of 1999, the number of licensed spaces (centre-based and home-based) grew by 63% or 8,309 spaces to 21,503 at the end of 2004. However, there are not sufficient licensed spaces to meet the needs of children who have either both or lone parents working.

Centre-Based Child Care: Vacancies and Wait List for a Space, December 31, 2004

Vacancies

Child care operators report 1,140 vacancies. The highest numbers of vacancies were in Vaughan (383) and Markham (321). Vacancies for children 2 ½ to 5 years totalled 458, which is 5.1% of the total licensed capacity for this age group. The overall vacancy rate was 5.2%. Refer to Table 11.

Wait Lists

In York Region, parents wishing to enrol their child(ren) in full-fee licensed child care, apply directly to the provider. Where a space is not available, service providers place the request on a wait list that is managed by the child care centre. As parents may have their child(ren) on a wait list at more than one centre, the wait list numbers obtained through a survey of service operators can be assumed to be inflated. Refer to Table 12.

Home-Based Child Care: Vacancies and Wait List for a Space

The licence for a home-based child care agency does not restrict approval of homes specific to a region. Home-based child care agencies based outside York Region could have approved homes operating within York Region and the Region has the ability to enter into Purchase of Service Agreements for spaces in these homes. Conversely, home-based child care agencies located in York Region could have approved homes operating outside York Region and could undertake purchase of service agreements with other CMSMs. In 2004, there were 13 licensed home-based child care agencies operating in York Region, with the capacity to approve up to 391 homes.

Of the 13 home-based child care agencies operating in York Region, three are commercial and ten are non-profit. In 2004, 294 approved homes, (approximately 75% of the agencies' capacity), were in operation, with an average enrolment of 2.4 children per approved home.

While the licensed home-based child care agencies are operating below capacity, it is difficult to determine the exact amount of unused spaces that could be available in York Region. The ability for home-based child care agencies to use their licence capacity outside of York Region, age regulations, and provider preference would impact the availability of spaces. The following examples provide two scenarios. If all the remaining approved home capacity began operating in York Region, (97 homes), with a continued average of 2.4 children per home, an additional 233 home-based child care spaces would result. If the same number of approved homes began operating in York Region with five children per home, an additional 485 home-based child care spaces would result.

Table 12

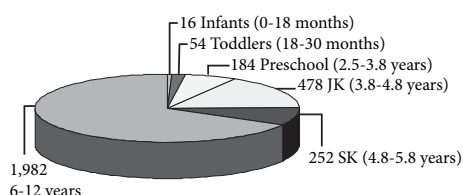
Wait List for Licensed Centre-Based Child Care Spaces in York Region by Municipality and Type of Space, December 31, 2004

Municipality	Infant	Toddler	Preschool	Kindergarten	School Age	Nursery School	Total
Aurora	0	85	216	0	404	0	705
East Gwillimbury	0	14	8	2	0	6	30
Georgina	1	2	46	0	0	0	49
King	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
Markham	216	156	154	3	22	22	573
Newmarket	75	75	40	0	4	3	197
Richmond Hill	0	2	118	31	125	3	279
Vaughan	119	53	224	20	66	0	482
Whitchurch Stouffville	0	0	1	0	5	0	6
Total	411	387	807	56	628	35	2,324

Source: York Region Child Care Operator Survey 2004

Chart 8

York Region District School Board
Total Enrolment in School-Based Child Care Centres by Age Group*, 2004



*does not include nursery school

Source: York Region District School Board, 2005

Range of Services Available

School-Based Child Care

In 2004, there were 58 child care centres for children 0 to 5 years and 177 Before and After School programs operating in schools with an overall licensed capacity of 7,812.

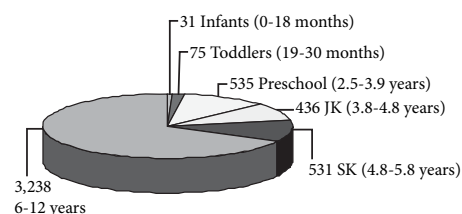
School-age children represented 67% (5,310) of the total enrolment in school-based child care centres while JK/SK children represented 20.6% (1,697). Refer to Charts 8 and 9 and Table 13.

Licensed Before and After School Child Care Programs

There were 209 licensed Before and After School programs in operation in 2004. Refer to Table 14.

Chart 9

York Catholic District School Board
Enrolment in School-Based Child Care Centres by Age Group*, 2004



*does not include nursery school

Source: York Catholic District School Board, 2005

Table 13

Total Enrolment in All School-Based Child Care Centres in York Region, 2004

	Infants	Toddlers	Preschool	JK	SK	School Age	Total
YRDSB	31	75	535	436	531	3,238	4,846
YCDSB	16	54	184	478	252	1,982	2,966
Total	47	129	719	914	783	5,220	7,812

Source: York Region District School Board, York Catholic District School Board, 2004

Refer to Appendix 12 for Child Care Operator Survey of children attending licensed child care programs and attending JK or SK in publicly funded schools, May 2005.

Table 14

Number of Licensed Before / After School Programs by Municipality
December 31, 2004

Municipality	Centre-Based Programs		Stand-Alone Programs		Total
	Purchase of Service	Non-Purchase of Service	Purchase of Service	Non-Purchase of Service	
Aurora	5	0	7	0	12
Georgina	7	0	2	0	9
East Gwillimbury	4	0	2	0	6
King	1	0	3	0	4
Markham	22	3	32	0	57
Newmarket	8	0	11	1	20
Richmond Hill	15	1	20	0	36
Vaughan	17	7	29	2	55
Whitchurch-Stouffville	4	0	6	0	10
TOTALS	83	11	112	3	209

Definition: Aboriginal Identity

Refers to those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, i.e. North American Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo), and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the Indian Act of Canada and/or who were members of an Indian Band or First Nation.

Francophone

In 2001, of a total Francophone population of 15,750 in York Region, 2,905 were children aged 0 to 14 years. Of these children, 605 were 0 to 4 years, 785 were 5 to 9 years, and 1,515 were 10 to 14 years. (Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada)

In 2004, there were three Francophone licensed child care centres in York Region to serve 154 children 0 to 5 years and 108 school-age children 6 to 12 years.

York Region had a Purchase of Service Agreement with two Francophone centres to enable child care fee assistance to be accessed by eligible families.

Aboriginal

In 2001, of a total Aboriginal population of 7,080 in York Region, 770 were children aged 0 to 14 years. Of these children, 195 were 0 to 4 years, 265 were 5 to 9 years, and 310 were 10 to 14 years. (Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada)

First Nation

- The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation operate a child care centre for up to five infants or three infants and four toddlers or 16 preschoolers which equates to 16.6% or 23% or 53%, respectively, of the child population 0 to 5 years. There are no licensed child care spaces for children 6 to 12 years.
- The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation provide child care fee assistance for residents through an agreement between the provincial government and the First Nation.

3.1.3 Assessment of Local Needs

Child care services have been greatly influenced by social and labour force changes over the past couple of decades.

Traditionally, the responsibilities of child care were borne by mothers. This is no longer the case due to the increased tendency of women to participate in the paid labour force. (Source: *A Profile of the Childcare Services Industry, Statistics Canada, 2002*)

Refer to Chart 10.

While the growth in licensed child care spaces to 21,503 (including 1,201 nursery school spaces) has been significant, it addresses only a portion of the need of the 101,451 children, aged 0 to 12 years, in York Region, who live in families where either both parents or the lone parent are employed.

(Source: *Statistic Canada Customs Tabulation Census Canada, 2001 - estimate based on child population growth in previous years*)

- Between 2001 and 2004, the child population (birth to 12 years) is estimated to have risen by 14,755 (11.08%).
- Between 2001 and 2004, the number of licensed centre-based spaces has increased by 4,528 (2.8%).
- In 2004, in York Region, licensed care is estimated to have met the needs of 10.8% of children 0 to 2 years, 41.1% of children 3 to 5 years and 14.2% of children 6-12 years who have either both or lone parent working.

Refer to Table 15.

In 2004, there were 1,965 licensed centre-based child care spaces for children 0 to 2 years, 8,910 licensed spaces for children 3 -to 5 years and 8,723 spaces for children 6 to 12 years.

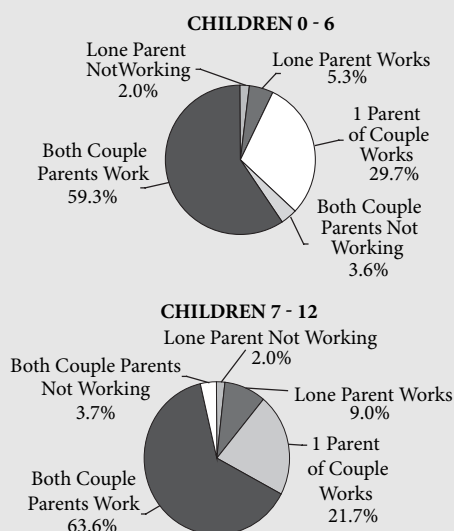
This suggests that approximately 89% of children 0 to 2 years, 59% of children 3 to 5 years and 86% of children 6 to 12 years, with either both or lone parent working, are cared for outside the formal licensed child care system.

Training for Child Care Providers

Since 2003, York Region has funded a community agency to provide training for informal providers who provide child care outside the formal licensed system. Over 400 caregivers who provide child care in their home, for children other than their own, receive training annually.

Chart 10

Proportion of Children by Parental Employment and Family Structure



Source: 2001 Census, Custom Tabulations, Statistics Canada

Table 15

Availability of Full-Day Licensed Centre-Based or Children, 0-12 years, Who Have Either Both Parents or Lone Parent Working, York Region, 2004

Age of Children	Total Number of Children	Number of Children with Both Parents or Lone Parent Working*	% of Children with Both Parents or Lone Parent Working	Licensed Spaces for Children Requiring Care	% of Spaces for Children Requiring Care
0-2	29,850	18,220	61%	1,965	10.8
3-5	32,270	21,659	67%	8,910	41.1
6-12	85,800	61,572	72%	8,723	14.2
Total	147,920	101,451	69%	19,598*	19.3

*This is an estimate based on child population growth and parent participation in the workforce in previous years. **Nursery School spaces not included. Source: 2001 Census, Custom Tabulations, Statistics Canada

Ontario Works Participants

In 2004, an average of 0.93% of the population of York Region had been in receipt of Ontario Works. This equates to an average of 8,238 beneficiaries per month being in receipt of Ontario Works in York Region. Of these, a monthly average of approximately 40% are dependent children (17 years of age or younger).

Of these dependent children, 535 were in receipt of child care fee assistance annually. The provision of child care fee assistance to children of Ontario Works participants annually exceeds the ministry approved Ontario Works child care funding level and the shortfall is funded from the Day Nurseries fee assistance budget, thereby decreasing funding available for fee assistance for non-Ontario Works participants and their children.

Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP)

This Ontario Works program focuses on young parents between the ages of 16 and 21 and their children and encourages young parents to finish high school. Recognizing the challenges young parents face in finishing their high school education, LEAP supports healthy child development by helping parents to acquire parenting skills and providing access to flexible child care.

Early Development Instrument (EDI)

The Early Development Instrument, which is administered in Senior Kindergarten, was designed to measure, at the group level, children's readiness to learn in the school environment in five domains.

The EDI was designed to measure the outcomes of children's early years and not the school's performance. Relating EDI results to the characteristics of neighbourhoods rather than schools is more appropriate and

this type of analysis will be available in the future.

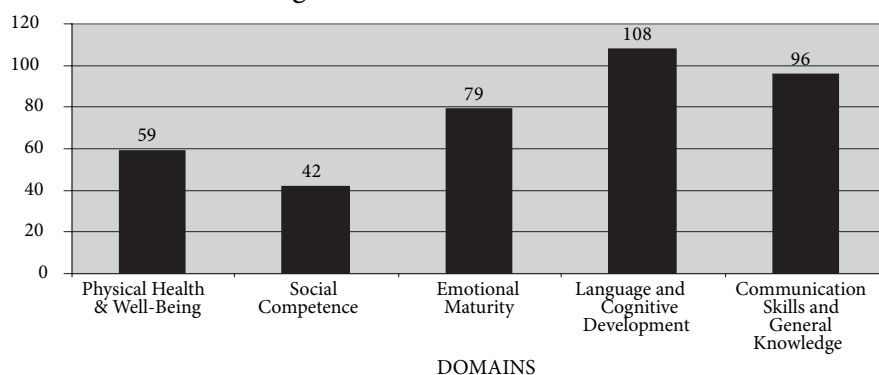
The results of the EDI provide feedback to communities on how their children are doing. This feedback will assist in mobilizing resources such as new child care spaces and integrated early learning hubs to support children's development in their first five years of life.

Refer to Charts 11 and 12.

Refer to Appendix 14, Map 3: Children's Readiness-to-Learn in York Region and the Incident of Low Income in Economic Families by Census Tract.

Chart 11

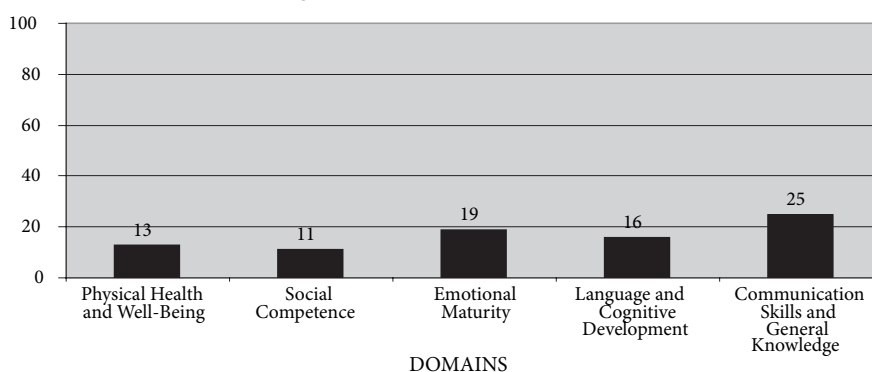
Number of Schools with 25% or More Children in the Highest 25% in One or More Domains, York Region, 2002 – 2003



Source: Early Development Instrument, York Region SK 2002/2003
The Canadian Centre for Studies of Children at Risk, McMaster University

Chart 12

Number of Schools with 25% or More Children in the Lowest 10% in One or More Domains, York Region 2002 – 2003



Source: Early Development Instrument, York Region SK 2002/2003
The Canadian Centre for Studies of Children at Risk, McMaster University

Physical Space Inventory

Schools

The School Boards are developing a long-term capital plan to be submitted to the Ministry of Education in October. The plan will contain several elements including plans for new facilities, plans to implement 20:1 class size reductions, plans for facility renewal and potential Best Start locations.

The availability of space in schools will be affected by the Ministry of Education requirement of a 20:1 class size, as well as changing population and immigration patterns. The contents of the charts below are estimates only.

Table 16

Schools with Potential for Additional Child Care Spaces if a Community Need is Identified

Existing Schools – York Region District School Board

School	Planning Area	CEC	Rooms	Child Care Space Capacity	Year	Child Care Centre in the School
426	Markham-North	East	2	44	2005/6	Yes
432	Markham - Thornhill	West	1	22	2005/6	No
233	Vaughan-Thornhill	West	2	44	2005/6	Yes
333	Richmond Hill	Central	1	22	2005/6	Yes
134	East Gwillimbury	North	1	22	2005/6	Yes
147	Newmarket	North	2	44	2005/6	Yes
149	Newmarket	North	1	22	2005/6	No
456	Markham-Centre	East	1	22	2005/6	Yes
173	Newmarket	North	1	22	2005/6	Yes
375	Richmond Hill	Central	2	44	2005/6	No
225	Richmond Hill	Central	1	22	2005/6	Yes
385	Vaughan -Thornhill	West	2	44	2005/6	Yes
384	Vaughan -Thornhill	West	1	22	2005/6	Yes
388	Vaughan -Thornhill	West	2	44	2005/6	Yes
133	Georgina	North	3	66	2006/7	Yes

Existing Schools – York Catholic District School Board

School	Planning Area	Rooms	Child Care Space Capacity	Year	Child Care Centre in the School
337	Vaughan	2	48	2005/2006	Yes
103	Georgina	2	48	2005/2006	No
126	Newmarket	2	48	2005/2006	No
337	Markham	2	48	2005/2006	No
316	Stouffville	2	48	2005/2006	No
212	Richmond Hill	2	48	2005/2006	Yes
102	Aurora	2	48	2005/2006	No
140	Newmarket	2	48	2005/2006	No
143	Vaughan	2	48	2005/2006	Yes
462	Vaughan	2	48	2005/2006	No
360	Markham	2	48	2005/2006	No
432	Vaughan	2	48	2005/2006	No
163	Newmarket	2	48	2005/2006	No
353	Markham	2	48	2005/2006	No
435	Vaughan	2	48	2005/2006	No
227	Richmond Hill	2	48	2005/2006	No
442	Vaughan	2	48	2005/2006	No
104	Georgina	2	48	2005/2006	Yes
349	Markham	2	48	2005/2006	No
221	Markham	2	48	2005/2006	No
241	Richmond Hill	2	48	2005/2006	No
223	Richmond Hill	2	48	2005/2006	No
229	Vaughan	2	48	2005/2006	No
211	Richmond Hill	2	48	2005/2006	No
331	Markham	2	48	2005/2006	No
173	Aurora	2	48	2005/2006	Yes
452	Vaughan	2	48	2005/2006	No
192	Aurora	2	48	2005/2006	No
105	King	2	48	2005/2006	No
177	East Gwillimbury	2	48	2005/2006	Yes
272	Richmond Hill	2	48	2005/2006	Yes
151	Newmarket	2	48	2005/2006	No
324	Markham	2	48	2005/2006	No

The above potential available spaces in existing schools are subject to:

- Public consultation
- Board approval
- Ministry of Education approval of the Boards' Long Term Plan.

Table 17

New Schools with Potential for New Child Care Spaces if a Community Need is Identified

School Board Plans to Build New Schools

School board plans to include child care centres when building new schools are dependent upon Provincial approval of infrastructure plans and funding allocations through the Best Start Strategy. They are also subject to public consultation, board approval and Ministry of Education approval.

York Region District School Board

School	Planning Area	CEC	Child Care Space Capacity	Year
Greensborough #2	Markham - North	East	24 - 72	2006
Oak Ridges West #1	Oak Ridges	Central	24 - 72	2006
Bayview Northeast #1	Aurora	Central	24 - 72	2007
Cornell #2	Markham - Centre	East	24 - 72	2007
Markham F1 - Cathedral	Markham - North	East	24 - 72	2007
Block 18 #1	Vaughan - Maple	West	24 - 72	2007
Block 10 #3	Vaughan - Maple	West	24 - 72	2007
Stouffville Northeast	Whitchurch - Stouffville	East	24 - 72	2007

York Catholic District School Board

School	Planning Area	Year
St. Padre Pio	Vaughan - West Woodbridge	2005/6
St. Julia Billiart	Markham	2005/6
Ste. Marguerite d'Youville	Richmond Hill	2005/6
St. Jerome	Aurora	2005/6
Vellore Village #3	Vaughan - West Woodbridge	2006/7
Wismer Commons #1	Markham	2006/8
Valeta Lifford	Vaughan - Maple	2006/8

3.1.4 Three-Year Forecast of Local Child Care System Needs

Growth in Child Population

According to Census Canada, in York Region, the child care population aged 0 to 12 years is increasing annually by over 3% per year. The annual growth in licensed child care spaces will need to meet or exceed this rate of growth to maintain the current level of availability of child care.

Between 2001 and 2004, the child care population 0 to 5 years is projected to increase by 11.1% or 3.7% each year. In 2004, there were 10,795 licensed

centre-based spaces for children 0 to 5 years. Therefore, an increase of 399 spaces per year is required for this age group just to maintain the status quo.

Health and Safety

Child care environments that are well designed and well maintained support safety and injury prevention and are essential to the healthy development of children. One-time funding to address health and safety concerns will support child care operators in providing a safe and healthy environment for the optimum development of children.

3.1.5 Analysis of Service Gaps / Overlaps

The predominant family structure is now one in which both parents work in the labour force.

In York Region, it is estimated that 18,220 children, 0 to 2 years, and 21,659 children, 3 to 5 years, live in families where both or the lone parent are working. At the same time, there are estimated to be only 1,965 full-day licensed centre-based spaces available for children 0 to 2 years and 8,910 full-day licensed centre-based spaces available for children 3 to 5 years. Child care operators report wait lists for child care spaces and a low vacancy rate of

5.2%. Operators and parents continue to identify the need for more physical spaces.

The EDI has identified a number of communities where 25% or more of senior kindergarten children are scoring in the lowest 10% in one or more domains. Research indicates that these children would benefit from access to quality early learning and care programs before entering senior kindergarten.

Refer to Appendices 2 and 7 for needs and gaps identified through the local child care service planning process.

3.1.6 Service Priorities

Subject to 100% provincial funding approval for new licensed child care spaces and provincial and regional approval:

- Increase licensed child care spaces for children 5 years and under by 1,480 with 60% useable by JK/SK children
 - 535 by March 31, 2006
 - 235 by March 31, 2007
 - 710 by March 31, 2008
- Work in collaboration with the school boards to identify opportunities for the expansion of licensed child care spaces.
- Allocate wage subsidy funding to new licensed child care spaces.
- Allocate infrastructure funding for construction and/or renovation of new spaces according to provincial priorities.

- Allocate start-up funding for furnishings and equipment to child care operators opening provincially funded new spaces.
- Consider EDI results when determining priorities for the expansion of licensed child care spaces for children, 0 to 5 years.
- Work in collaboration with local municipal recreation departments to identify opportunities for the expansion of licensed child care spaces.
- Funding to address health and safety concerns identified by the ministry in licensed child care centres.

3.2 Child Care Fee Assistance

3.2.1 Historical Overview

Purchase of Service Agreements

York Region enters into Purchase of Service Agreements with operators to enable fee assistance to be paid for child care services for York Region residents who qualify for assistance in accordance with provincial legislation and York Region policy.

Centre-Based Child Care

Of the 20,799 licensed centre-based spaces, 16,613 (80%) were covered by Purchase of Service Agreements with York Region in 2004, an increase of 5,189 (45%) over 2000. Refer to Table 18.

Of the 349 licensed centre-based child care centres in operation in 2004, 260 (74.5%) were covered by Purchase of Service Agreements with York Region, an increase of 68 (35%) over 2000. Refer to Table 18.

Home-Based Child Care

Of the estimated 704 home-based child care spaces in use by home-based child care agencies, 653 (93%) were covered by Purchase of Service Agreements with York Region in 2004, an increase of 75 (13%) over 2003. Refer to Table 19.

Of the 294 approved home-based child care settings in operation in 2004, an estimated 275 (94%) were covered by Purchase of Service Agreements with York Region. Refer to Table 20.

In 2004, through the Early Learning and Child Care Initiative (ELCC), the province approved fee subsidy for 236 additional subsidized spaces. However, as a result of growth in the child population and an increase in the number of low income families, the current level of provincial funding for fee subsidy does not meet the community need. The percentage of all licensed spaces for which provincial subsidy is available decreased from 17% to 10.6% between 1999 and 2003 and increased slightly to 11.05% as a result of ELCC funding in 2004.

Between 1999 and 2003, the level of provincial child care fee subsidy remained the same. In 2003, the level of provincial child care fee subsidy was decreased by 43 spaces resulting in:

- A decrease in the percentage of licensed centre-based spaces which are subsidized, from 17% in 1999 to 10.6% in 2003. Refer to Chart 13.

- 9% decrease in the percentage of children of working parents for whom subsidy is available.

- In 2004 through Early Learning and Child Care, the province approved child care fee subsidy for 236 additional spaces resulting in a slight increase in the percentage of licensed centre-based spaces which are subsidized. Refer to Chart 13.

To bring the level of provincial subsidy to the 1999 level of 17% of licensed spaces, an increase of approximately \$10 million in provincial subsidy approval is required for an additional 1,326 spaces.

Provincial funding for child care fee subsidies are available to less than 16% of families with children birth to 12 years whose income is below the Low Income Cut Off established by Statistics Canada.

In 2005, through the Best Start Strategy, the province will be requested to approve child care fee subsidy for 1,500 additional spaces by March 31, 2008.

Table 18

York Region Licensed Centre-Based Child Care Centres, by Type of Centre, by Purchase of Service Agreement*/No Purchase of Service Agreement - 2000, 2004

Type of Centre	Licensed Centres Covered by Purchase of Service Agreement		Licensed Spaces Covered by Purchase of Service Agreement		Licensed Centres NOT Covered by Purchase of Service Agreement		Licensed Spaces NOT Covered by Purchase of Service Agreement	
	2000	2004	2000	2004	2000	2004	2000	2004
Commercial	48	69	2,514	4,490	36	58	1,211	2,644
Non -Profit	144	191	8,910	12,123	45	31	2,055	1,542
Total	192	260	11,424	16,613	81	89	3,266	4,186

*Ability to purchase service subject to availability of approved Fee Assistance funds approved by the Ministry and York Region Council.

Table 19

Licensed Home-Based Spaces Covered by Purchase of Service Agreements* (POS) with York Region 2002, 2003, 2004

Spaces Covered by POS 2002	% decrease	Spaces Covered by POS 2003	% increase	Spaces Covered by POS 2004
595	2.8	578	13	653

* Ability to purchase service subject to availability of approved Fee Assistance funds approved by the Ministry and York Region Council.

Table 20

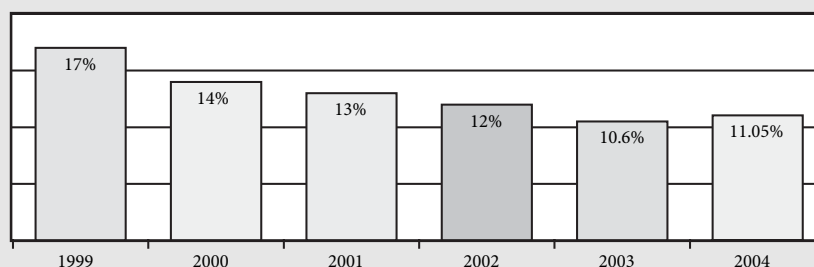
Approved Home Child Care Settings in Operation in York Region, with or without Purchase of Service Agreements*, by Area Municipality – 2000, 2004

Municipality	Total Number of Approved Homes Operating		Estimated # of Homes WITH Purchase of Service Agreement		Estimated # of Homes WITHOUT Purchase of Service Agreement	
	2000	2004	2000	2004	2000	2004
Aurora	15	8	11	8	4	0
East Gwillimbury	2	1	2	1	0	0
Georgina	12	12	12	12	0	0
King	0	0	0	0	0	0
Markham	70	75	70	72	0	3
Newmarket	29	29	24	29	5	0
Richmond Hill	43	115	38	108	5	7
Vaughan	44	53	32	44	12	9
Whitchurch-Stouffville	2	1	2	1	0	0
Total	217	294	191	275	26	19

* Ability to purchase service subject to availability of approved Fee Assistance funds approved by the Ministry and York Region Council.

Chart 13

Subsidized Spaces as a Percentage of All Licensed Spaces



3.2.2 Description of Local Services at December 31, 2004

Children in Receipt of Child Care Fee Assistance

There were 2,524 children in receipt of child care fee assistance at December 31, 2004. Of these 2,524 children, 1,543 (61.1%) were children 5 years and under while 1,182 (46.8%) were children 2 ½ - 5 years. Refer to Table 21.

Table 21

Children in Receipt of Child Care Fee Assistance (DNA and OW),
By Age Group, at December 31, 2004

Infant	116
Toddler	245
Preschool	1,182
School-age	981
Total	2,524

Profile of Households Receiving Fee Assistance

DNA

In York Region, at December 31, 2004:

- 1,559 households were in receipt of child care fee assistance for a total of 2,562 children (excludes summer camp; includes 38 households NCB fee assisted).
- 73% were single-parent families; 27% were two-parent families.
- 8% were in school.

Ontario Works

In 2004 in York Region, fee assistance with the cost of child care was provided for persons in receipt of Ontario Works (OW) as follows:

- Fee assistance was provided for a total of 535 children of OW participants.
- Of the total of 535 children, fee assistance for formal licensed child care was provided for a total of 471 (88%) children of OW participants while fee assistance for informal licensed child care was provided for a total of 64 (12%) children of OW participants.
- Ministry approval of fee assistance funding for formal licensed child care for OW participants totalled 66% of the total OW child care fee assistance expenditure in 2004. The remaining 34% was funded under the Day Nurseries Act. Additional base funding for OW participants was requested and denied in 2004.

OW/Child Care Integrated Service

York Region has an integrated service model to support OW participants requiring child care which was documented by the ministry as a best practices case study of the integration of human services related to service realignment. Staff from Children's Services and Ontario Works are co-located in four office locations in York Region. Children's Services Representatives (CSRs) attend OW Employment Resource information sessions to provide parent participants with information about child care options.

Parents participating in Ontario Works (OW) who are eligible for

child care fee assistance are referred to Children's Services for an orientation to child care, support in making informed decisions about child care and financial support for child care. OW parent participants may choose licensed centre-based, licensed home-based or informal care, including Parks and Recreation programs.

Ontario Works and Children's Services maintain strong links with Recreation Departments of local municipalities, Resource Centres, Boards of Education and child care operators and are developing links with York Region District School Boards' Summer Institutes for child care placements and employment opportunities for OW participants.

An integrated budget model, including OW Fee Assistance, DNA Fee Assistance and National Child Benefit (NCB) funding has enabled the Department to achieve greater efficiency and to adopt a more flexible approach to address service demands.

Through the integrated service model:

- OW parent participants are able to make informed choices as a result of receiving consistent and high quality information on child care issues.
- Parents receive support in planning and selecting child care.
- Parents receive timely child care services, enabling them to move forward with their return to work action plan.
- Families have consistent contact with one worker, provide information only once and receive seamless supports.

Purchase of Service Agreements

York Region enters into Purchase of Service Agreements with operators to enable fee assistance to be paid for child care services for York Region residents who qualify for assistance in accordance with provincial legislation and York Region policy.

With regards to centre-based child care spaces, purchase of Service Agreements are in place for 70% of infant spaces, 71% of toddler spaces, 55% of preschool spaces, 74% of kindergarten spaces, 85% of school-age spaces and 23% of nursery school spaces. Refer to Table 22.

Purchase of Service Agreements are in place with 55% of child care operators who operate 80% (16,613) of the licensed centre-based spaces. Refer to Table 23.

Purchase of Service Agreements are in place with 92% of licensed home-based child care agencies. Refer to Table 24.

3.2.3 Assessment of Local Needs

- There is insufficient funding to meet the needs of York Region residents for child care fee assistance.
- Operators require an annual cost-of-living increase in per diems to respond to higher operating costs.
- There are insufficient fee assisted spaces, for children 0 to 5 years, to meet the needs of York Region residents.

Table 22

York Region Licensed Centre-Based Child Care Spaces, by Type of Space, by Purchase of Service Agreement*/ No Purchase of Service Agreement – 2004

Type of Service	Licensed Spaces Covered by Purchase of Services Agreement	Licensed Spaces Not Covered by Purchase of Service Agreement	Total Licensed Spaces
Commercial			
Infants	147	64	211
Toddlers	698	279	977
Preschool	1,858	1,497	3,355
Kindergarten	547	227	744
School Age	1,124	197	1,321
Nursery School	116	380	496
Subtotal Commercial Centres	4,490	2,644	7,134 (approx. 34% of Licensed Spaces)
Non-Profit			
Infants	144	0	144
Toddlers	558	75	633
Preschool	2,908	737	3,645
Kindergarten	1,064	72	1,136
School Age	7,204	198	7,402
Nursery School	245	460	705
Subtotal Non-Profit Centres	12,123	1,542	13,665 (approx. 66% of Licensed Spaces)
Grand Total	16,613	4,186	20,799

*Ability to purchase service subject to availability of approved Fee Assistance funds approved by the Ministry and York Region Council.

Table 23

Number of Operators – Centre-based with Purchase of Service* and without Purchase of Service, By Municipality – as of December 31, 2004

Municipality	# of Operators with Purchase of Service	# of Operators No Purchase of Service	Totals
Aurora	7	3	10
East Gwillimbury	3	1	4
Georgina	4	2	6
King	3	5	8
Markham	27	25	52
Newmarket	10	9	19
Richmond Hill	16	11	27
Vaughan	22	22	44
Whitchurch-Stouffville	5	4	9
Outside York Region	3	0	3
Totals	100	82	182

*Ability to purchase service subject to availability of approved Fee Assistance funds approved by the Ministry and York Region Council.

Table 24

York Region Licensed Home-Based Child Care Agencies, by Commercial and Non-profit, with or without Purchase of Service Agreements* – December 2004

With Purchase of Service	Without Purchase of Service	Total
3 commercial	0 commercial	3 commercial
9 non - profit	1 non - profit	10 non - profit
12 agencies	1 agency	13 agencies

*Ability to purchase service subject to availability of approved Fee Assistance funds approved by the Ministry and York Region Council.

3.2.4 Three-Year Forecast of Local Child Care System Needs

- A minimum 2.5% annual increase in per diems to respond to higher operating costs.
- Increase the number of fee assisted spaces for children 0 to 5 years available to York Region residents by approximately 1,500 by March 31, 2008.
- Maintain a minimum 80% rate for the percentage of spaces covered by Purchase of Service Agreements.
- To subsidize more than 15% of licensed child care spaces and increase access to subsidies for a rapidly growing population, an increase of more than 1,500 subsidized spaces requires provincial funding through the Best Start Strategy.

3.2.5 Analysis of Gaps / Overlaps Child Care Fee Assistance

As a result of growth in the child population and an increase in the number of low income families, the current level of provincial funding for fee subsidy does not meet the community need. This has resulted in a growing wait list for child care fee subsidy.

Child care fee subsidies are available to 15.5% of families with children birth to 12 years whose income is below the Low Income Cut Off established by Statistics Canada.

Wait List

The wait list in December 2004 was 1,479, a reduction of 215 over 2003, reflecting the impact of increased funding through ELCC. The preschool age group 2 ½ to 5 years accounted for

41.6% (615) of children on the wait list. The wait list in 2004 reflects the fact that the level of provincial funding, including ELCC, does not meet the community need for child care fee assistance. Refer to Table 25.

The monthly average wait list for child care fee assistance is highest in Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill. Refer to Table 26.

Preschool children represent the largest number of children on the monthly average wait list. Refer to Table 27.

In 2004:

- The average monthly wait list for child care fee assistance was 1,329 with 35% being sole support families and 65% two parent families. Refer to Table 26.
- 79 sole support families and 97 two-parent families were added to the wait list each month.
(Source: Committee Report "Wait list for Child Care Fee Assistance", June 2nd, 2004)

Table 25

York Region Wait List for Fee Assistance, by Type of Space December 31, 2001 - 2004

Type of Space	2001	2002	2003	2004
Infant	145	209	281	238
Toddler	104	141	262	233
Preschool	290	434	683	615
School Age	198	293	455	376
Other	10	6	13	17
Total	747	1,084	1,694	1,479

Table 26

York Region Monthly Average of Wait listed Children, by Municipality – 2004

Municipality	# of Children on Wait List	% of Total Wait List
Aurora	43	3%
East Gwillimbury	17	1%
Georgina	17	1%
King	13	1%
Markham	395	30%
Newmarket	131	10%
Richmond Hill	345	26%
Vaughan	355	27%
Whitchurch-Stouffville	13	1%
Total	1,329	100%

Table 27

York Region Monthly Average of Wait Listed Children by Age Group

Age Group	# of Children on Wait List
Infant	242
Toddler	207
Preschool	545
School Age	335
Total	1,329

- The percentage of all licensed spaces, for which provincial subsidy is available, decreased from 17% to 10.6% between 1999 and 2003 and increased to 11.05% in 2004 as a result of ELCC funding.

- The level of provincial child care fee subsidy funding is sufficient to provide child care fee subsidies to less than 16% of families with children birth to 12 years whose income is below the Low Income Cut Off.

Refer to Appendices 3 and 8 for needs and gaps identified through the local child care service planning process.

3.2.6 Service Priorities

Subject to 100% provincial funding and provincial and regional approval:

- By March 31, 2008, increase the number of child care fee subsidies by 1,500 for children 5 years and under with 60% for JK/SK children.
- 800 additional subsidies by March 31, 2006.
- 350 additional subsidies by March 31, 2007.
- 350 additional subsidies by March 31, 2008.
- Increase per diems paid to operators annually.
- Increase the number of child care spaces and child care operators covered by Purchase of Service Agreements.
- Enhance communication of the availability of child care fee assistance to York Region residents.

3.3 Wage Subsidy

3.3.1 Historical Overview

Wage subsidy is the combination of several provincial funding initiatives introduced in 1987 and 1993 in response to low levels of compensation in the child care field and to address issues of affordability and stability in the service sector.

Wage subsidy includes the former:

- Direct Operating Grant (DOG) - introduced 1987 / 1988.
- Provider Enhancement Grant (PEG) - introduced 1992.
- Wage Enhancement Grant (WEG) - introduced 1991.
- Down payment on Pay Equity - introduced 1994 / 1995.

The provincial wage subsidy funding approval to York Region was not increased between 1999 and 2003. In 2004, wage subsidy funding was increased by 13% through the Early Learning and Child Care Initiative. During the period 1999 to 2004, the number of licensed child care spaces that are eligible for wage subsidy, should funding become available, has increased by 63%, resulting in a significant shortfall in funding and 36% of child care operators and 23% of child care centres not receiving any wage subsidy. Refer to Table 28.

There are significant costs associated with bringing eligible programs up to the funding levels specified in the ministry's guidelines. These costs increased between 1999 and 2003 as a result of the increase in licensed spaces. Refer to Table 29.

In 2004 through the ELCC Initiative, the province approved additional funding of \$1.2 million to address the significant

Table 28

A Comparison of Wage Subsidy Paid to Licensed Centre-based Centres, Against the 1995 Ministry Formula and Calculations, in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total number of sites eligible	302	321	342	349
Number receiving amount for which they are eligible	100	93	101	68
Number receiving less than the amount for which they are eligible	90	131	118	201
Number receiving no funding	112	97	123	80

Table 29

The Cost to Bring All Operators to the Ministry 1995 Guideline

	2001	2002	2003	2004
Commercial	\$521,897	\$784,006	\$1,193,733	\$ 810,232
Non-Profit	\$1,885,119	\$1,803,914	\$1,715,640	\$1,757,131
Total	\$2,407,016	\$2,587,920	\$2,909,373	\$2,567,363

shortfall of nearly \$7 million in wage subsidy funding. At the same time, the number of spaces which were eligible for wage subsidy increased by 1,288. Refer to Table 30.

Child care operators are responsible for distributing wage subsidy funds to staff and are required to meet reporting requirements concerning the utilization of those funds.

Table 30

The Cost to Bring All Operators to the Ministry 2000 Wage Subsidy Guideline

Year	Cost to implement the balance between the commercial and non-profit sectors
2001	\$4,491,299
2002	\$5,468,377
2003	\$6,795,629
2004	\$6,349,235

3.3.2 Description of Local Services at December 31, 2004

There are 182 child care operators in York Region who operate 349 centre-based sites. Of these sites, according to the Ministry 1995 Wage Subsidy Guidelines:

- 68 are receiving the level of wage subsidy for which they are eligible.
- 80 are receiving no wage subsidy.
- 201 are receiving less than the ministry formulae and calculations in the 1995 Guideline. Refer to Table 28.

There are 13 child care operators in York Region who operate 13 home child care agencies. Of these agencies, according to the Ministry 1995 Wage Subsidy Guidelines:

- 11 are receiving the level of wage subsidy for which they are eligible.
- Two are receiving no wage subsidy.
- Zero are receiving less than the ministry formulae and calculations in the 1995 Guidelines.

3.3.3 Assessment of Local Needs

Two major areas of need have been identified in relation to wage subsidy funding:

- Eligible programs that receive no wage subsidy funding.
- Eligible programs that receive funding at levels less than the prescribed ministry formulae and calculations.

3.3.4 Three-Year Forecast of Local Child Care System Needs

Subject to 100% provincial funding approval and regional approval:

- Commencing October 2005, bring all operators serving children 0 to 12 years to the funding level for which they are eligible under the Provincial 1995 Guideline.
- In 2006, move towards equity by increasing the level of the Direct Operating Grant component of wage subsidy from 50% to 80% for all commercial operators serving children 0 to 12 years in

Pay Equity Memorandum of Settlement

As a result of a settlement that was reached between the Government of Ontario and five unions, funding was available in 2004 to assist eligible child care proxy agencies with their pay equity obligation. The province provided a base increase equivalent to 1% of the child care operator's previous year's payroll for 2003 and 2004 and 0.75% of that 1% in 2005. In addition, the province provided Pay Equity funding retroactively to eligible child care operators for the period 1999 to 2002. In 2004, York Region flowed \$1.2 million in Pay Equity funds to eligible child care operators.

accordance with the Provincial 2000 Guideline.

- In 2007, implement the revised Provincial Wage Subsidy Guideline dependent upon provincial funding levels and in accordance with the Provincial 2000 Guideline.
- In 2007, increase the level of the Direct Operating Grant component of wage subsidy from 80% to 100% for all commercial operators serving children 0 to 12 years dependent upon provincial funding levels.
- Allocate wage subsidy funding to new licensed spaces approved under the Best Start Transition Plan and Child Care Infrastructure Plan.
- Implement one-time, in-year reallocation of unspent fiscal wage subsidy funds to address health and safety concerns in child care centres in compliance with provincial guidelines.
- Review business practices and reporting requirements to enhance accountability for additional funding.
- The growth in licensed spaces in York Region was over 500 in the first 6 months of 2005. As a result of population growth, the expansion of the child care system is expected to continue through 2008. Additional wage subsidy is required for the ongoing expansion of the system outside the Best Start Strategy.

3.3.5 Analysis of Service Needs, Gaps / Overlaps

The provincial wage subsidy funding approval to York Region was not increased between 1999 and 2003. In 2004, wage subsidy funding was increased by 13% through the Early Learning and Child Care Initiative. During the same period, the number of licensed child care spaces which are eligible for wage subsidy, should funding become available, has increased by 63%, resulting in a significant shortfall in funding and 36% of child care operators not receiving any wage subsidy.

There are 349 licensed child care centres in York Region of which only 68 (19%) receive the level of wage subsidy funding for which they are eligible based on the Ministry 1995 Guideline. This Guideline states that early childhood practitioners working in commercial programs receive approximately one-third of the wage subsidy funding received by early childhood practitioners working in non-profit programs. The cost to bring all operators to the Ministry 1995 Guideline is \$2,567,363. The cost to bring all operators to the Ministry 2000 Guideline of equity between commercial and non-profit sectors is \$6,349,235.

Refer to Appendix 4 for needs and gaps identified through the local child care service planning process.

3.3.6 Service Priorities

Wage Subsidy Service Priorities

Subject to 100% provincial funding approval and regional approval:

- In 2006, bring all operators serving children 0 to 12 years to the funding level for which they are eligible under the Provincial 1995 Guideline.
- In 2006, increase the level of the Direct Operating Grant component of wage subsidy from 50% to 80% for all commercial operators serving children 0 to 12 years in accordance with the Provincial 2000 Guideline.
- In 2007, implement the revised Provincial Wage Subsidy Guideline dependent upon provincial funding levels.
- In 2007, increase the level of Direct Operating Grant component of wage subsidy from 80% to 100% for all commercial operators serving children 0 to 12 years dependent upon provincial funding levels and in accordance with the Provincial 2000 Guideline.
- Allocate wage subsidy funding to new licensed spaces approved under the Best Start Child Care Transition Plan and Child Care Infrastructure Plan.
- Implement one-time, in-year reallocation of unspent fiscal wage subsidy funds to address health and safety concerns in child care centres in compliance with provincial guidelines.

- Review business practices and reporting requirements to enhance accountability for additional funding.
- Request additional 100% funding from the province to address the need for wage subsidy as the result of the growth in the number of licensed spaces outside the Best Start Strategy.

3.4 Special Needs Resourcing

3.4.1 Historical Overview

York Region Early Intervention Services (EIS), comprised of Infant Development funded under the Child and Family Services Act and Child Care Special Needs Resourcing Programs funded under the Day Nurseries Act, directly delivers programs that serve families with children under the age of six who have special needs or who are at risk for poor outcomes as a result of delayed development, specific diagnosed conditions, injury or health factors.

In 2004, the actual service level provided for Infant Development and Child Care Special Needs Resourcing exceeded the targets set by the ministry by 57.3%. Refer to Table 31.

A (30%) program budget overage occurred as a result of service levels exceeding ministry targets and interim measures to mitigate the negative impact on waiting for service. The program budget overage was managed, in year, within the Family and Children's Services budget

approved by York Region. This approval from York Region enabled York Region to service 250 additional children with special needs who would otherwise be on the wait list for Early Intervention Services.

Early identification and assessment are important in ensuring that children receive the appropriate support services they require during the critical early development period from birth to 6 years. On average, 1.3% (952) of all children 0 to 6 years are in receipt of Early Intervention Services monthly. Research indicates that at least 5% of children 0 to 6 years (3,334 children) have some special need and would therefore benefit from Early Intervention Services. An increase of

approximately \$13.3 million in provincial funding approval would be required to provide Early Intervention Services to 5% of children 0 to 6 years of age in York Region.

In reviewing changes that have occurred in relation to the Early Intervention Services Caseload:

- From 1997 to 2004, the total number of infants and children served each year has increased by 62% - from 819 in 1997 to 1,328 in 2004. Refer to Table 32.
- From 2000 to 2004, the monthly average wait list has increased by 29%, from 62 in 2000 to 80 in 2004. Refer to Table 32.
- The wait list in June 2005 was 102.

Table 31

Infant Development and Child Care Special Needs Resourcing Programs in York Region – 2003, 2004

Early Intervention Services	Ministry Target for # of Children to be Served 2003	Actual # of Children Served 2003	% Above/ (Below) Ministry Target 2003	Ministry Target for # of Children to be Served 2004	Actual # of Children Served 2004	% Above/ (Below) Ministry Target 2004
Infant Development (Child and Family Service Act)	300*	616	105	300	613	104
Child Care Special Needs Resourcing (Day Nurseries Act)	661**	903**	36.6	661**	919**	39
Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC)				60	75	25
Total	961	1,519	58	1,021	1,607	57.3

*Includes expansion of Infant Development to children over 2 years.

**Includes contracted service, i.e. Pre-school Speech and Language, Visually Impaired and Seating Clinic.

Table 32

York Region Early Intervention Services Caseload Comparison – 2002, 2003, 2004

	2002	% Inc/ (Dec) over Previous Year	2003	% Inc/ (Dec) over Previous Year	2004	% Inc/ (Dec) over Previous Year
# Enrolled at Year-End	784	8.0	970	23.7	957	(1.3)
# New Enrolments in Year	433	1 .0	483	11.5	405	(16.1)
Monthly Served Average	727	1.0	936	28.8	952	1.7
Monthly Wait List Average	87	2.0	91	1.2	80	(12.0)
Total Served in Year	1,164	2.0	1,204	3.43	1,328	10.2

Child Care Special Needs Program

In addition to direct services provided by Early Intervention Services, York Region administers:

- The funding and program relationship with agencies that provide the following services to eligible children and their families:

- speech and language services
- services to children who are visually impaired
- a seating clinic

Refer to Table 33.

- The funding relationship for community-based supports to licensed child care centres, (Enhanced Funding), to enable the inclusion of identified children with exceptional special needs. A community-based committee makes recommendations to York Region for the allocation of this program enhancement funding.

Enhanced Funding

Enhanced Funding is provided to child care operators to address their staffing needs to support the inclusion of children with significant special needs. The ministry does not set targets for Enhanced Funding. In 2004, Enhanced Funding was provided, on average, to 54 licensed child care centres per month, serving on average, a total of 45 children and 28 groups each month. There were 29 children and three groups on the wait list for service at the end of 2004.

3.4.2 Description of Local Services at December 31, 2004

Integrated Service Delivery

This integrated model has been documented by the province as a best practice case study for the integration of human services.

Service Integration with Preschool Speech and Language

York Region and Markham-Stouffville Hospital entered into a partnership to integrate programs they deliver - specifically Infant Development, Child Care Special Needs Resourcing, Preschool Speech and Language and Infant Hearing.

Through a funded agreement between York Region and the Markham-Stouffville Hospital, Speech and Language Pathologists hired by the hospital participate in interdisciplinary teams servicing children with special needs.

Interdisciplinary teams plan and deliver a range of services to children with special needs and high risk children: assessment, service planning, child and family intervention using a mediator model, home visiting, and referral. The teams bring together staff with various professional backgrounds and expertise.

As well, Preschool Speech and Language services are co-located with EIS in its delivery sites. Preschool children identified as needing a speech and language assessment are referred to the Preschool Speech and Language program through EIS.

These programs are accessed through a centralized intake number. The intake worker determines whether the family should be enrolled in EIS and/or Preschool Speech and Language. Child Care Fee Assistance and Child Care Information Services are also accessed through the central intake. In addition, the intake worker facilitates referrals to other appropriate agencies.

Table 33

Child Care Special Needs Programs Funded Through Purchase of Service with York Region –2003, 2004

Program Funded	2003 Ministry Target for # of Children to be Served*	2003 Actual # of Children Served	2003 % Above/ (Below) Ministry Target	2004 Ministry Target for # of Children to be Served*	2004 Actual # of Children Served	2004 % Above/ (Below) Ministry Target
Speech and Language Services	264	264	0	264	253	(4.2)
Services for Visually Impaired Children	13	15	15.3	15	12	(20)
Paediatric Seating Clinic	30	36	20	36	14	(61.2)
Total	307	315	35.3	315	279	(11.4)

* Target prorated over direct service and purchased services.

Integrated Service Delivery

Features

- Co-location of service staff
- Common intake, screening
- Joint assessments
- Interdisciplinary service teams
- Joint home visits
- Decentralized offices
- Service protocol between partners
- Cross training of staff
- Common database among programs:
 - Planned interface with Child Care Management System
 - Planned interface with Healthy Babies, Healthy Children

Benefits

- One-stop access for clients
- Eliminates repeated intake and assessment
- Seamless and comprehensive client services
- Comprehensive child profiles
- Consistent care and information
- Enhanced service planning
- Administration costs kept to minimum
- Enables outcome measurement (i.e. Accreditation)

Features and Benefits

Service integration provides opportunities to improve services to consumers and increase links between and among service providers serving children and their families.

Transition to School

Early Intervention Services assists families in preparing for their child's entry into the school system of the York Region District School Board, the York Region Separate School Board, or private schools. The transition process begins in the autumn of the year prior to school entry provide both the family and the school with the information necessary to facilitate a successful school entry experience.

Transition to school services may include:

- Providing information to parents on the process and expectations of the school system
- Providing information about the child's developmental and educational needs to the school for the school's ability to identify and obtain appropriate supports.
- Participation in the initial meeting between the family and the school personnel.
- Consultative support to the school personnel through December of the entry year.
- Participation on the Special Education Advisory Committee for both the public and separate boards.
- Providing training for the Kindergarten Teachers and Special Education Resource Teachers to ensure continuation of appropriate developmental programming.

This model has been presented to the Ministry of Education as a best practice.

Service Co-ordination

Close co-ordination and cross training is occurring with Healthy Babies, Healthy Children and policies have been developed to facilitate the relationship between these two programs. EIS provides support to children with special needs entering the school system as well as to the Board of Education staff who will be working with these children. Links with other children's service systems include: professional mentoring to Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP) caseworkers, program support and joint planning with Ontario Early Years Centres; service protocols are in place with two children's mental health agencies.

Table 34
2004 Activity Log

Service	Total
Annual number of children directly served (10.2% increase)	1,328
Average monthly caseload served (1.7% increase)	952
Children served through contracts with 3 other agencies	279
Office based service delivery hours: group & individual (32.8% increase)	2,914
Number of children newly enrolled in-year	405
Number of schools receiving EIS transition support to school	68
Number of child care and other group programs supported (14% increase)	219
Number of children served in private home child care	31
Average number of children on wait list (12% decrease)	80

3.4.3 Assessment of Local Needs

Service Demand Exceeds Resources/Increasing Wait List for Service

The demand for Early Intervention Services (EIS) continues to increase. Refer to Table 34.

The 2004 monthly caseload average of 952 children enrolled in EIS is a 31% increase over the 658 monthly average of 1999.

The increased enrolment reduces the intensity of services children receive with Early Intervention Services, thus making the services delivered less effective than optimal. Service hours available per child have decreased by 42.2% since 1999.

Service demand continues to exceed available resources and York Region families continue to be placed on the wait list for Early Intervention Services. The monthly average wait list has increased - from an average of 50 in 1997 to an average of 62 in 2000, a 24% increase, with 71 on the wait list at year end 2000, a 14.5% increase over 1999. The monthly average wait list increased to 91 in 2003, an increase of 46.7% since 2000 and decreased to 80 in 2004, as a result of Early Learning and Child Care funding. The wait list in June 2005 was 102.

Children served by EIS in 2004 were also enrolled in licensed child care and received service across 162 of the 349 licensed centres in York Region. The dispersion across almost 50% of the licensed centres supports

parental choice, but has significant impact on EIS programs, personnel, travel resources and numbers that can be served, as well as impacting on child care staff in terms of supports received.

Service demands increased as a result of the implementation of new programs and initiatives such as Healthy Babies, Healthy Children. Service demands have also increased with the introduction of additional programs and services such as the Infant Screening Program implemented in York Region in 2001.

The Preschool Speech and Language Program operated by Markham Stouffville Hospital, with which York Region has a funding and program relationship, has experienced a significant increase in the wait list for service.

Funding Has Not Kept Pace with Increased Demand Due to Population Growth or New Initiatives

Provincially approved funding levels for Early Intervention Services have not kept pace with the rapid population growth in York Region. The emphasis on early identification and awareness and the implementation of programs and processes, such as Healthy Babies, Healthy Children and the Infant Screening Program, have increased referrals to all service providers and funding has not increased proportionate to the resultant increased service demand. The increased service demand, without additional funding, has resulted in increased wait lists for service.

Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC)

In 2004, through the ELCC Initiative, the province approved funding to increase service levels in Child Care Special Needs Resourcing by 10%. In addition, Regional Council approved 100% funding to address the wait list resulting in approximately 250 more children being funded than those served by the province in 2004. While the total number of children served increased, 80 children remained on the wait list for service in December 2004. The wait list had increased to 102 by June 2005.

In May 2005, Regional Council requested the province to contribute the required cost share for the 250 children who are funded 100% by the Region.

3.4.4 Three-Year Forecast of Local Child Care System Needs

- Increase service levels by 20% in each of 2006, 2007 and 2008 to address the growth in child population and to address the wait list.
- Increase the amount of service time available per child by 5% in each of 2006 and 2007.
- Increase service levels in Enhanced Funding to address the waitlist in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

3.4.5 Analysis of Service Gaps / Overlaps

Special Needs Resourcing

Early identification and assessment are important in ensuring that children receive the appropriate support services they require during the critical early development period from birth to 6 years. On average, 1.5% (952) of all children 0 to 6 years are in receipt of Early Intervention Services monthly.

Research indicates that at least 5% of children 0 to 6 years (3,334 children) have some special need and would therefore benefit from Early Intervention Services. An increase of approximately \$13.3 million in provincial funding approval would be required to provide Early Intervention Services to 5% of children 0 to 6 years of age in York Region.

The monthly average number of children served in Early Intervention Services in 2004 was 952, an increase of 30.1% (224) over 2000. The increase in caseload has resulted in a reduction in the average service time per child of 42.2%. Refer to Chart 14.

The monthly average wait list in 2004 was 80, a reduction of 12% (11) over 2003 as a result of Early Learning and Child Care funding.

Refer to Appendices 5 and 10 for needs and gaps identified through the local child care planning process.

Customer Surveys

Table 36 summarizes customer survey feedback in 2004.

Chart 14

EI Caseload and Service Hours Available per Child 1999 - 2004

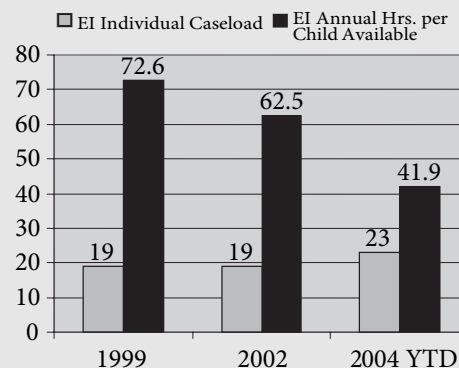


Table 35

2004 Customer Survey Results

Evaluation	Result
Functional Assessment Training to School Personnel	
“Very Good” or “Excellent”	81%
“Useful”	97%
Parent Telephone and Mail-Out Survey	
Overall satisfaction with EIS service	97%
“Better” or “Much Better” than other services accessed by family	64%
Child Care Program Satisfaction (5 service area topics)	
“Satisfied” or “Very Satisfied”	91%

3.4.6 Service Priorities

Subject to 100% provincial funding approval and regional approval:

- Increase monthly average service levels by a minimum of 20% annually to address wait lists.
- Increase funding levels to increase the average amount of service time available per child to ensure that children with special needs receive optimal services which fully support their optimum development.
- Increase Enhanced Funding levels to support an increase to hourly wages.
- Increase service levels in Enhanced Funding annually to address the wait list.
- Increase Preschool Speech and Language funding level to support an increase in service levels and increased support to early childhood practitioners in licensed child care centres.
- Support the Community Funding Enhancement Committee in:
 - reducing the 6-month “lead time”
 - increasing the maximum hours per day
 - organizing training
- Consider providing EIS supports for families using private home child care agencies.

3.5 Early Child Development and Parenting Supports

3.5.1 Historical Overview

Ontario Early Years Centres / Resource Centres

- Connections - November 2001, the Ontario Early Years Centres Community Plan for York Region recommended the redistribution of resource centre funding according to the child population birth to 6 years.
- The province determined that its 80% share of Resource Centre funding would be redirected to Ontario Early Years Centres.
- York Region terminated its service agreement with five of the six resource centres effective April 30, 2002.
- York Region maintains its service agreement with Rose of Sharon Resource Centre as it was determined to be a “unique service” by the Ontario Early Years Centres Planning Group for York Region.
- This program is funded by the province and York Region.

3.5.2 Description of Local Services at December 31, 2004

Resource Centres

Rose of Sharon Resource Centre provides a range of services that facilitate early child development and readiness to learn and foster parenting and child development skills for parents and other caregivers. Refer to Table 36.

Information is also provided to parents enabling them to choose quality child care. Sole support parents are also provided with the opportunity to complete their high school education and receive a high school diploma. The number of contacts for services exceeded 3,000.

Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYC)

Five Ontario Early Years Centres in York Region deliver core services to families with children prenatal to six years. These activities include early learning activities, parent education, resources, referrals to other early years services and pre- and post-natal support.

Table 36

Core Services in Resource Centre 2004

Municipality	Newmarket
Lending Library	X
Warmline	X
Playgroup	X
Caregiver Education	X
Total	4

** Based on historical reporting of telephone contact by teen mothers.*

OEYC ensure that the range of core services are accessible to all families with young children in York Region through centre, satellite and outreach locations.

Across York Region, there are five main OEYC sites, 27 satellite sites and approximately 25 additional outreach sites in schools, churches, community centres, parks, etc., enabling residents to access OEYC programs. Refer to Appendix 14, Map 6 for location of OEYC programs.

Between April 1, 2003 and March 31, 2004, there were 75,442 adult visits and 90,961 child visits to OEYC in York Region representing 12,107 individual parents and caregivers and 11,786 individual children. Infants and toddlers accounted for 61% of the children served. Refer to Chart 15.

AOK Early Child Development and Parenting Programs

AOK Early Child Development and Parenting Programs are operated by 10 different agencies at 20 sites across York Region. Participants meet other parents and caregivers, take workshops, share stories, borrow resource materials about child development and parenting, gather information and join their children in activities. These programs are funded 100% by the Regional Municipality of York. Refer to Table 37 for service levels. Refer to Appendix 14, Map 6 for location of AOK programs.

3.5.3 Assessment of Local Needs

The number of parents and children accessing the Resource Centre, OEYC sites and AOK sites constituted less than 10% of the adult and child population 0 to 5 years in 2004. There is a need to provide increased access to programs and increased access to a range of services through Early Child Development and Parenting Programs. A need to provide increased access to Parenting Supports has been recognized by the community and a Triple P Committee has been established with representation from a range of service providers. The Rose of Sharon Resource Centre continues to serve sole support parents of children five and under as a priority.

Chart 15
Distribution of Children by Age, York Region OEYC, 2003 – 2004

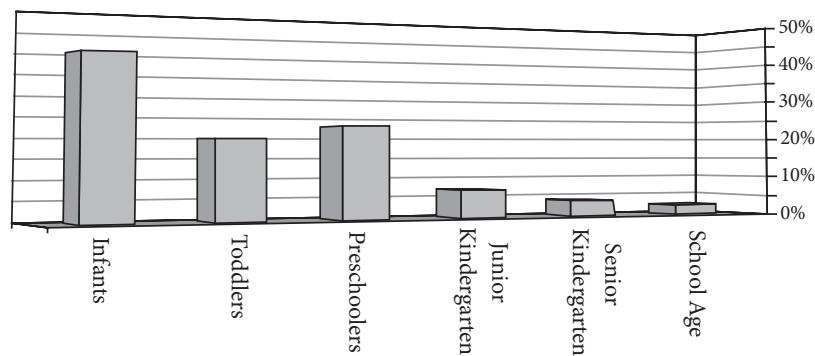


Table 37
AOK Early Child Development and Parenting Programs – Service Levels 2004

# of Times Children Attended	20,120
# of Times Families Attended	14,940
Total # Hours	4,324
Total # Days of Service	1,654

3.5.4 Three Year Forecast of Local Child Care System Needs

The rapidly growing child population will result in an increased demand for early child development and parenting supports over the next three years.

3.5.5 Analysis of Service Gaps / Overlaps

OEYC and AOK sites report that parents are frequently turned away as programs are full. There is a need to provide increased access to early child development and parenting programs. In addition, there is a need to rationalize the funding and program relationship with the Resource Centre, OEYC and AOK sites and in future years with the Best Start Hubs. Refer to Tables 38 and 39.

3.5.6 Service Priorities

- Increase the informal child care per diem to Rose of Sharon in accordance with provincial guidelines.
- Through consultation York Region consider the option of assuming the funding and program relationship with Ontario Early Years Centres from the province.
- Dependent upon community support and 100% provincial funding, a proposal for York Region to assume the funding and program relationship with Ontario Early Years Centres be submitted to Regional Council and the province for approval.
- Promote collaboration and cooperation as well as the integration of services where feasible of services provided by Ontario Early Years Centres, AOK sites, Resource Centre and Best Start Hubs.

Table 38

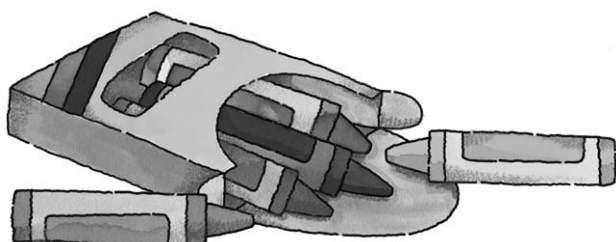
Source of Funding for Resource Centre, OEYC and AOK Sites, 2004

	Province	York Region	Total
Resource Centre	80%	20%	100%
Ontario Early Years Centre	100%	0%	100%
AOK Sites	0%	100%	100%

Table 39

Service Contract and Program Relationship

	Province	York Region
Resource Centre		✓
Ontario Early Years Centre	✓	
AOK Sites		✓



4. Service System Management Strategies



4. Service System Management Strategies

As a result of changes to the Day Nurseries Act, York Region became responsible for service system management and service delivery in July 1999 including:

- Service system planning
- Allocation / reallocation of available resources
- Quality assurance
- Governing the service delivery organizations
- Administering the program
- Delivering services to clients

The changes to the Day Nurseries Act expanded York Region's child care service system management responsibilities to include:

- Wage subsidy
- Child care special needs resourcing
- Resource centres
- Administration of child care fee assistance previously administered by approved corporations.

4.1 Planning: Service System Management Responsibilities

Objective: Work collaboratively with agencies, consumer stakeholders, and levels of government, to identify gaps and needs and establish some priorities and outcomes in York Region.

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Information Management	Complete an annual inventory of services	✓	✓	✓	✓	Annual inventory of services completed
	Complete an annual environmental scan	✓	✓	✓	✓	Annual environmental scan completed
	Build on the established partnership with GIS	✓	✓	✓	✓	Additional factors included on GIS mapping
	Distribute and analyse customer surveys	✓	✓	✓	✓	Customer surveys distributed and analyzed and service adjustments made in response to survey findings
	Support the development of integrated planning tools for human service providers	✓	✓	✓	✓	Our Children, A Preliminary Status Report on York Region's Children 2004
	Develop a comprehensive child care service plan every five years with annual updates	✓	✓	✓	✓	Child Care Service Plans developed and annual updates completed and distributed

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
	Disseminate information concerning the child care service system to other sectors	✓	✓	✓	✓	Other sectors receive child care service system information through Child Care Service Plan - Child Care Matters updates
	Move towards a complete range of services among all local municipalities with a focus on services for children 3 ½ to 5 years	✓	✓	✓	✓	A more complete range of services available to all residents of York Region
	Encourage development of additional child care spaces for children 0 to 5 years with emphasis on JK/SK	✓	✓	✓	✓	An increase in the number of child care spaces for children 0 to 5 years with emphasis on JK/SK
	Consider ways to integrate service delivery for related services	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased service integration
	Move towards the elimination of wait lists	✓	✓	✓	✓	Reduction in numbers on wait lists 2004
Advice and Support	Provide expert advice and information to the province	✓	✓	✓	✓	Expert advice and information provided, Best Start Guidelines Data Elements, Income Testing, Enhancement to the Ontario Child Care Management System 2005
	Promote expert advice exchanges within York Region and among CMSMs	✓	✓	✓	✓	Expert advice exchanges - Central East 2004, 2005
	Provide opportunities for input and advice from parents, caregivers, service providers	✓	✓	✓	✓	Opportunities for consumer and service provider input and advice provided
	Participate in provincial policy forums and committees	✓	✓	✓	✓	Participation in provincial forums and committees
Service Planning	Promote cross-sectoral planning	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increase in cross-sectoral planning
	Promote inter- and intra-sectoral: • service planning linkages • information exchange • networking • co-ordination • collaboration • seamless service	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increase in linkages, information exchange, networking, co-ordination, collaboration and seamless service

4.2 Funding: Allocation/reallocation of Available Resources

Objective: To ensure that resources are allocated/reallocated in a way that will address identified service priorities and outcomes.

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Funding Distribution	Enter into agreements with local service providers	✓	✓	✓	✓	Agreements in place
	Fiscal reallocation of unspent funds to address priorities and outcomes subject to provincial and regional approval	✓	✓	✓	✓	Identified priorities and outcomes addressed subject to provincial and regional approval
	Base reallocation over time to address identified priorities and outcomes subject to provincial and regional approval	✓	✓	✓	✓	Identified priorities and outcomes addressed subject to provincial and regional approval
New Funding	Anticipate provincial initiatives	✓	✓	✓	✓	Readiness to implement provincial initiatives, e.g. Best Start Child Care Components 2005
	Seek support from other funding sources	✓	✓	✓	✓	Potential increase in funding, e.g. CIF
	Implement a proposal process for community initiatives funding under NCB including those for children 2 ½ to 5 years	✓	✓	✓	✓	Proposal process completed and managed through Community Development and Investment Fund (CDIF)

4.3 Quality Assurance and Service Quality

Objective: To ensure compliance with service agreements, including quality operating criteria and proper disbursement of funds.

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Quality Assurance	Monitoring reports and submissions from funded agencies	✓	✓	✓	✓	Required submissions received from funded agencies and monitored
	Contract reconciliation	✓	✓	✓	✓	Reconciliations completed
	Program compliance reviews	✓	✓	✓	✓	Compliance reviews completed
	On-site random financial reviews	✓	✓	✓	✓	On-site random financial reviews completed

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
	Survey of Wage Subsidy compliance	✓	✓	✓	✓	Annual survey of wage subsidy completed
	On-site child file reviews	✓	✓	✓	✓	File reviews completed
	Internal eligibility reviews	✓	✓	✓	✓	Internal eligibility reviews completed
Service Quality	Promote service quality leadership and initiatives such as Quality and Best Practice Identification and Exchange	✓	✓	✓	✓	Quality and Best Practices identified and exchanged
	Develop service quality objectives, operating criteria, performance indicators and measurements	✓	✓	✓	✓	Service quality measures implemented
	Health and Safety survey in licensed child care programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	Annual survey completed
	Site visits to resource centres, special needs programs, AOK sites and Parks and Recreation Programs approved for funding	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regular site visits completed
	Professional development: • divisional staff • staff in funded programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	Professional development opportunities provided

4.4 Service Delivery: Administering the Program and Actual Client Service Delivery

Objective: To ensure that services are provided in accordance with provincial and regional expectations, including mandated technology and business practices.

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Customer Service	Improve customer service by implementing service delivery models, which are responsive to customer needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	Positive response in customer service surveys
	Customer satisfaction surveys	✓	✓	✓	✓	Surveys completed

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Information and Training	Deliver training and information sessions for service providers	✓	✓	✓	✓	Training and information sessions provided bi-annually
	Promote inter- and intra-sectoral: • service delivery linkages • information exchange • networking • collaboration • co-ordination • seamless service	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increase in linkages, information exchange, networking, co-ordination, collaboration and seamless service
	Provide community access to information, e.g. GIS Mapping, Demographics	✓	✓	✓	✓	Information shared with the community e.g. Preliminary Status Report on York Region's Children; Child Care Matters; Best Start Transition Plan; Child Care Infrastructure Plan
	Publish a tri-annual newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓	Tri-annual newsletter published
	Divisional staff training	✓	✓	✓	✓	Ongoing training provided
Service Impact Analysis	Service impact analysis of initiatives and / or program changes, e.g. increase in funding through ELCC and Best Start	✓	✓	✓	✓	Impact analyses completed
Business Practices	Maintain a comprehensive Child Care Policies and Procedure Manual	✓	✓	✓	✓	Manual complete and updated regularly
Technology	Establish standard technology platforms and enhance the Ontario Child Care Management System	✓	✓	✓	✓	Technology platforms established and enhanced

4.5 Child Care Strategies to Address Priorities Identified Through the Local Child Care Planning Process

4.5.1 Licensed Child Care

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Improve community / parent awareness of child care information and referral services	Utilize sources of information that survey respondents indicated were the most helpful	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased community awareness of child care information and referral services
	Improve visibility of York Region's information services, re: child care	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased community awareness of child care information and referral services
	Disseminate information to all sectors	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased sector awareness of child care information and referral services
	Conduct a customer satisfaction survey of KIDS LINE users	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased community satisfaction with KIDS LINE
Explore ways to improve York Region residents' access to affordable, good quality child care	Encourage child care operators to consider location preferences of York Region residents and projected forecast growth in population when creating new spaces	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased access to affordable, good quality child care in or near schools
	Encourage operators to provide vacancy information to the KIDS LINE in a timely manner	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased access to affordable, good quality child care
	Encourage child care operators to increase their licensed capacity through expansion and/or renovation	✓	✓	✓	✓	Expansion of child care system
	Encourage home child care agencies to increase the number of homes in operation	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased access to affordable, good quality child care
	Encourage operators to provide affordable extended and / or more flexible hours of child care services	✓	✓	✓	✓	Improved access to affordable, good quality child care

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
	Work with GIS Mapping to enable comparison of spaces available by specific case, population, neighbourhood, and community and make this information widely available	✓	✓	✓	✓	At a minimum, the current number of licensed child care spaces as a percentage of total children requiring care remains constant through 3 years of population growth
Promote stability, quality and safety	Reallocate one-time, unspent funds, in-year, to address health and safety concerns in both commercial and non-profit programs ineligible under ELCC, subject to provincial and regional approval	✓	✓	✓	✓	Enhanced stability, safety and quality
	Allocate one-time Best Start infrastructure funding to non-profit programs to increase licensed capacity according to provincial Infrastructure Guidelines	✓	✓	✓	✓	Enhanced stability, safety and quality
	Allocate one-time minor capital Best Start funding to non-profit programs approved for infrastructure funding to expand spaces for children 0 to 5 years for furnishings and equipment, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increase in licensed capacity
	Work with community partners to provide supports to informal and licensed home child care providers	✓	✓	✓	✓	Enhanced stability, safety and quality

4.5.2 Fee Assistance

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Increase York Region residents' access to Child Care Fee Assistance to: • address the wait list • address projected rapid population growth by increasing funding levels	Allocate Best Start funding and request additional fee assistance funding, subject to provincial and regional approval to meet the needs of York Region's rapidly growing population	✓	✓ 800 (2006)	✓ 350 (2007)	✓ 350 (2008)	Wait list is reduced. More licensed spaces being utilized to promote attachment to the workforce and support child development in accordance with principles of fairness and accessibility

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Increase access to Child Care Fee Assistance	Allocate Best Start funding for staff to support increased access to child care fee assistance subject to provincial 100% funding and regional approval	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased access to Child Care Fee Assistance
Increase York Region residents' options in choosing fee assisted child care spaces	Increase the number of child care spaces and child care operators covered by Purchase of Service Agreements including eligible Parks and Recreation programs for school-age children and licensed programs in or near schools for children 2 ½ to 5 years	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased spaces and operators covered by Purchase of Service Agreements resulting in more options and increased access for eligible families
Increase per diem rates paid to operators	Complete an annual review of per diem rates paid to child care operators through purchase of service	✓	✓	✓	✓	Per diem rates to operators are increased subject to provincial and regional approval
Implement Income Testing	Implement Income Testing for Child Care Fee Assistance in 2006 according to provincial direction	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased access to Child Care Fee Assistance

4.5.3 Wage Subsidy

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Over two-thirds of the licensed child care programs in York Region either do not receive wage subsidy or receive less than the provincial calculation	Redistribute existing unspent wage subsidy funding to school age programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	An increase in the number of operators in receipt of wage subsidy
	Allocate Best Start funding to address the shortfall in wage subsidy funding for operators licensed for children 0 to 12 years subject to 100% provincial funding.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Child Care operators licensed for children 0 to 12 years receive the level of wage subsidy funding for which they are eligible according to Ministry Guidelines
	Allocate Best Start Wage Subsidy Funding to new spaces funded through Best Start Infrastructure Funding subject to 100% provincial funding	✓	✓	✓	✓	Child care operators opening new licensed spaces funded through Best Start receive the wage subsidy funding for which they are eligible

4.5.4 Early Intervention Services

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Increase funding levels to begin to address the increasing wait list for service	Allocate Best Start funding for staff to begin to address the increasing wait list for service subject to provincial 100% funding and regional approval	✓	✓	✓	✓	Wait list begins to be addressed in accordance with principles of fairness and accessibility
Identify issues faced by licensed and approved child care operators who provide programs to school-age children (6 - 12 yrs) with special needs	Provide input to the ministry from a policy perspective on the issues faced by child care service providers related to serving school-age children with special needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	Input provided to the ministry
Service Evaluations	Implement and analyse the results of annual customer service surveys of:	✓	✓	✓	✓	Customer service surveys completed
	• child care operators and staff of programs which include special needs children, 2 ½ to 5 years, supported by EIS	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	• parents of children receiving Early Intervention Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Improve parent / community awareness of programs for children with special needs	Utilize sources of information that survey respondents indicated were the most helpful	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased community awareness of programs and services
	In collaboration with service providers, enhance community awareness of prevention, outreach and programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased community awareness of programs
	Improve visibility of York Region's Information Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increase community awareness of programs
	Disseminate information to all sectors	✓	✓	✓	✓	Information disseminated to all sectors
	In collaboration with service providers, develop and implement a community wide service protocol and format, including a community-wide universal information form		✓			A community-wide service co-ordination and case management protocol; a community-wide universal information form

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Increased Service Availability and Access	In collaboration with service providers across York Region, support increased provincial funding, initiatives and partnerships to address identified service gaps through the following service improvements: • the availability of sufficient diagnostic resources • the establishment of Children's Treatment Centre Services in York Region • the provision of additional resources to address the needs of children with dual diagnosis • the provision of respite programs for families of young children with special needs • the provision of additional supports for children with complex medical needs and increased on-going supports for children with special needs (e.g. suctioning or catheters, diagnoses of autism or PDD), especially for children in child care settings • support a holistic approach to child development through an integrated approach to service delivery • reduce or eliminate identified service restrictions that have a negative impact on service availability and access	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased service availability and access in accordance with the principles of fairness and accessibility

4.5.6 Early Child Development and Parenting Programs

Key Components	Service System Strategy	2005	2006	2007	2008	Outcomes
Encourage community partners to enhance their programs to meet common objectives	Determine common objectives with regard to collaboration and cooperation	✓	✓	✓	✓	Programs enhanced to meet common objectives
Consider the option of York Region assuming the program and funding relationship with OEYC	Determine support through consultation with the community	✓	✓	✓	✓	Support determined to move forward with option

5. Analysis of Fiscal Impact



5. Analysis of Fiscal Impact

5.1 New Funding Announcements

Recently there has been increased awareness of the importance of the early years, from birth to age six and the need to provide a wide range of supports and opportunities for all children.

Multilateral Agreement 2003

On March 13, 2003, the Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care was released by federal, provincial, and territorial social services ministers. Over the following five years, \$900 million in federal funds will flow to the provinces and territories for regulated early learning and child care programs for children under the age of six.

The objective of the initiative is to promote early childhood development and support the participation of parents in

employment or training by improving access to affordable, quality early learning and child care programs and services.

The federal government began to flow funds in November 2003 through the Canada Health and Social Transfer. The Ontario government's share of the Federal Early Learning and Child Care Funds was \$9.7 million in 2003/2004, \$58.2 million in 2004/2005 and \$89.7 million in 2005/2006.

National Child Care Plan

The 2005 Federal Budget included an announcement of \$700 million for a national child care plan in fiscal year 2005/2006. Another \$700 million is promised in fiscal year 2006/2007 and \$1.2 billion in each of the following three years. The federal government and the provinces and territories have not yet signed an Agreement related to the allocation and distribution of these funds.

The provincial government intends to use its share of federal funding to support Best Start. Best Start is a ten-year plus, provincial strategy to give children the best start in life, through access to a continuum of early learning and care services. Ontario's vision is that "children will be ready and eager to achieve success in school by the time they start Grade 1."

Fiscal Management Strategies

The Child Care Service Plan includes Fiscal Management Strategies which support the effective disbursement of current funding and of child care components funded under the Best Start Initiative, as well as the application of York Region's National Child Benefit Reinvestment funding strategy.

5.2 Proposed Allocation of Funding

Table 40
York Region Best Start Child Care Funding (000's)

Description	2005 Oct - Dec	2006	2007	2008 Jan - Mar	Total
Direct Program Funding	\$4,213	\$13,541	\$17,155	\$4,683	\$39,592
Infrastructure (Capital)	\$2,075	\$8,725	\$8,951	\$2,684	\$22,435
Child Care Administration and Planning	\$580	\$1,781	\$2,127	\$575	\$5,063
Total	\$6,868	\$24,047	\$28,233	\$7,942	\$67,090

5.3 Technology to be Used to Support the Service Planning Process

- Census Canada Database
- Social Services Database
- Geomatic Information Systems
- Ontario Child Care Management System
- Early Intervention Services Database

5.4 Mechanisms to Implement/Support Self-Monitoring by Child Care Programs

Support the Child Care Committee of York Region in training early childhood practitioners in using the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale.

5.5 Staff Training Required to Support Excellence in Child Care

Distribute the findings of the following panels:

- Human Resources and Quality
- Early Learning/Curriculum
- Support the Child Care Committee of York Region in implementing the recommendations of the panels
- Provide training to support the implementation of income testing.

5.6 National Child Care Benefit Reinvestment Strategy

This strategy includes:

- Program costs for AOK early child development and parenting programs.
- Enhanced funding to child care operators to support the inclusion of an increased number of identified children with exceptional special needs with working parents.
- An initiative to assist at-risk youth in obtaining and maintaining employment.
- Program costs for children of social housing residents in summer camp programs.
- An overnight recreational camp for adolescent children in need.
- After school programs in four social housing sites.
- Year-round recreation programs for children in low income families (PLAY)
- Youth Leadership Pilot.



Appendices



Appendix I

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 3 AND 4, 2005 GAPS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

81 Participants from the following Agencies:

Academy Baldwin Nursery School / Baldwin Pre-school	Jelly Bean Day Care	Upper Canada
Active Kidz Day Care	Kedar Early Learning Centre	Victoria Education Centre
Advanced Care & Education	Kiddy Place Child Care Centre	Wee Watch - Newmarket
Advanced Learning Day Care Centre	Kids Come First Child Care Services	Wee Watch - Terrace Woods
Among Friends	Kinark	Wesley Early Learning Centre
Armada Montessori School	Le Club Child Care Program	YMCA of Greater Toronto
Art of Life Montessori School	McClellan Community Child Care	York Child Development
B'Nai Shalom Nursery	McGivney Child Care Inc.	York Professional Care & Education
Ballantrae Child Care Centre	Mindtech Montessori Schools	York Region Neighbourhood Services
Botsford Day Care Centre	Mini Mania	Yorkview Day Care Centre
Centennial Child Care	Mini Skool	
Centered on Children	My First School Daycare	
Chick-A-Dee Day Nursery	Newpark Child Care	
Child's View Day Care	Ontario Foundation for the Visually Impaired Children	
Children Montessori Education Centre	Our Lady of Grace / Cardinal Carter	
Christ the King Child Care Centre	Over the Rainbow Child Care Centre	
Community of Maple Child Care	Peek-a-Boo Child Care Centre	
Deer Park Childcare	Queens Montessori Academy	
Denison Child Care Centres	Seneca College KOLTS	
Family Day Care Services	Shoberry's Day Care	
Father John Kelley	St. Gabriel Child Care Centre	
Good Shepherd Child Care	St. Peter's Child Care Centre	
Grace Church Day Care	Steel Kids	
Gwillimbury Hills	Stouffville Child Care	
Hand-In-Hand Home Child Care	Tender Loving Care Day Care	
High Birch Child Care	Toddler Town Child Care	
J & F Home Child Care		

Appendix 2

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 3 AND 4, 2005 GAPS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Licensed Child Care Spaces

Gaps

- Cooperation with school boards in regards to bussing.
- Expensive to expand.
- Concerned that spaces are directed into schools creating an unfair power base for the future (licensed child care would be relegated to B & A type services.)
- Schools are not necessarily the panacea for a partnership (unequal power base).
- Stand alone centers will not be able to compete (staff wages and families) if significant funds are funnelled into these new spaces as a priority.
- Keep options open for 2 & 3 year olds - they are not a priority for the school boards.
- Quality program.
- Home care - competition.
- Minimum standard.
- Ability to expand.
- Need “start-up” grants for non-profit to increase spaces (for expansion).
- When increase of space happens, there is more staff hired - therefore we need more wage subsidy to equal more licensed spaces.
- Not enough especially for infant and preschool.
- Provide a seamless day for children with more spaces in schools.
- New spaces need to have input from early childhood educators to ensure they are functional.
- More spaces, more equipment.
- More providers / workers.
- What the ministry allows private home care individual, non-licensed, is 5 children regardless of age (not including own children). - INEQUITABLE AND UNSAFE
- Changes needed to require private operators to count their own children and follow same guidelines as licensed home care i.e. 2 under 2 and 3 under 3.
- Priority is given to non-profit centres. They get more representation from York Region and the government.
- Home care - information given to parents as a viable option for child care.
- Time lag between application for funding and receiving funds.
- Home care support needed - integrated home care for special needs children as in Toronto.

Needs

- I do not think that it is a good idea to have large (over 100 children) spaces. Quality of lunch, daily communication with parents and control (of what is happening in each classroom) suffers, unless these centres are “top heavy” - administration.
- Increased spaces require more staff - wage subsidy.
- Work with school boards.
- Ensure existing spaces are full - both private and non-profit before building more.
- Satellite program - funding -if no expansion on existing space.
- Funding for bussing.
- JK/SK child care spaces within schools - operated by a child care.
- Schools must recognize that child care is a separate entity and autonomous from the schools.
- Very plan full - look at Regional mapping.
- Health & safety should be prioritized / “established” non-profit centres as opposed to commercial “new” sites. We need it more.

- Quality is proven to be higher in non-profit but spaces are needed so there has to be a midway point - but the direction should be towards increasing spaces through non-profit means.
- Extra funding for expansion of full-time JK/SK space, i.e. rent furniture, etc. (could be extra space in school or outside - portable classrooms).
- More spaces with appropriate funding to meet licensing requirements.
- Let parents know about wait lists for 0 - 2 ½ year old - physician's / obstetrics' offices?
- Equal coverage.
- Equal representation.
- National representation.
- To provide more information to parents through accountants, tax assessments, more flyers.
- Extra staff.
- Extra funds in centres and home care.

Priorities

- Start-up grants for non-profit to increase spaces.
- Health & Safety - again parity for both private and non-profit.
- Construction and renovations are very expensive and funding should be allocated to reflect these costs.
- Prioritize expansion in new schools - reflecting growth in neighbourhoods - including dedicated room for Hub programming (e.g. AOK, EY satellites, outreach).
- Need to plan now for increased spaces - expansion within schools.
- Health & safety - YES - very much needed i.e. playgrounds, kitchens, huge expenses.
- Quality - to maintain quality as we expand there will be a greater need for strong ECE.
- Increased spaces - spaces are desperately needed in York Region; wait lists are huge.
- Health & Safety - funding is necessary to ensure licensing requirements, building codes, and playground issues. Date extensions for work to be completed. Funding should be 100% for playground issues.
- Age needs have to be looked at (infant high priority).
- Continue with health & safety.
- Fund new spaces.
- Funding available for more spaces - is funding available for expansion? Multiple centre expansions? A second day care centre?
- Lease hold improvements.
- Playground.
- Equipment for rooms.
- Some way to measure / assess quality and REWARD programs that meet some measure of quality (an objective assessment tool like the NAEYC accreditation) while a minimal reward - funding for centres who achieve a level of excellence.
- Community Awareness - community centres should have spaces of ALL centres, name, & address on their information boards.
- Health and safety should be the first priority.
- Quality should be the second priority.
- Health and safety dollars - automatic if licensing requirement - quality.
- More commitment to annual health & safety funding.
- Allowing pocket of money to allow for staff replacement for staff to attend staff development.
- Quality should be based on quality not on type of daycare.
- More hours allowed for children - this will help with staff to support the children.
- Children are in care full days not just 2 - 3 hours per day.

Appendix 3

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 3 AND 4, 2005 GAPS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Child Care Fee Assistance

Gaps

- Summer rates for 4 & 5 year olds, as well as for the school age children, should be at least \$2.00 / day more to pay for bussing and admissions to fun places in the summer. Most centres have field trips (or workshops/activities inside the centre, or on site) every week x 9 or 10 weeks. It will also help to keep lower child/teacher ratios during those field trips.
- Ensure the per diem reflects the true cost to operate.
Funding for outings/field trips. Extracurricular activities. This is a good idea as the percentage of subsidized families increases.
- Educate the general public about fee subsidy. Many people believe that they do not qualify (i.e. homeowner) when in fact they may.
- Faster system
- Fee paying parents should not be subsidizing “subsidy” or “fee assistance” (while operators try to keep the rates aligned subsidy parents should be asked to equalize the rate.”
- Concern - 2.5% increase in regional per diem.
- Need cheques faster - consider portional payment at beginning of month.
- Submit copy of fee schedule to full fee paying parents and be reimbursed up to current Region rate (not just 2.5%).
- If subsidy increases then increase enhanced funding.
- All centres should have Purchase of Service Agreements to meet needs of community.
- Age level of fee assistance should be flexible based on each child (i.e. if child is not toilet trained at 2 ½ years, they should remain at toddler rate if operator requests it).
- Increase in rates to meet per diem of each centre.
- Per diems have to go up to meet daycare fees.
- What could happen is that centres will be getting a lower per diem therefore lower income due to more families accessing the fee subsidy.
- Unfortunately, daycares will have less income for all other.
- Space to expand.
- Lack of qualified ECEs.
- Non-license home care - many ECEs taking this option.
- Increase per diem to meet level of each centre.
- Parents fail to pay portion they owe the centre.
- Meet actual cost of centres cost.
- Increase fee to cover extras the centres pay for -i.e. trips, special occasions.
- Advertise the availability of fee assistance.
- Look at extenuating circumstances as well to see if families are eligible.
- Child care fees should be fully deductible (not up to \$7,000 per year for 2005).
- Physical room vis-à-vis school board programs.
- More families need to be considered for subsidy.
- What is the procedure to introduce other centres to families?
- Give to families who are looking for jobs.
- Kindergarten children in school age programs getting school age rate - forced to operate 1 to 10 ratio because more than 20% under age.

Needs

- Per diem to increase
- Consideration for higher per diem rates for centres not receiving full DOG and WAG.
- Is there a possibility of two cheques per month being issued as following:
 - o First cheque amounting to 25 - 30% of the previous month's amount
 - o Second cheque being a reconciliation of that total month's amount upon receipt of the Record of Attendance (or advance and balance).
- A mailing to new parents informing them about fee subsidy and to qualify.
- Give parents a choice, i.e. private or non-profit - purchase of service contract for both.
- Administrative aspect is working well.
- New guidelines for qualification would benefit more families.
- Present subsidy in a new way to remove the stigmatism.
- Simplify presentation, create new literature.
- Frequent/faster payments: York Region - if 70% families subsidy
- Beginning of month projected
- No capping of fee assistance for centres
- Recommendations:
 - o Advance a portion of payment only over a certain amount of children, or, all in advance/reconcile at end of month.
- Every parent should contribute to their fees.
- Business practice issues - would like to see "faster" payment from subsidy (i.e. fee paying parents pay in advance for the month while the Region takes 20 days after the end of the month - centres have 6 weeks of expenses before they are paid.)
- Concerned about school-age Before & After being looked after.
- Per Diem rates must be equal to centers daily rate not daily or weekly rate.
- Possibility of decreased waiting time for appointments with CSR (for parents seeking fee assistance) to assess eligibility.
- York Region has to take a look at the rental places from which daycares operate from. Out lease is going up therefore all of the income lost with more kids on wage subsidy limits other areas of development.
- An increase of awareness within communities seems to be necessary in regards to child care subsidy.
- Various forms of advertisements (i.e. posters & pamphlets) may be useful within child care and community centres in order to increase awareness of child care subsidy.
- Ongoing annual increase.
- More notice with fee changes.
- Per diem need to be adjusted at the beginning of the year - avoid retro-active payment.
- Payment at the beginning of the month to address month expenses - make adjustments.
- Identify funds on statement (ETF) - York Region.
- All age groups should be given equal funding dollars for services.
- All parents should be eligible to receive subsidy.
- Fee assistance should be based on child's developmental level not just age.
- More spaces.
- Better communication between York Region and agencies, re: subsidy spaces, fee assistance.
- Home day care - fees change based on DNA - 18 month, 2 ½ years - where home day care fees are based on 1 rate 0 - 36 month - HUGE SHORTFALL between 30 - 36 months.
- Income revision - adjust to cost of living.
- Special rate for special needs children.
- Kindergarten blended rate - should be same as regular kindergarten rate -alternate children often fill full-time space.

Priorities

- We like York Region's "market rate approach" rather than Toronto's approach.
- We like York Region's "Parental Choice" and no cap on number of subsidized children in a centre.
- Continue to review and increase market rate yearly.
- Current systems in place work well for operators - quick turn around time.
- Choice for families is very important.
- Income Testing is a must for families.
- We are in support of families receiving subsidies, but the Region has to increase per diems as well.
- Income testing - YES - universal - it's just an idea.
- What is the % of profit vs. non-profit? Daycare operators?
- Increased access to subsidy.
- Increase the number of fee assisted spaces.
- Address the per diem increase annually.
- Look at pay-out options.
- Each new enrolment should receive a pamphlet / flyer about fee assistance.
- Each family should be able to access funding in order for their child to attend alternate JK/SK programs in the child care centre.
- Income testing.
- Before renewing fee assistance, inquire with child care centre if parents have made monthly payments.
- Match dollar-for-dollar child subsidy fees with public rates.
- Change name from child care fee assistance to child care fee benefit - help eliminate the stigma behind this word.
- Consider changing the child care fee assistance to child care funding.
- Increase Region's rate to match the rates charged to fee paying parents - before & after / daily, as well as full-day for Christmas, March Break, PA, etc.
- Currently adding an extra burden to fee paying parents to top up for the shortfall.
- Let parents know about subsidy - could the physician's office help?
- Increase numbers in centres with space.
- Allow parents time to look for jobs - guidelines needed.
- Per diem rates - need to review how these rates are determined.
- _____ with increased subsidized families and per diems less than fee to the public - viability issues for centres.
- Timely payments by Region of subsidy is an issue all year.
- Need to increase community awareness.
- Parents need to be protected - subsidy fee is not too high for them to afford - parents not affording subsidy.

Appendix 4

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 3 AND 4, 2005 GAPS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Wage Subsidy

Gaps

- Allocate \$400,000 to school-age programs (private and non-profit).
- All staff hired are qualified for the job.
- Recommend:
 - o Across board
 - o Cost of living - matches ECE wage
 - o Gap between teachers / ECEs
 - o Accomplishments/PD/certification rewarded - current/constant - keeping up with trends
 - o Individual centres - salary grids
 - o No age groups - all ages same
- Concern - new spaces will pay full wage subsidy and take staff from existing centres.
- Gap - age groups - infant / toddlers
- DOG / WEG - Not-for-profit centres not receiving and established centres to receive WEG first.
- Low wages
- Quality of ECE
- Experienced staff very expensive
- Staying in the field
- Recognition of the demands of the job
- To increase the DOG Grant to commercial centres to bring more eligible funding for wages to par with non-profit.
- All age groups should get the equal amount.
- Large “umbrella” organizations too much money/funding on the administration, therefore less spent on children. The argument that within one organization there are viable and non-viable centers is invalid, as non-viable centres should not be bailed out. No business in private sector would be able to do it. Top administrators should not be able to receive large bonuses/salaries, when staff is not getting full DOG/WAG - T-4 slips of staff should be provided for approval of grant reconciliation papers.
- What is the difference with non-profit and commercial? Myth with non-profit and commercial that non-profit provides better service to public.
- We should close the gap between commercial and non-profit - ECE's and assistant are working hard no matter where they work. York Region has to supervise that it gets to direct staff rather than administration.
- Region should look at quality rather than commercial or non-profit.
- Colleges should be providing better quality ECEs. It's been on a decline.
- More health & safety needed for non-profits.
- Inequities all across the system.
- Non-profit which were capped in '93.
- Home child care - increasing wage subsidy will enable in-home daycare agencies to hire more home visitors and support more in-home centres.
- Some way to “officially” address the inequity of staff working with school-age children who are technically eligible only for 70% - some way to let operators know how to do this.
- Difference between the Region's per diem rates vs. the rate charged to the community (our rates are much higher than what we receive for subsidized children - therefore more subsidized children = more lost revenue = higher operating costs = deficit = CLOSING)
- Not all staff get equal pay.
- Commercial centres are not treated equally.

- Staff work equally the same as non-profit centers and longer hours.
- Commercial vs. non-profit.

Needs

- Need to link wage subsidy with any increases in enrolment (including where centres have worked on less than licensed cap).
- To be brought to the same level. Our two centres are funded differently: Baldwin PSC receives ½ of DOG at 1987.
- It would only make sense to bring all centres to 100% of DOG and deal with WAG and Pay Equity later.
- Do not discriminate among child care centres when it comes to the distribution of wage subsidy. Requirements are the same to provide the licensed spots.
- Funding for both commercial and not-for-profit centres. Educative bodies would recognize the importance and necessity of both entities.
- No bias toward private operators. A bias towards private operators is a bias towards the family who uses the centre.
- Need to bring existing centre staff levels up.
- Use audited financial statements to consider distribution of wage subsidy (e.g. centres showing large profit in either sector).
- Equalizations?? How can one justify profit?
- Higher wages
- Stronger quality measures
- Higher standard at the college level
- Identify funds on ETF statements
- Per Diem to increase of commercial centres.
- To continue providing subsidy no matter which age group, infant or preschool, they are all in the same group (kids).
- DOG level 100% vs. 50% - are ECEs and Assistants doing 50% of the work in daycare profit than non-profit?
- Keep wage enhancement levels same as DOG.
- Should still be difference between non-profit and commercial levels (50%).
- No other business owners get grant from government to make a profit.
- Each new staff should receive same grant as other staff.
- If possible, it would be beneficial to provide extra staff (paid by wage subsidies) within the child care centres in order to help children in need.
- More money.
- Address expansion.
- To be for all groups not just JK/SK - how would you manage staff that aren't eligible for this grant? You seem to be setting up a real rift between staff.
- Funding for everyone at a fair and equitable way.
- Some way to address quality - e.g. a way to measure quality in programs and reward those offering programs that are accredited - e.g. if a program is accredited (in some objective way) a \$ value for each child - that way quality is being rewarded.
- To be treated equally for the same work as educators with the same qualifications.
- Ensure ECE in commercial centres receive 50%.

Priorities

- Move to equalization over next ____ years.
- Priority - equalize all school-based centres to 100% (under 5)
- Consider - to ensure stability of existing programs, look at reallocation of new monies (giving more of \$65 million to wage subsidy - private and non-profit).
- Bring all programs to 100% DOG.
- How to distribute wage subsidy:

- o Identify current gaps with existing centres
- o Top up current operations to ensure wage subsidy for all staff
- o Wage goes to current child care operators to enhance all staff salaries and thus encourage staff to stay in the field
- o Get all centres on the same page - transparency - audits for commercial operators to ensure funds go to salaries
- o Redistribution of existing \$400,000 - Focus on 6 - 12 years - school-age staff
- Commercial operators - equalization ensuring that all operators are receiving wage subsidy.
- Wage increase.
- Equal increase.
- We are looking for fairness and equality because we provide quality just like non-profit.
- Non-profit daycares do not provide more quality so why are they getting more funding?
- Some daycares opened before 1993 have in place pay equity as well - that should be taken into consideration.
- More grant money should be given out to centres who have increased their staff over the past years instead of spreading out the current grant thinner to share with everyone.
- Hubs should be non-profit based when the time comes.
- We wish to see funding equalized towards all child care centres.
- Equalization of funds DOG/WEG among non-profit and commercial centres.
- Set guidelines / tools to monitor i.e.:
 - o Conduct annual surveys to establish needs i.e. enrolment - staff needs for the coming year - September.
 - o In September, ensure that enrolment /staff needs are as forecasted in order to ensure equity of funds - make adjustments as needed.
 - o Re-assess on a monthly basis whereby changes can be made to accommodate reduction or increases in enrolment that affect staffing needs so that funds are available when needed.
- Equalization of wage subsidy all across board.
- College to manage graduation of ECEs.
- Equalization to non-profit centres which were originally frozen.
- Equalization of funding for commercial and non-profit centres (massive gap between what profit and non-profit centres currently receiving).
- More towards equity for home child care operators.
- More towards equity for before & after programs to enable them to offer the same high quality programs and staff that day care operators can.
- Equalization.
- We need to be treated equally (commercial).
- More funds towards equalization (commercial).
- DOG - we need this area to be equal (commercial).
- Wage enhancement - we need this too (commercial). We all work the same long hours and have the same qualifications.
- All staff in all day care centres should get equal pay. We see all staff with the same qualifications get the same pay within the public school. The way of the future is equality.
- \$1.6 million - wage subsidy.
- All commercial operators - 50%.
- All non-profit operators - 100%.
- Ability to increase amount allowed of wage subsidy - staff benefits.
- \$400,000 - redistributed to school age programs - all receive wage subsidy - lot of demand to expand school-age.
- Should not take money from operators currently receiving - impact is on front-line staff.
- Wage increase.
- DOG to equalize with non-profit centres.

Appendix 5

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 3 AND 4, 2005 GAPS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Child Care Special Needs Resourcing

Gaps

- More referrals from agencies for children with special needs - with more children additional jobs will be created and more funding will be provided.
- More hours for resource teachers.
- Criteria/paperwork doesn't always meet the need of the child.
- More frequent visits from specialists
- Does not accommodate "immediate needs" (6 month lead time does not work).
- Daily hours increased to cover the child's entire day if necessary.
- Lack of knowledge in terms of child special needs.
- Parents not notifying / sharing information with centre - therefore preplanning is not an option.
- Quicker response to application.
- Expand ECEs knowledge around special needs - more resources.
- Other funding (health & safety / wage subsidy) should reflect centre's commitment to children with special needs in order to open more spaces.
- Many commercial centres don't accept children with special needs but want all other funding from York Region. If they want equity - this is equity.
- Enhanced funding increased.
- Insufficient supports for implementing programs.
- Increased support for staff.
- Program needs additional staffing at certain periods of time.
- Special needs training funding to providers and staff.
- Spaces in homes only 5 child ratio.
- So many centres don't take children with special needs and/or they "kick them out" when behaviours become challenging.
- Human Rights aside, parent's need to know their children will be welcomed and helped in an appropriate manner.

Needs

- In terms of child care subsidy, would like to see more money going into intervention programs for the reason that some children need to wait for a long period of time before they receive this form of aid.
- Funding for a resource teacher (6 - 7 hours / day x 5 days per week) 52 weeks a year.
- Need more money for special needs children.
- We see special needs children in home child care with ADHD and other behaviour problems. We need more funds in home child care because day care centres get more funds.
- Annual training for enhanced staff. (2004 training very successful and valuable).
- More E.I.s to support centres.
- Equal funding for special needs children, i.e. child whose parent is on leave.
Increase funding to 100% for Special Ed. teachers. As it is now, the ministry pays 80% of the wage.
- Broaden spectrum of specialists that fall under the enhancement.
- Wait list - extensive
- Resource people at every site.
- Emergency funding - enhanced funding.
- Need to enhance further - we suggest \$15 / hour so operators can hire ECE.
- Need to expand number of hours - 6 hours does not cover full day (summer camp / trips) 8 hours.
- Additional funding is needed to cover the current wait list.

- More training.
- To recognize Resource staff who have the additional training and pay them extra and use them as a resource for other staff.
- EI staff should have to complete enhancement application forms with input from centre staff.
- Support list of available enhancement staff.
- Training of staff on above list.
- Application turn around.
- Staffing.
- More qualified and trained staff.
- More training.
- Enhanced funding application way too lengthy.
- Hard to apply only twice a year. Children start at different times.
- By providing basic training to the staff within the child care centre, the progression of learning in regards to special needs children may be enhanced.
- Interventionist and parents need to be able to communicate at appropriate times.
- More flexibility - which needs to be funded.
- Need to increase parent awareness of supports for children who appear to be at risk for delayed development.
- Consider flexibility in scheduling meetings with working parents (evenings, weekends, etc.) to ensure consistency in support to child (home & centre).
- More referrals from agencies to help place children with special needs.
- Funding needed for our home child care agency to expand special need spaces.
- More homes need to be opened and funds are needed to buy more equipment and supplies and encourage more providers to go for training.
- More enhanced funding.

Priorities

- Ongoing funding.
- Address application process.
- Training for all staff who deal with children with special needs.
- We need more support - 3 hours a day for 4 children does not cut it.
- Applications should be done by Early Interventionist and ask for input from the teachers.
- Training should be provided to teachers by York Region for Special Needs.
- Special needs resource workers.
- Attached to agencies / centres.
- Providing services & resources.
- Training, etc., and ongoing updating of professional experiences should be addressed by accreditation - e.g. a mandatory P.D. component of a high quality program (e.g. a certain number of staff must have participated in p.d. related to children with special needs) to receive a level of excellence.
- Increase enhanced funding.
- Enhanced funding - look to increase daily maximum hours.
- More training with special needs for all staff (including enhanced staff) - more universal training.

Appendix 6

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 17 AND 19, 2005 FEEDBACK

67 Participants from the following agencies:

A.C.E. Daycare	Mini Skool	York Region District School Board
Among Friends	My First School Daycare	York Region Health Services
B'Nai Shalom	Our Lady of Grace	York Region Neighbourhood Services
Baldwin Preschool Academy	Over the Rainbow	Yorkview Day Care Centre Ltd.
Beckenridge Discovery Preschool	Peekaboo Child Care	Zoe's Tender Years
Blue Hills	Seneca College	
Botsford Day Care	Shoberry's Daycare	
Centennial Child Care	St. Gabriel	
Chapel Place	St. Peter's Child Care Centre (Sisters of the Sacred Heart)	
Chick - a - Dee	Steel Kids	
Christ the King	Stouffville Village	
Community of Maple	Sunshine Lake Child Care - Littlefoot Private Home Day Care	
Deer Park Child Care	Sutton District High School Child Care Centre	
Denison Child Care	Tender Loving Care	
Family Day Care Services	Upper Canada	
Grace Church Day Care	Victoria Education	
Gwillimbury Hills Day Care	Wee Watch - Markham	
High Birch Child Care	Wee Watch - Terrace Woods	
Kids Come First	Wee Watch Newmarket	
Kinark Child and Family Services	YMCA of Greater Toronto	
Kinderland Education & Child Care Centre	York Child Development	
Macklin House Daycare	York Neighbourhood Services	
McClellan Community	York Professional Care & Education	
McGivney Child Care		

Appendix 7

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 17 AND 19, 2005 FEEDBACK

Licensed Child Care Spaces

- Why non-profit can expand with a funding grant and commercial cannot? Is there a specific reason?
- I feel that infrastructure funds should not be spent in areas where existing child care spots exist. This was briefly commented on in August 17, 2004 meeting.
- Protect existing programs.
- Existing centres with space should work together with school boards. I operate in York Region and there is plenty of space in my area.
- Centres who lease are at a disadvantage because can't expand.
- Commercial operators should be able to operate spaces at schools - what will happen to DOG and WEG then?
- Tenders should be awarded to the best (quality) organization who could provide care.
- Capital available to commercial for furnishings and supplies.
- If center is sold, contract stipulates furnishings go to other not-for-profit centres.
- Any discussion of Infant Care?
- What happened around your lease, approval must come from landlords???
- Focused communication and supports to centres to increase access and participation of ethno cultural communities.
- It is very sad that commercial centres, who provide equally quality of care to children and families, are not included in the monies for infrastructure and capital renovations to increase spaces. This inequality needs to be addressed. A provincial responsibility.
- We have the capability of renovating to create new space - but we are a commercial operator - we are near 4 public schools.
- Home Child Care - do plans include this group?
- We are adding "currently in progress" 20 new infant spaces to be licensed by end of September 2005. We will be adding also 6 new staff in addition to 9 current FTS.
- Hopefully commercial CC operators can have equal opportunity compared with the school board and the non-profit organizations.
- We will be opening new spaces in a new building - what are our steps to take - the building is not built yet - hoping to open in September 2006.
- Again - concern about per diems affecting bottom line.
- Reflected by a higher percentage on fee assistance.

Appendix 8

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 17 AND 19, 2005 FEEDBACK

Child Care Fee Assistance

- Two week advance will help.
- Increase in eligibility will benefit families, providing they are aware of the subsidy program.
- Heading in right direction.
- Concern: If our centres have an extreme increase in subsidized children, we may need to cap how many we can take because of the difference between average market rate and our per diem rate.
- Summer rates for 4 - 12 years - higher by min of \$2.00 / day.
- 2.5% increase in rates - not enough as the starting number (a few years ago) was very low. Market rates (and full fee paying rates) are higher. Might impact access to spaces for families on fee assistance.
- Increase per diems to rates charged to the public.
- JK/SK are full-time space - pay the 5-day rate for alternate day.
- Good news - re: annual increase to per diems.
- A sub strategy for York's ethno cultural communities needs to be launched. This should carry over to be a component of new space and special needs plans.
- A lot of parents do attach a "stigma" to fee assistance. Also the process of submitting records sometimes parents complain the process is "demeaning" and not "worth it".
- Perhaps calling it a benefit instead of subsidy is a better approach.
- Positive the change from Needs to Income Testing reduce stigma attached.
- Think about renaming.
- We have a model York Region can use to "drum up" new business, i.e. use existing centres as hubs for meetings between families and York centres.
- After last meeting, we have more referral from the school fee assistance program.
- Good to see the resource are equally distributed.
- Good - parents need as much help as possible.
- Extra pot of money for field trips and other special parts of the program.
- I'd still like to see market rate per diems (how bout with justification?)
- Also can't abide a 25% increase to per diems - not a reasonable request.

Appendix 9

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 17 AND 19, 2005 FEEDBACK

Wage Subsidy

- Better understanding of how it is allocated and how it is to be spent.
- New centres should be advised of the opportunity to apply for Wage Subsidy.
- Equalization in regards to wage subsidy. It is important as it will benefit all users.
- Families using both non-profit and private centres.
- Staff will benefit as some centres cannot afford to pay higher wages. This should result in less turnover, more experience and will enable a child care operator to draw from a larger pool when it comes to hiring.
- Addresses equality of DOG - Great News.
- What is the rationale of not addressing the WEG?
- Great that 6 - 12 are included.
- Pleased with commercial changes.
- Seem to have addressed our concerns adequately.
- Wage Subsidy 101 for all operators.
- More accountability for centres receiving wage subsidy.
- Centres with large surplus should not receive wage subsidy.
- Equal subsidy for equal staff.
- 0 - 12 awesome.
- All good.
- Definitely tightens accountability requirements.
- Great re: wage subsidy; however, when will benefits (including pension pkg.) for ECE employed in school centres vs. centres outside of schools be extended?? The situation will be inequitable.
- The future review of the funding formulae should include consideration for base wage bands to level the wages within boards and non-profit centres.
- Wages should include benefits in the calculations.
- The increase is appreciated and will go far to support practitioners.
- The increased guidelines and scrutiny on full financials is also welcome.
- WEG should also include fee bands as a consideration of grant.
- A good start because all caregivers that work in the field work equally hard no matter what agency they are working for - profit or non-profit.
- Will the Region look at how many staff an agency is employing? More staff more division of funds.
- This is fabulous news - bravo for York Region.
- We need to ensure that base salaries for ECE are established.
- Support 0 - 12 expansion.
- Support of accountability structure to address wage subsidy.
- Education needed for front-line staff re: wage subsidy.
- Good news to hear Commercial and Non-profit organization gap is reduced.
- Strict guidelines would make me feel a bit better.
- More easy to attract and keep the quality teachers.
- Let me congratulate York Region for acknowledging staff ECEs working in non-profit and profit organization - they deserve it.
- Like the idea of WEG refresher course for new and existing centres / agencies.
- It's all about accountability and financial reporting, re: non-profit vs. commercial. Ensure public dollars that are going to ECEs actually go 100% to ECEs. Ensure commercial operators are not lowering base salaries as wage subsidy increases.
- Looks good to me.
- I'm still a bit concerned about the subsidy to operators to make a profit - e.g. if they pay their staff \$10.00 / hr and that includes the DOG, they're making a decent profit. (my personal dilemma).

Appendix 10

CHILD CARE OPERATORS SESSION - AUGUST 17 AND 19, 2005 FEEDBACK

Child Care Special Needs Resourcing

- Just want to confirm that there is an increase in time allotted for EIS or enhanced funding staff.
- Increase hours to maximum 8 hours.
- Increase hourly rate.
- Pay for days if staff work and child calls in sick.
- Desperate need in this area for staff to support children for the entire day, and staff training - so this is good news. Is it enough?
- Special needs training and “in centre” supports are critical.
- Perhaps getting families going. We have a child that’s waiting for 6 months now. Sometimes by the time funding/services are in place, the families move on.
- E.I.s need to be in the centres more often for support.
- Excellent - more hours means better care for special needs.
- What about some increased access to Children’s Mental Health regarding behavioural issues and more (or at least some reference to access to CM Health).
- Providing training via paid-free professional development for behaviour management skills.

Appendix II

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS COMMENTS - MARCH 29 & 30, 2005 BEST START OPPORTUNITIES, BARRIERS, CONCERNS

Child Care Special Needs Resourcing

120 Participants from the following programs:

Baldwin Pre-School	Moppett School Child Care
Academy Baldwin Nursery	My first School Daycare
School	North Markham Nursery School
Advanced Care and Education	Oakridges OEYC
Daycare	Peekaboo Child Care
Advanced Learning Daycare	Richmond Hill OEYC
Among Friend Child Care	Rose of Sharon
Armada Montessori School	Seneca College
B'Nai Shalom Nursery	St. Gabriel Child Care
Blessed Trinity	St. Marks Child Care
Botsford Daycare	Steel Kids
Bright Horizons	Sunshine Lake Child Care
Buttonville Child Care	Teddy Bears Picnic
Centered on Children	Temple Har Zion
Chapel Place Daycare	Trinity Montessori
Child's View Daycare	Upper Canada Child Care
Childs View Daycare	Victoria Education Centre
Christ the King Child Care	Wee Watch Newmarket
Community of Maple	Wee Watch Terrace Woods
Deer Park Child Care	Wesley Early Learning Centre
Early Literacy OEYC	YMCA
Family Daycare Centres	YMCA OEYC
Father John Kelly	York Professional Care &
Genesis Community Daycare	Education
Good Shepherd Child Care	York Region Child Care Services
Grace Church Day Care	York Region District School
Gwillimbury Hills Daycare	Board
Hand-in-Hand Child Care	York Region EIS
High Birch Child Care	York Region Health Services
Highview Child Care Centre	York Region Neighbourhood
Hope Daycare	Services
Jelly Bean Daycare	York View Daycare
Kids Can Doodle	
Kids Come First	
Kinark Child & Family Services	
Leslie Street Daycare	
Little Red School House	
Littlefoot Private Home Daycare	
Macklin House	
Markham OEYC	
McGiveny Child Care	
MindTech Montessori	
Mini Mania Day Nursery	

Topic I: A Major Expansion Of Child Care For JK/SK Students Comments

- a) Opportunities
- Strengthening relationships
 - o Sharing experiences
 - o Expand business/new partnerships
 - Complementing programs (9-3 time) (offer care in S/A program)
 - Family grouping
 - Collaborating planning - space - time
 - Good staff flow **
 - o Maintaining ECE staff
 - o Promote less turnover in staff
 - Consistency - staff to child (use daycare staff in JK/SK rooms)
 - Promotes professionalism
 - Business opportunities
 - Placing children in JK/SK from child care program - know the child's background from young age
 - More children have access to licensed spaces
 - Bussing
- b) Barriers
- Lack of staff
 - Lack of space**
 - Inequity
 - Over enrolment in JK/SK
 - 1-21 ration JK/SK, 1-10 child care (difficult for children to adjust)
 - Rates vs funding levels
 - Funding unknown for commercial centres therefore

expansion in question

- Differences in school boards
 - o School boundaries
 - o School board (5 year commitment)
- Administration - complex
- Transportation - servicing schools in area - expensive for parents **
 - o Transportations logistics
- Viability for non-school based operators
- Parental choice - if parents opt out are children at a disadvantage**
- Rural communities**
- By-laws guidelines
- Planning time

c) Concerns

- Best Start can create a “bubble” around 3 ½ to 5 years
 - o What happens to the younger children?
 - o What happens to Grade 1 and A/S children?
- 6 hour/day 5 days a week KG (full day KG everyday) hurts child care programs
- Are we expanding or moving children around?
- Siblings may end up being separated
- No staff ECE's
- Blending of urban and rural areas**
 - o Differences in philosophies - how would they blend?
- Communication between ministry - how would this occur? **
- School boards treat non-profit and commercial operators differently
- Need clarification from the province re expansion funding for commercial and non-profit
- Child care centres opened in schools could have a negative effect on child care centres near schools - kids will move and affect financial viability

Topic 2: A Seamless Day

Comments

a) Opportunities

- ECE supports children all day
- Looking at new models
- Shared space**
- Cross training - curriculum between child care and school **
- Equal child development vs academic/social
- Integrated program
- DNA vs Education Act - combine both
- Program that complements JK/SK program
- Broadens the opportunities for parents to use child care
- Raising the profile of the importance of ECE **
 - o ECE and college of ED grads to work together
 - o Professional recognition
- Opportunity to be innovative
- Partnerships developed eg school boards **
 - o Working together to solve problems and gather info
 - o Curriculum planning, goal setting
 - o Continued curriculum
 - o Promote team approach/learning environment (teacher, ECE, Social Worker etc)
- Increased subsidy
- Is it feasible in York?
- Simpler payments **
- Joint HR
- Child to have quality care before/after school
- Using high school space(s)
- Marketing to families - More parent advocating
- Very popular for families for operators who are school based
- Education/out reach to families who need best start the most

b) Barriers

- Transition for children **
- Not integrated
- JK/SK vs child care **
- Limited space in schools **

c) Concerns

- Lack of consistency for children ie 2 programs for child plus JK/SK
- Mandated ECE programs
- What is a seamless day? - need a definition from the province
- Have teacher come to child care (savings & consistency) ECE role is important
- Summer - what would happen? - need clarification from the province
- Ratios - maintaining licensing requirements - commercial vs non-profit
- Students - quality issues - review of curriculum **
- Training geared to train students to work in HUB model
 - o Qualifications
 - o What, how and for who?
 - o Who hires/pays
- How can we identify JK/SK age children who are not in educational setting
- Parental choice **
- Busing needs to be investigated
- Plan re FDAD and ½ day
- Clarification of funding allocation
 - o Costs for extra trips etc.
 - o Funding - Where is the \$\$ and who will provide and how
 - o Ongoing \$\$ for buildings
 - o Is there a move toward “cost per space” model?
 - o One site/funded program - how will education piece be funded?
- Parental consent? **
- Conversion of commercial to non-profit what is the plan?

- Ensure model supports special needs children
 - o Children in private options eg Montessori
 - o School age needs
- Will teachers come to child care if a viable centre is operating outside of a school
- How do we service parents/children in shift work?
- School look at their programming
- Will corporate sponsorship continue?
- Children accessing JK/SK in a centre not housed in their home school
- ECE is not a stepping stone to university (teacher)
 - o Assess qualifications/experience of existing staff (mentoring, equivalency, apprenticeship programs)
 - o Guidelines re staff qualifications, licensing
 - o Home child care - hiring a teacher/consultant
- Length of day for children be in one environment
- Considering home child care within model?
- Are we limiting stand alone sites as options for families
- Tender processes for operators
- Some operators have children enrolled who attend different schools from each other

Topic 3: Early Learning and Child Care Hubs to Integrate Assessment Access And Services - Ideally in Schools

Comments

- a) Opportunities
- Earlier identification
 - Greater pooling of \$\$
 - o Easier access, more accessible = more acceptable
 - o Different services work together - fewer gaps
 - Retaining staff - networking - providing other opportunities
 - o Increase in professionalism in ECE
 - o Increase more informal child care training to support home care programs
 - Families - into to new resources
 - Very community specific - address issues/strengths
 - Good referral process
 - Parental choice is important
 - Children become familiar with school
 - OEYC/AOK already exists - can build on these
 - New immigrants - could provide one stop shopping
 - Would support home child care expansion and current
 - Support of economy ability to work
 - Resources available to non-profit and commercial and too child care centres
 - Break down silos rather than creating new hubs
 - Range of service - is it broad enough ie doctors, dentists
 - Once an assessment of a child is made - where are \$\$ and supports?

b) Barriers/Concerns

- Lack of staff
 - o ECE quality?
 - o Equity - who do you work for?
 - o Staffing of the Hubs
- \$\$ limited - difficult to expand resources
 - o Private home - unknowns? - little funding \$\$ - alternatives?
- Fill existing spaces first before expanding
- How to engage socially isolated families
- School isn't always a neutral environment
- Concern for children 0 to 2.5 years and impact on operators
 - o 6+ children and impact on space
- Impact on OEYC/AOK sites and how do you build new relationships/partnerships?
 - o Will they be like the EYC/AOK - duplication - role of ECE's
- What would these include? More info needed
- Will it affect the viability of existing centres?

Topic 4: More Families Eligible For and Receiving Subsidy

Comments

- a) Opportunities
 - Marketing plan needed - work together with operator and subsidy
 - o Increase parental education
 - o Promoting licensed spaces
 - Support parents “choice” **
 - More families/children have access to licensed child care
- b) Concerns
 - Subsidy \$\$ vs market rate
 - “ Notice given - 2 weeks not enough - session finish on Fridays not mid-week
 - Increase literature to communities - research target areas
 - Fee subsidies for JK/SK specific or for family?
 - o Fee subsidy pay in advance not on a fee for service (high % of subsidy)
 - Rates part time? Ie 2/3 days/week
 - Needs test looked at whole picture in terms of finances
 - Income testing may not reflect the “true picture” or York (housing, taxes etc) York is an expensive place to live
 - Will there be more spaces?
 - Best Start - how will the operator be funded?
 - Part time employment
 - Will Best Start subsidy funding be available to commercial and non-profit operators?

Topic 5: A Review of How Child Care System And Operators Are Funded

Comments

- a) Opportunities
 - Review of measurable
 - Efficiencies
 - Lead to more stabilization
- b) Concerns
 - Length of time for payments
 - Too many contracts
 - Timing of spaces - asked to carry cash flow longer

Appendix 12

Projected Enrolment JK/SK (YCDSB and YRDSB) and Enrolment of Children Attending JK/SK in Schools by School and Licensed Child Care Centre

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
Aurora	Aurora Grove	71	61	Aurora Grove Kids Club	1	2
				Bev Bernier	13	5
				Lester B Pearson CCC	12	2
				Victoria Education	1	
	Aurora Heights	41	27	Academy Baldwin Nursery School	1	
				Baldwin Preschool Centre	1	1
				George Street Child Care	1	8
				Lester B Pearson CCC		2
	Aurora Senior Devins Drive	38	47	Victoria Education		1
				Baldwin Preschool Centre	1	1
				Cardinal Carter Child Care	1	1
				Seneca King Observation		1
	George Street	19	31	Baldwin Preschool Centre		2
				George Street Child Care	2	9
				Temple Har Zion		1
	Highview	56	50	Cardinal Carter Child Care	1	
				Highview Child Care Centre	14	21
				Seneca King Observation	1	
	Holy Spirit	39	36	Aurora YMCA Nursery School	1	
				Cardinal Carter	4	
				Gormley Day Care		1
				Holy Spirit School-Age Program	2	4
	Kettleby	19	20	Seneca King Observation	1	
	Lester B Pearson	0	0			
	Light of Christ	35	36	Light of Christ Child Care Centre	9	14
	Northern Lights	74	68	Crescentbrook Farms	1	1
				Grace Church Day Care		1
				Northern Lights Kids Club		3
				Peekaboo	1	
	Our Lady of Grace	40	37	Wee Watch - Unionville		1
				Our Lady of Grace B & A	7	8
				Aurora YMCA	2	
				Highview Child Care		1
	Regency Acres	58	53	Lester B Pearson CCC		1
				Light of Christ CCC	2	
				Mini Skool's A Child's Place		1
				Peekaboo		1
	St. Jerome	40	40	Regency Acres Kids Club	2	3

Municipality	Schools		JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
East Gwillimbury	St. Joseph		18	20	Wee Watch Private Home		
					Day Care Unionville		1
					Baldwin Preschool	1	1
					Mini Skool A Child's Place	1	1
	Wells Street		29	35	Aurora YMCA	1	1
					Baldwin Preschool Centre		3
					Crescentbrook Farms		1
					George Street CCC	1	
					Lester B Pearson CCC		3
	Holland Landing		37	33	Holland Landing CCC	11	11
			65	78	Gwillimbury Hills	1	
			16	18	Gwillimbury Hills Day Care	2	
			37	45	Good Shepherd CC	3	
Georgina	Our Lady of Good Counsel Park Avenue				Holland Landing CCC		1
					Progress Child Care Centre	4	1
			7	18	Gwillimbury Hills	2	
			22	20	Gwillimbury Hills	4	8
	Queensville Sharon						
	Black River		37	46	Sutton Child Care Centre	2	14
					Sutton District High School CCC	6	1
	Deer Park		25	18	Little Red School House	1	
					Whipper's Kids	5	3
	Fairwood		44	44	Fairwood B&A	1	4
					Little Red School House		2
	Jersey		42	33	Grace Church Day Care Centre	1	
					Little Red School House	1	
	Keswick				R.L. Graham CCC	3	2
			19	26	R.L. Graham CCC	1	
					Wee Watch - Newmarket	1	
					Whipper's Kids		1
	Lake Simcoe		37	46	Little Red School House	3	
	Lakeside		39	44	Lakeside B & A	2	1
					Little Red School House	1	3
					R.L. Graham CCC	1	3
	Morning Glory		45	58	Sutton District High School CCC	1	
	Prince of Peace		40	40	Little Reader's School House	1	
					Ballantrae Child Care Centre	1	
					Little Red School House	1	
	R.L. Graham		30	35	Little Red School House		3
					R.L. Graham CCC	6	3
	St. Bernadette		20	18	Sutton Child Care Centre		2
					Sutton District High CCC		1

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
King	St. Thomas					
	Aquinas	32	36	Wee Watch Private Home		
				Day Care Newmarket	1	
				Whipper's Kids's Child Care	2	3
				Little Red School House	2	1
				R.L. Graham P.S.	1	
	Sutton	28	30	Sutton Child Care		1
				Sutton District High School CCC	1	1
	W.J. Watson	63	60	R.L. Graham CCC	1	
				Wee Watch - Newmarket	1	1
				Whipper's Kids	6	9
	Holy Name	26	43	Holy Name Child Care	3	1
				Jack & Jill	1	1
				King City Cooperative Nursery	1	3
	King City	17	25	Jack 'N Jill CCC	2	3
				King City Co-op Nursery	1	1
				Seneca King Observation Lab	1	2
	Nobleton Junior	20	27			
	Nobleton Senior	0	0			
	Schomberg	26	25	Centered on Children CCC		2
	St. Mary	28	31			
	St. Patrick	25	28	Centennial Child Care	1	
				Hagerman House	1	
				Peekaboo	1	
Markham	Aldergrove	53	62	Macklin House Day Care	2	1
	All Saints	68	68			
	Armada	81	85	Armada Child Care Centre	6	7
				Armada Montessori		1
				Hope Daycare & Nursery		1
	Ashton Meadows	26	39	Ashton Meadows Child Care	21	20
				St. Monica Child Care Centre		1
				Wee Watch - Markham		1
	Blessed John XXIII	19	11			
	Boxwood	66	65	Beckenridge Discovery	2	
				Centennial		1
				Rainbow Connection	1	
				Wee Watch - Markham		1
	Buttonville	43	42	Buttonville Child Care	15	8
				Chapel Place	3	7
				Victoria Education		1
	Castlemore	78	51	Beckenridge Discovery	2	
				Castlemore School Age Program	5	2
	Cedarwood	39	39	Macklin House Day Care	2	3

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
				Middlefield Child Care Centre	1	
				Rainbow Connection	1	
	Central Park	37	54	Central Park CCC	6	16
	Coledale	36	23	Coledale Junior Y	11	7
				Pastimes		2
				Sunshine Lake Montessori	1	
	Coppard Glen	57	66	Hand-In-Hand	2	
				Middlefield Child Care Centre	1	
	Cornell Village	68	67	All About Kids	15	18
				Ashton Meadows Child Care	1	2
				Cornell Village Child Care	4	4
				Woodhaven Junior Y	5	3
	Edward T Crowle	25	32	All About Kids	1	1
				Friendships		5
	Franklin Street	27	21	North Markham Nursery School	1	
				Rainbows		6
	Greensborough	54	52	Greensborough B & A	2	4
	Highgate	48	60	Hagerman House	3	
				Highgate School Age	1	1
				Macklin House Day Care	2	
	James Robinson	11	14	Centennial	1	
				James Robinson School Age	2	3
				Middlefield Child Care Centre	1	
	Kateri Tekakwitha	23	23			
	Lincoln Alexander	35	21	Ashton Meadows Child Care	3	1
				Victoria Education		1
	Markham Gateway	76	74	Macklin House Day Care	3	
				Middlefield Child Care Centre	1	
	Milliken Mills	23	23	Hagerman House		1
				Hope Daycare & Nursery		1
				Milliken Mills School Age		1
				Wee Watch - Markham		1
	Mother Teresa	34	34			
	Parkland	53	73	Hand-In-Hand	3	
				Parkland Child Care Centre	12	16
	Parkview	46	24	Beckenridge Discovery	1	
	Ramer Wood	23	25			
	Randall	74	73	Armadale Montessori	1	
				Randall CCC	4	4
	Reesor Park	23	36	All About Kids		3
				Reesor Park B & A		3
				Wee Watch - Markham		1
	Roy H Crosby	22	21			
	Sir Richard W. Scott	40	43	Wee Watch Private Home - Markham		1
	St. Anthony	16	13			

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
Newmarket	St. Benedict	25	27	Hope Daycare & Nursery School	3	
	St. Edward	28	29			
	St. Francis Xavier	28	30	St. Francis Xavier B & A	1	2
				Armadale Montessori	1	
	St. Joseph	26	28	Wee Watch Unionville		1
				Baldwin Preschool	1	1
				Mini Skool A Child's Place	1	1
	St. Justin	21	19	Sunshine Lake Montessori	1	
				Chapel Place	5	5
	St. Matthew	21	21	Central Park CCC	1	1
				Wee Watch Private Home Markham		2
	St. Michael	25	18	German Mills CCC		1
				Wee Watch Unionville		1
				Macklin House Daycare	2	
	St. Monica	38	39	St. Monica CCC	9	12
	St. Patrick	32	34	Centennial Child Care	1	
				Hagerman House	1	
	St. Rene Goupil-St. Luke	20	19	Lyndhurst Day Nursery	3	6
	St. Vincent de Paul	35	33	Rainbow Connections	8	14
	Stonebridge	43	48	St. Monica's CCC		1
				Stonebridge B & A	1	4
	Unionville Meadows	60	57	Armadale Montessori	1	
				Centennial Child Care Centre	4	4
				Chapel Place		1
				North Markham Nursery School	1	
				Parkland Child Care	1	
				Unionville Meadows School Age	6	4
	Wilclay	78	65	Armadale Child Care Centre	1	
				Hand-in-Hand	1	
				Hope Daycare	2	3
				Macklin House	1	
	William Armstrong	28	30	Centennial Child Care Centre		2
	Wismer Public School	51	79	Centennial Child Care Centre	1	
				Chapel Place		1
				Heritage Discovery Preschool	3	2
				North Markham Nursery School	1	
	William Berczy	15	22	Chapel Place		1
				Markville Child Care	1	
	Armitage Village	70	69	Leslie Street Day Care		1
				Wee Watch - Newmarket	1	1
	Bogart	47	60	Bogart Child Care Centre	13	16
				Dr. John M. Denison		5
				Grace Church Day Care Centre	1	
				Mazo De La Roche Junior Y	1	1

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
	Canadian Martyrs	28	28			
	Clearmeadow	87	92	Clearmeadow Child Care Centre	3	6
				Crossland Child Care Centre	2	1
				Light of Christ CCC	1	
				Peekaboo	1	1
	Denne	39	32	Armitage Village Nursery School		1
				Grace Church Day Care Centre		1
				Peekaboo	1	
				Wee Watch - Newmarket	1	
	Glen Cedar	22	36	Leslie Street Day Care	1	2
	Good Shepherd	21	20	Good Shepherd CCC	4	5
				Holland Landing CCC		1
	J.L.R. Bell	20	22	J.L.R. Bell Junior Y		11
	Maple Leaf	36	35	Dr. John M. Denison	4	
				Peekaboo		1
	Mazo de la Roche	0	0			
	Meadowbrook	36	43	Good Shepherd		1
				Leslie Street Day Care Centre	1	1
				Markville Child Care Centre	4	6
				Wee Watch - Newmarket	1	
	Notre Dame	68	69	Bev Bernier	6	5
				Bogart C.C.C.	2	1
				Grach Church Day CC	2	
				Gwillimbury Hills Day Care		1
				Leslie Street Day CC	1	
				Peekaboo	1	
	Poplar Bank	45	63	Crossland Child Care Centre	11	9
				George Street Child Care Centre	1	
				Grace Church Day Care		1
				Holland Landing Child Care Centre		1
				Peekaboo	2	1
				Poplar Bank B & A	1	5
	Prince Charles	37	28	Grace Church Day Care	2	
				Leslie Street Day Care Centre	1	
	Rogers	26	27	Grace Church Day Care	1	
				Peekaboo		1
	St. Elizabeth Seton	22	24	Kids Can Doodle B & A		7
				Leslie Street Day CC	1	
	St. John Chrysostom	40	31	St. John Chrysostom CCC	7	3
	St. Nicholas	45	45	Magic Balloon	9	16
	St. Paul	29	29	Kids Can Doodle B & A	4	1
				Leslie Street Day CC		1
	Stonehaven	32	74	Bev Bernier		1
				Bogart		2
				Grace Church Day Care		2

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
Richmond Hill	Stuart Scott	22	25	Lester B Pearson		1
				Peekaboo	1	1
	Adrienne Clarkson	0	0			
	Bayview Hill	51	48	Bayview Hill Child Care	14	11
				Victoria Education		1
	Charles Howitt	22	23	Mini Skools A Child's Place	1	1
				Thornhill Nursery School		1
	Christ the King	25	17	Christ the King CCC	9	9
	Corpus Christi	40	41	Corpus Christi Day Care	23	24
				Loyal True Blue & Orange	1	2
	Crosby Heights	35	49	Crosby School Age Program	1	2
				Genesis Community Day Care	2	6
				Wee Care Day Nursery		2
				Wee Watch - Unionville		1
	Doncrest	41	44	Circle of Friends	1	1
				Doncrest Child Care Centre	6	12
				Victoria Education	3	0
	Father Henri J.M. Nouwen	51	56	Bright Horizons	1	
				Father Henri Nouwen CCC	20	20
				Loyal True Blue & Orange		3
				Mini Skool A Child's Place		3
				Seneca King Observation	1	
				Silver Pines		1
				York Central Hospital Association	1	
	H.G. Bernard	56	48	Bernard Junior Y	12	11
				Child's View	1	
	Lake Wilcox	49	49	Lake Wilcox B & A	3	2
	O.M. MacKillop	32	33	The Children's Academy	1	2
				York Central Hospital Association		1
	Oak Ridges	93	75	Baldwin Preschool		1
				Cardinal Carter	2	4
				Child's View	1	
	Oak Ridges			Gormley	2	
				Loyal True Blue & Orange		3
				Mini Skools A Child's Place		1
				Oak Ridges B & A	3	6
	Our Lady Help of Christians	60	60	Bright Horizons		1
				Christians Day Care Centre	6	6
				Genesis Day Care Centre	2	2
				Kids Can Doodle	1	3
				Mini Skool A Child's Place		1
				Wee Care Day Nursery	2	1

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
	Our Lady of Hope	96	96	Cardinal Carter	4	1
				Light of Christ Child Care Centre	1	
				Our Lady of Hope B & A	18	13
				Seneca King Observation		1
				York Central Hospital Association		1
	Our Lady of the Annunciation	47	54	Chapel Place		1
				Our Lady of the Annunciation	15	8
	Pleasantville	30	35	Kids Can Doodle	4	5
				Loyal True Blue & Orange		1
				York Central Hospital Association		1
	Pope John Paul II	32	32	Child's View	1	1
				Christ the King CCC	1	1
				Kids Connection	3	5
	Red Maple	43	58	Children Are Unique	1	
				Child's View	3	3
				Christ the King	1	2
				Kids Connection - Richmond Hill	4	15
				Mini Skools A Child's Place		1
				Rocking Horse Day Nursery	1	1
				Thornhill Nursery School		1
				Victoria Education	1	1
				Richmond Rose	66	52
				Victoria Education	2	4
	Roselawn	0	0	Wee Care Day Nursery	1	
	Ross Doan	62	86	Child's View		1
				Mini Skools A Child's Place		1
				Richvale	3	5
				Steel Kid's	1	2
				Thornhill Nursery School		2
	Silver Pines	84	98	Gan Shalom Preschool	5	5
				Kids Can Doodle	14	5
				Loyal True Blue and Orange		2
				Silver Pines Junior Y	19	10
				Temple Har Zion		3
				York Central Hospital Association	2	1
	Silver Stream	53	40	Victoria Education	2	1
				Wee Care Day Nursery		1
	Sixteenth Avenue	48	54	Steel Kid's	2	3
				Victoria Education	1	
	St. Anne	17	17	St. Anne's School Age Program		1
	St. Charles Garnier	34	35	Richvale Child Care Centre	3	7
	St. Joseph	45	48			
	St. Marguerite d'Youville	49	27	La Garderie Des Moussaillons	9	12
	St. Mary Immaculate	28	30	Kids Can Doodle B & A	1	8
	Trillium Woods	61	49	Gan Shalom Preschool	5	3

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
Vaughan	Walter Scott	45	53	Silver Pines Junior Y	2	
				Temple Har Zion		1
				Thornhill Nursery School		1
				Kids Can Doodle	1	2
				Steel Kid's	2	2
				Walter Scott First Base		3
	Windham Ridge	0	0			
	Bakersfield	57	59	B'Nai Shaloam		1
				Coulter's Mills	1	
				Kids Come First Bakersfield	2	7
				Thornhill Nursery School		3
				Yorkview Day Care Ltd.		1
	Baythorn	20	28	Hand-In-Hand	2	
				Stornoway		1
				Thornhill CCC		1
				Thornhill Nursery School		1
				Thornhill CCC	4	2
	Bayview Fairways	21	24			
	Bayview Glen	19	22	Rocking Horse	4	4
				Temple Har Zion	6	9
	Bishop Scalabrini	21	21	North Meadow Child Care Centre	10	9
	Blessed Trinity	77	85	Advanced Care & Education		1
				Maple Children's Learning Centre	5	2
				St. Joan of Arc	3	4
	Blue Willow	82	80	Centered on Children		5
				Holy Family	1	
				Over the Rainbow		3
				Oxford Learning	1	
				Wee Watch - Terrace Woods	2	
				Zoe's Tender Years	3	
	Brownridge	49	49	Brownridge Junior Y	9	10
				Kids Come First		2
				Yorkview		1
	Charlton	24	25	Charlton First Base	1	1
				Kids Come First	13	17
				Yorkview		2
	Discovery	80	99	Discovery Trail	1	
				Maple Children's Learning Centre	5	3
				Victoria Education	2	1
	Divine Mercy	89	99	Advanced Care & Education		1
				Divine Mercy School Age Program	20	20
				Maple Children's Learning Centre	1	1
				Mother of Carmel CCC	2	2
	E.J. Sand	21	43	Rocking Horse	2	
	Father John Kelly	57	62	Father John Kelly CCC	21	20

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
				St. Joan of Arc	1	3
	Flowervale	0	0			
	Forest Run	73	73	Advanced Care and Education	5	6
				Loving Care Centre		1
				Wee Watch Terrace Woods		1
	Fossil Hill	61	61	Centered on Children		1
	German Mills	27	21	German Mills CCC	9	5
				Temple Har Zon		1
	Glen Shields	45	37	Child's View	1	
				Coulter's Mills		1
				Glen Shields Nursery School	8	3
				Wee Watch Unionville		1
				Zoe's Tender Years	1	
	Henderson Avenue	21	23	Rocking Horse	2	
				Thornhill Nursery School		1
	Holy Family	22	23	Coulter's Mills Preschool		1
				Holy Family Child Care Centre	20	19
				Holy Family School Age Program	3	1
				Yorkview Day Care		2
	Holy Jubilee	91	91	Holy Spirit School Age	1	1
				Kinderland Education	1	1
				Maple Children's Learning Centre	4	5
				Mother of Carmel CCC		2
				Oxford Learning	2	1
				Victoria Education	1	
	Immaculate Conception	20	20	Holy Family Child Care Centre		1
				Kids Can Doodle	3	2
	Johnsview Village	25	26	Hand-In-Hand	1	
				Johnsview Before & After Program	4	
				Rocking Horse	3	1
				Stornoway		1
				Thornhill CCC	3	9
	Joseph a Gibson	29	21			
	Julliard	0	0			
	Kleinburg	19	27	Wee Watch Terrace Woods	1	
	Lorna Jackson	44	29	centre on Children	1	2
				Lorna Jackson B & A	6	3
				Zoe's Tender Years		1
	Louis Honore Fechette	0	0			
	Mackenzie Glen	44	56	Maple Children's Learning Centre	1	2
				Seneca King Observation		1
	Maple Creek	74	67	Kids Come First - Maple Creek	8	7
				Maple Children's Learning Centre	1	2
	Michael Cranny	58	64			
	Our Lady of Fatima	56	56	St. Marks		1

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
	Our Lady of Peace	30	31	Advanced Care & Education Kinderland	1	4
	Our Lady of the Rosary	35	35			
	Pine Grove	47	49	Centered on Children	1	1
				Pine Grove School Age Program		2
				St. Gabriel Child Care Centre		2
				Zoe's Tender Years	1	
	Rosedale Heights	26	40	Rosedale North CCC	7	11
				Temple Har Zion		1
				Thornhill Nursery School		2
	San Marco	29	29	Kids Can Doodle B & A		2
				Fun on the Run	5	1
				St. Peter's CCC		2
	St. Agnes of Assisi	103	103	Oxford Learning	1	
				St. Agnes of Assisi CCC	15	17
				St. Gabriel CCC	1	
				Centered on Children		1
	St. Andrew	69	69	Coulter's Mills Preschool	1	
				Fun on the Run	1	
				Holy Family Child Care Centre	3	
				Market Lane Early Learning Centre	1	
				St. Andrew School Age Program	10	15
				St. Clare CCC		1
				St. Gabriel CCC		1
	St. Angela Merici	62	61	centre on Children		1
				Fun on the Run	1	2
				Kids Can Doodle B & A	6	5
				Promised Future	1	
				St. Peter's CCC		6
	St. Catherine of Siena	34	36	Kids Can Doodle B & A	1	
				Wee Watch Private Home Day Care	1	1
	St. Clare	41	43	St. Clare CCC	14	3
	St. Clement	25	25	Promised Future	1	
				St. Peter's CCC		7
	St. David	94	94	Kinderland		1
				Maple Children's Learning Centre	2	3
				Mother of Carmel CCC	12	10
				Oxford Learning Centre		2
				York Central Hospital Association	1	
	St. Emily	93	92	Centre on Children	1	
				Holy Family Daycare	1	
				Mini Skool A Child's Place		1
				Over the Rainbow		1
				Oxford Learning Centre		1
				St. Emily Child Care	14	18

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
				Wee Watch Terrace Woods	1	
				Zoe's Tender Years		1
	St. Francis of Assisi	28	30	Over the Rainbow	2	2
				St. Gabriel		1
				St. Marks	1	
				Wee Watch Markham		1
	St. Gabriel the Archangel	40	40	St. Gabriel CCC	14	16
	St. Gregory the Great	38	40	Holy Family Daycare	1	
				Over the Rainbow		2
	St. James	79	79	Maple Children's Learning Centre	2	1
				St. James Child Care	8	10
				St. Mark's Child Care Centre	1	
				Wee Watch - Terrace Woods	1	
	St. John Bosco	24	20	centre on Children		2
				Holy Family Daycare		6
				Thornhill Nursery School		1
	St. Joseph the Worker	34	34	St. Joseph the Worker	12	17
	St. Margaret Mary	47	47	Mini Skool A Child's Place	1	
				Promised Future	1	
				St. Mark's Child Care Centre	3	
				Zoe's Tender Years	1	1
	St. Peter	44	47	Market Lane Early Learning Centre		2
				Promised Future	1	1
				St. Mark's Child Care Centre	3	1
				St. Peter's CCC		10
	St. Stephen	87	87	Fun on the Run		1
				St. Stephen Child Care Centre	16	18
	Stornoway Crescent	17	24	Rocking Horse	1	1
				Stornoway Child Care	5	7
	Thornhill	37	29	Thornhill Nursery School		2
				Vaughan CCC	1	3
	Vellore Woods	50	39	Over the Rainbow		1
				Wee Watch Terrace Woods	1	
	Ventura Park	0	0			
	Westminster	24	50	Kids Come First		2
				Thornhill Nursery School	3	1
	Willowbrook	14	22	Temple Har Zion		3
				Thornhill Nursery School		1
	Willshire	86	114	B'Nai Shalom		1
				Coulter's Mills		1
				Loving Care Centre	1	1
				North Meadow		1
				Temple Har Zion	1	10
				Thornhill Nursery School	4	2
	Woodbridge	48	60	Market Lane Early Learning		1

Municipality	Schools	JK	SK	Centre	JK	SK
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Woodland Yorkhill	0 41	0 51	St. Mark's CCC	1	
				St. Peter's CCC	2	1
				Thornhill Nursery School	2	3
	Ballantrae	19	25	Baldwin Preschool		1
				Ballantrae CCC	5	8
				Glad Park	34	36
	Orchard Park	28	36	Deer Park Child Care	6	0
				Glad Park CCC	6	6
				My First School Day Care		1
				Stouffville Village CCC	2	
				Deer Park Child Care	1	1
				My First School Day Care	1	2
				Orchard Park School Age Program	1	
				Progressive Montessori		1
				Stouffville Village CCC	2	3
				St. Brigid	30	30
	My First School Daycare Inc.	4	3			
	St. Brigid Child Care Centre		2			
	Stouffville Village CCC	2	2			
	St. Mark	20	16	Deer Park Child Care		
	My First School Daycare Inc.				2	
	North Markham Nursery School			1		
	Progressive Montessori			1	1	
	St. Mark's Child Care Centre				1	
	Stouffville Village CCC				1	
	Summitview			29	50	Deer Park Child Care
	My First School Day Care		3			
	Stouffville Village CCC	9	11			
	Whitchurch Highlands	21	22	Deer Park Child Care	1	0
				Gormley Day Care		1
TOTALS		8402	8803		1188	1387

Appendix 13

PRINCIPLES

The principles that guide York Region's child care services system planning process and the Child Care Service Plan are:

Shared Responsibility: Individuals, families and the community, including business, governments and the service sector, share responsibility for maintaining and enhancing social and economic security; advocating, based on sound research or funding and services to meet identified needs; and the social responsibility for a healthy community. This plan will be informed by previous planning initiatives and consistent with directions approved by the regional council, the province, the Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.

Community Based: Planning for child care services will promote, foster and reinforce partnerships with community service partners to develop stable, accessible, co-ordinated, and integrated supports to children, their families and caregivers. Parents, caregivers and service partners will play an active role in providing input and advice as part of on-going monitoring and evaluation.

Comprehensive: Child care services planning will be family-centred and address a range and continuum services required to provide a safe and healthy environment for infants and children, including those with special needs, in a service system that is community-based, flexible, co-ordinated, integrated, accessible and affordable.

Co-ordinated and Integrated: Child care services will be planned in a comprehensive way that fosters co-ordination with other sectors responsible for children's services, such as the health and education sectors, is inclusive of the child care service network including the broader public, private and volunteer sectors, fosters links to other departmental and regional programs and services, and focuses on resources to reduce duplication and increase access to co-ordinated and integrated services.

Customer Oriented Services: Child care service planning and delivery will continue to build on York Region's commitment of "Focusing on Customer Service", be guided by feedback and input from existing and potential customers, and informed by input from service providers to provide safe and healthy environments for infants and children, including those with special needs.

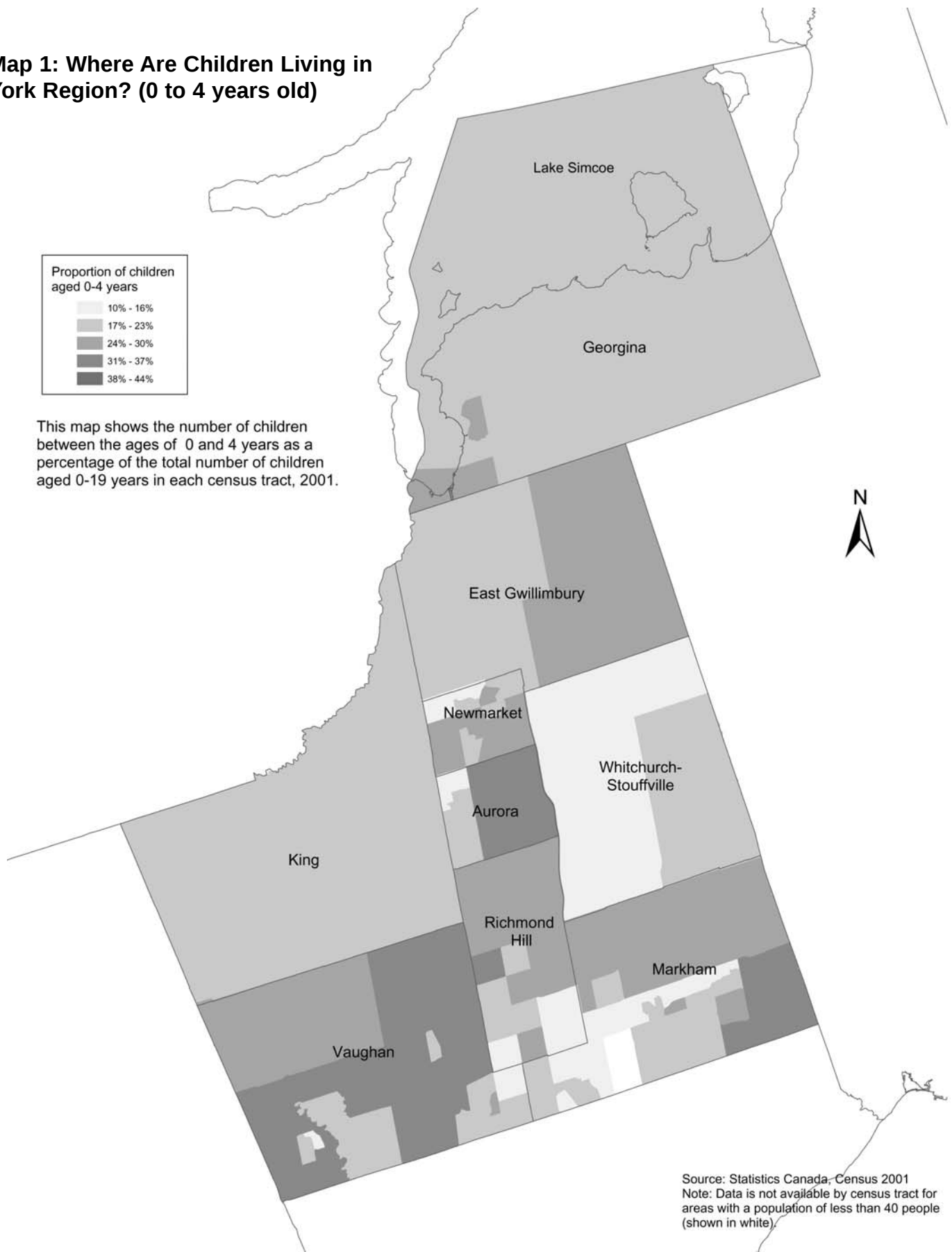
Fair and Equitable Provision of Service: Child care services will be delivered fairly and sensitively to children, families, and caregivers across York Region, recognizing the multicultural community and respecting the diversity of needs; the child care service system will be managed fairly and equitably.

Fiscal Responsibility: Child care service planning will be responsive to documented current service needs, gaps, overlaps and service priorities and be proactive regarding future demographic projections and trends, within the context for service funding and subject to approvals by regional and provincial governments.

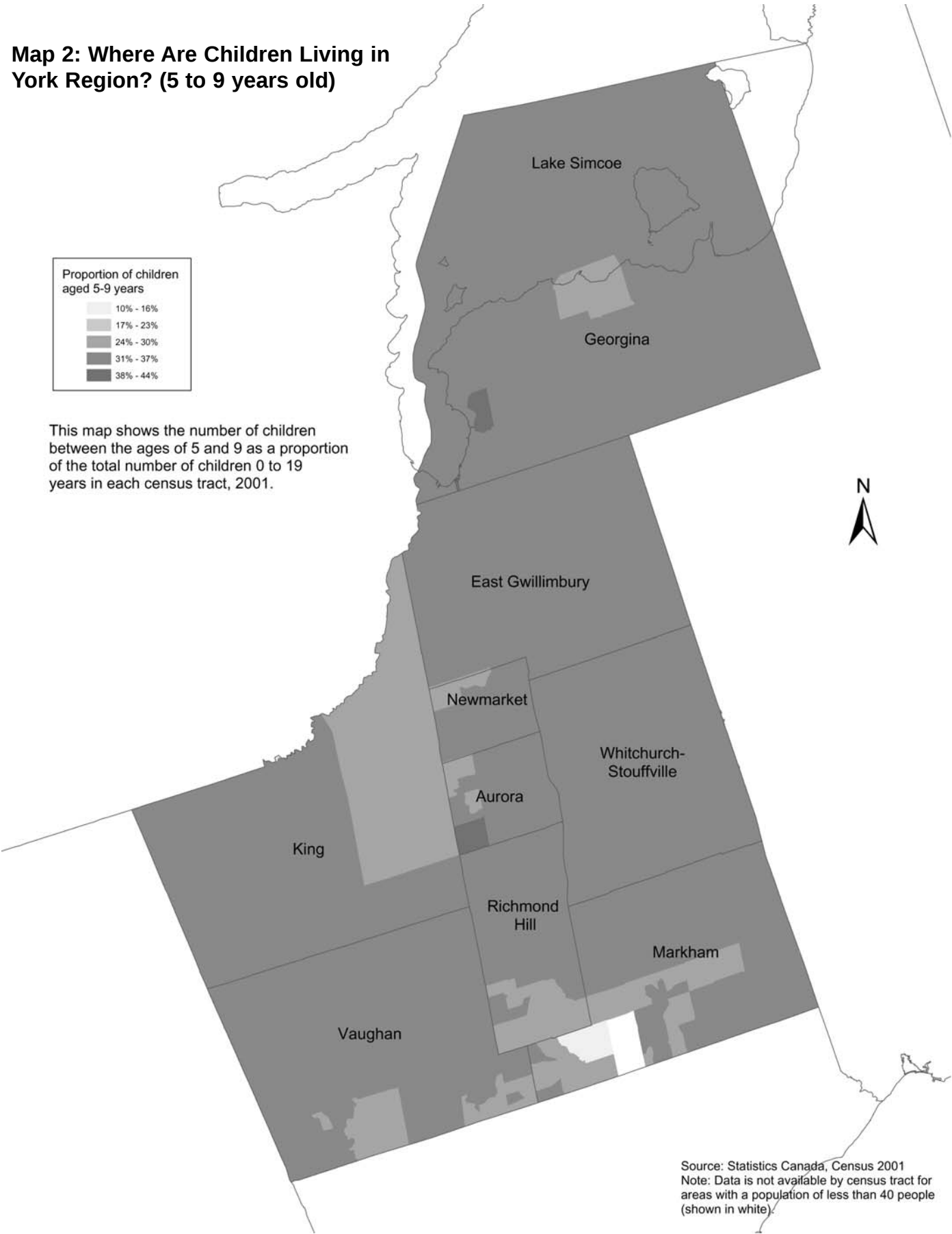
Accountability: Child care service planning will be targeted to programs and services that are proven to be effective and efficient; service delivery will evidence fiscal responsibility, and will comply with provincial legislation and regulations, ministry standards, policies and priorities, York Region By-laws, policies and procedures and Area Municipal By-laws.

Appendix 14: Maps

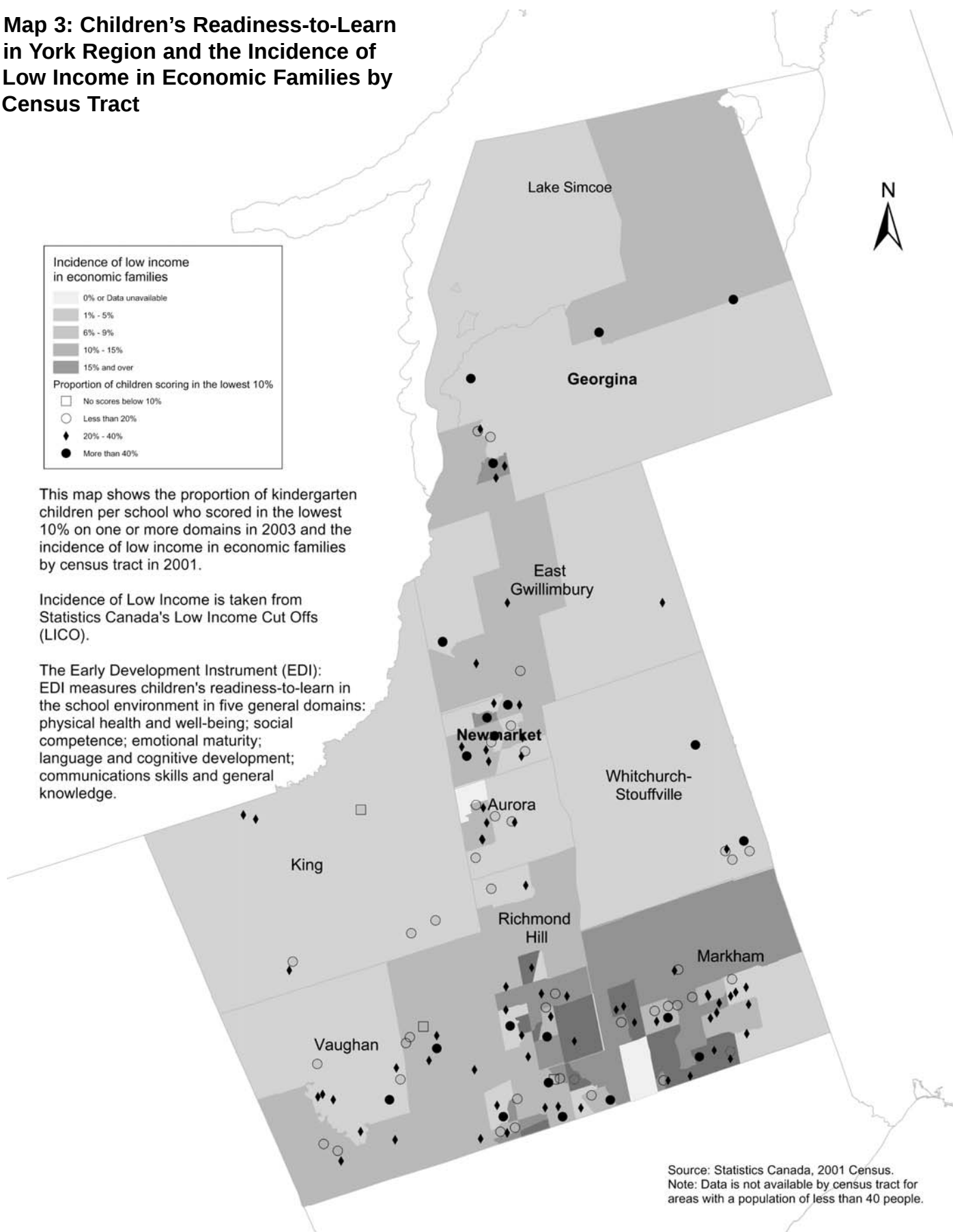
Map 1: Where Are Children Living in York Region? (0 to 4 years old)



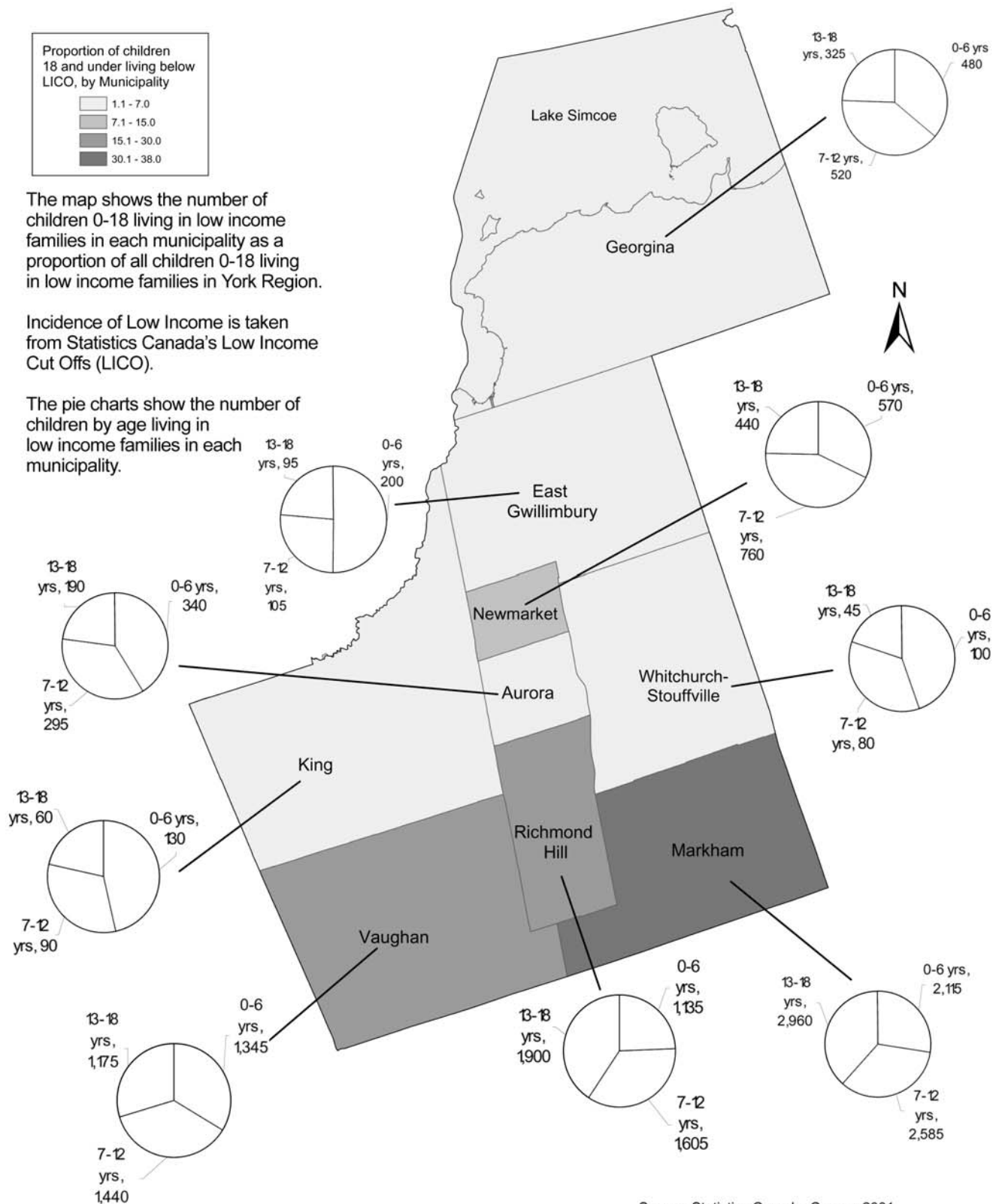
Map 2: Where Are Children Living in York Region? (5 to 9 years old)



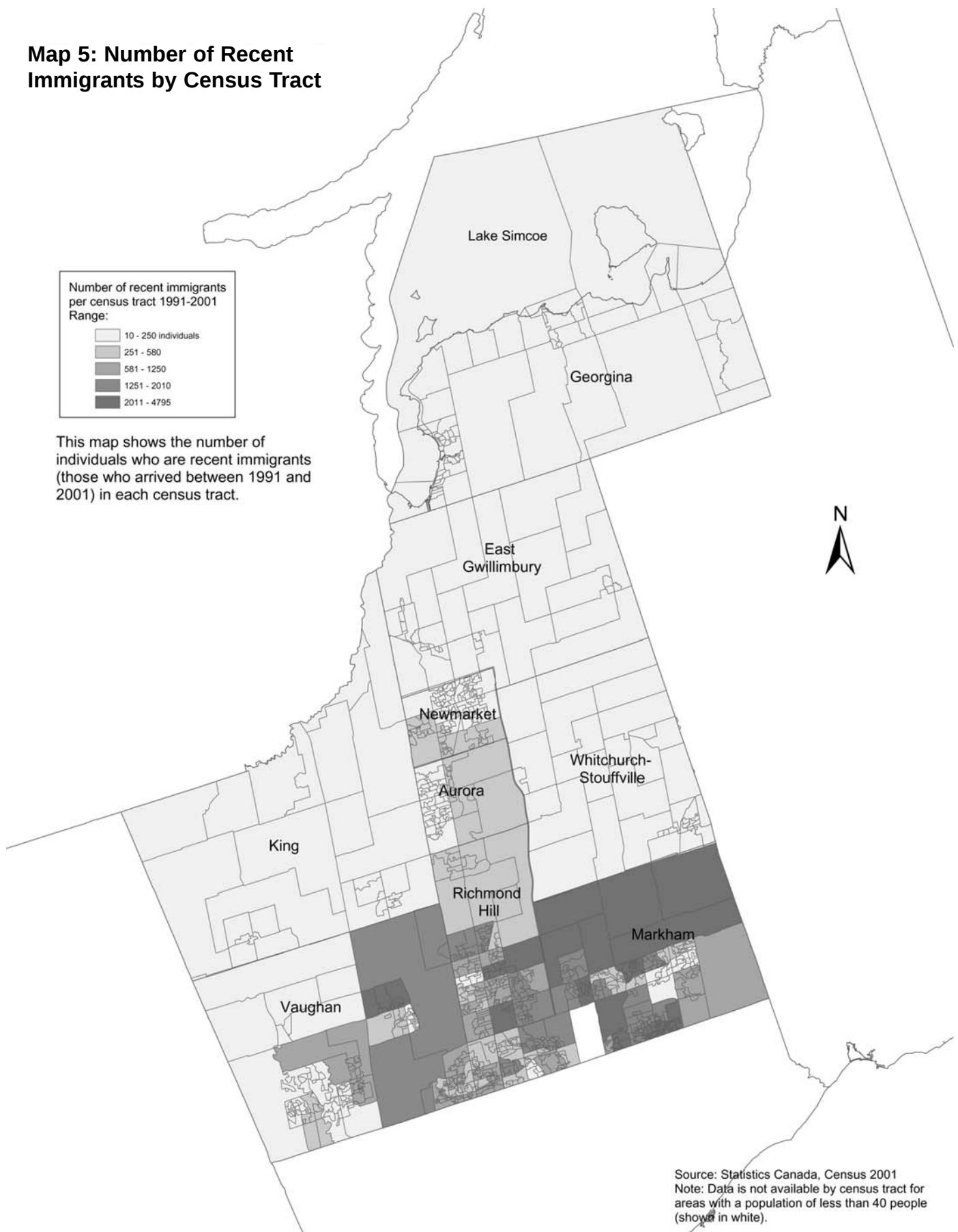
Map 3: Children's Readiness-to-Learn in York Region and the Incidence of Low Income in Economic Families by Census Tract



Map 4: Children 0 to 18 Years Living in Low-Income Families



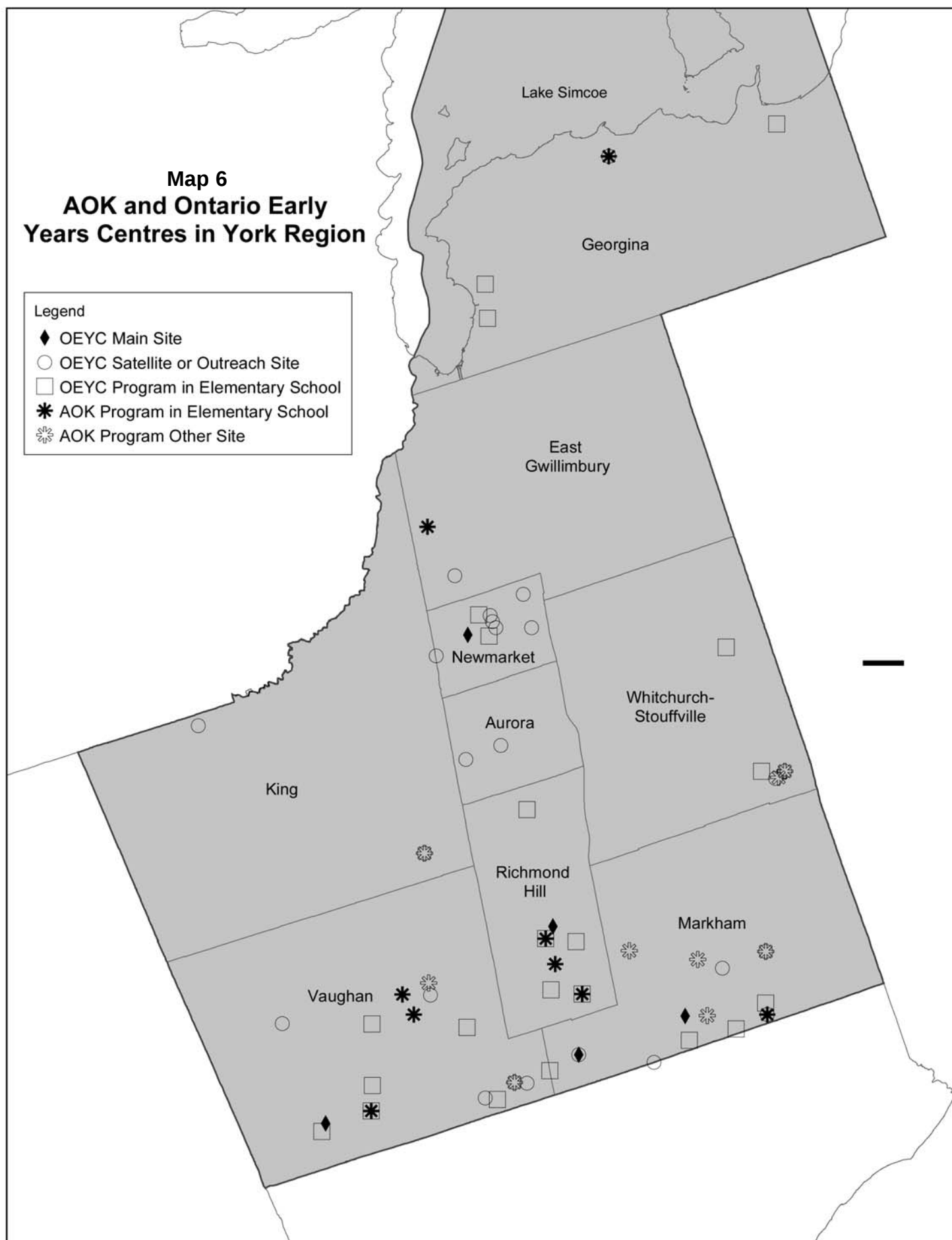
Map 5: Number of Recent Immigrants by Census Tract

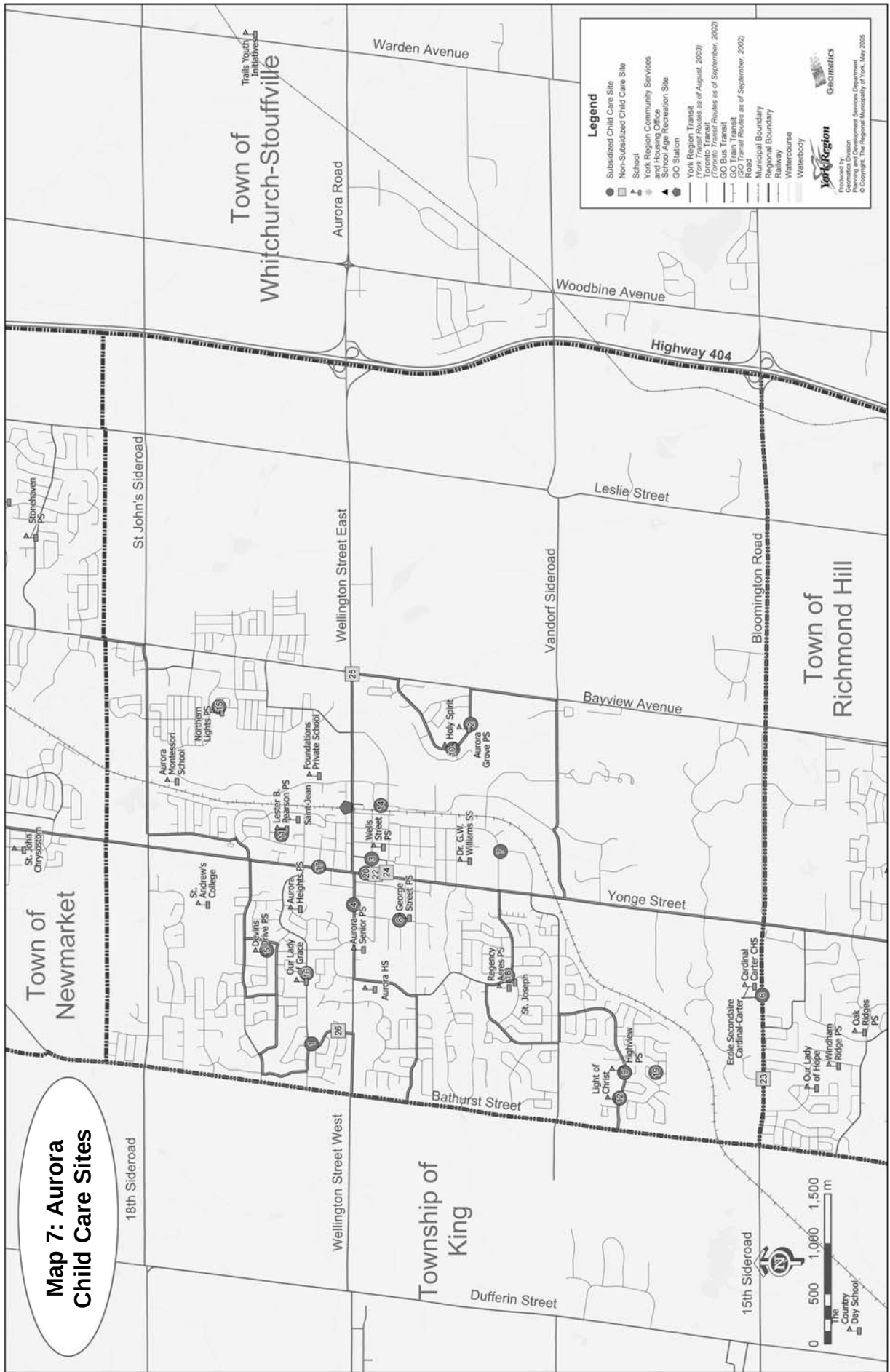


Map 6
AOK and Ontario Early
Years Centres in York Region

Legend

- ◆ OEYC Main Site
- OEYC Satellite or Outreach Site
- OEYC Program in Elementary School
- * AOK Program in Elementary School
- ⊗ AOK Program Other Site









Map 10: King Child Care Sites

