

OEYCFC Recommendations by Theme

Hours / Amount / Type of Services

RECOMMENDATION (1): As noted throughout the Needs Assessment, the new OEYCFC must explore the potential for offering more of the same drop-ins and programming. Stakeholders are very satisfied with current programming, but are looking for more and more of it.

RECOMMENDATION (6): The City of Peterborough should examine how its OEYCFC can deliver additional programs and services, particularly in the summer, but also over March Break.

RECOMMENDATION (12): The City of Peterborough needs to examine how summer hours can be established at some of its OEYCFC sites.

RECOMMENDATION (15): The City of Peterborough should examine how the OEYCFCs could increase the number of drop-in locations and drop-in hours.

RECOMMENDATION (16): The City of Peterborough should examine how the OEYCFCs could increase the number of parenting education and workshops.

RECOMMENDATION (17): The City of Peterborough should more closely examine both the total hours provided currently by its OEYC and the ratio of drop-ins to universal programs to targeted programs.

RECOMMENDATION (20): The new OEYCFC should respond to the findings (in both the survey and focus groups) in which families were looking for times other than what was currently offered and examine the expressed need for drop-ins and programming during Summer, March Break, on Fridays, on Saturdays (for more than just Dads), as well as after-school times.

RECOMMENDATION (21): The OEYCFC should examine the amount of infant and toddler programs and determine if its current ratio could be better balanced.

RECOMMENDATION (22): The City of Peterborough should examine how its OEYCFCs can deliver additional programs and services, particularly in the summer, but also over March Break.

RECOMMENDATION (26): As we have noted throughout the Needs Assessment, the new OEYCFC must explore the potential for offering more of the same drop-ins and programming. Stakeholders are very satisfied with current programming, but are looking for more and more of it.

Locations

RECOMMENDATION (2) & (8): OEYCFC programs should be focused in the geographic areas that include a large vulnerability among its young children, a large total number of children aged 0-6 and population growth in order to have the greatest potential impact. Using high-to-moderate vulnerabilities along with high-to-moderate 0-6 child population and child population growth, the following areas of the city should be examined for whether new or additional OEYCFC programs and services are needed:

1. South East
2. Chemong
3. Downtown
4. South East Clonsilla
5. South West

RECOMMENDATION (3) & (9): The City of Peterborough should keep the OEYCFCs at the Antrim and Otonabee Valley Family Hubs; examine other possible locations in the areas of Chemong and South West/South East Clonsilla; and review the placement of the St. John Family Hub in the South End area.

RECOMMENDATION (4) & (10): The City of Peterborough should continue to have hubs in Millbrook, Lakefield and Norwood, and continue to assess the viability of mobile services in more remote areas. At the same time, it should examine the need for an OEYCFC in Apsley, due to its small population (though it has higher vulnerabilities, and therefore an OEYCFC may be warranted).

RECOMMENDATION (5) & (11): The City of Peterborough should examine having an OEYCFC in the township of Otonabee-South Monaghan due to its moderate developmental vulnerabilities and child population size, as well as its high child population growth.

RECOMMENDATION (7): OEYCFC programs should be focused in the areas that include a large vulnerability and a large total number and growth of children in order to have the greatest potential impact.

RECOMMENDATION (13): The City of Peterborough should examine the best location for its OEYCFC in the south part of the city. The current location at the St. John Family Hub is working well, but there is a question if it is reaching enough of the intended target population. Opportunities exist in South East Clonsilla (at Prince of Wales) as well as in another neighbourhood (South West) that is ranked high for child population and vulnerabilities.

RECOMMENDATION (14): The City of Peterborough should work closely with PVNCCDSB to try to establish OEYCFC sites, as this school board has clearly identified two schools (St. Alphonsus in the South West and St. Paul in the Chemong area) that closely match areas of Peterborough that this Needs Assessment has identified as potential OEYCFC sites.

RECOMMENDATION (18): The City of Peterborough should keep the OEYCFC in Millbrook and retain its current provider (OMSFC).

RECOMMENDATION (23): The City of Peterborough should examine community resource and recreation centres, libraries (particularly for rural programs) and elementary schools as locations for newly-placed OEYCFC programs and services.

Communication

RECOMMENDATION (19): The OEYCFCs should have a specific focus on communicating to the greater public about their available programs and services.

RECOMMENDATION (29): As the City of Peterborough moves from its current system of OEYCs to a transformed OEYCFC arrangement, it will want to utilize communication activities, such as:

- Creating a feedback loop that enables stakeholders to provide input and feedback to the City in a timely and efficient manner, including responding to feedback that has been received.
- Considering creating a stakeholder information update (or e-newsletter) as a means of keeping early years stakeholders informed of OEYCFC province-wide information and activities.
- That in order to ensure that service partners and service providers remain fully aware of OEYCFC services, that this be a standing item (share and tell about new or different services) on the children's community planning table agenda.

Community Partnerships

RECOMMENDATION (24): The OEYCFC should set a goal of working actively with the child care community to seek out and establish specific partnerships.

RECOMMENDATION (25): The new OEYCFC should take advantage of this openness to provide shared programming or space by continuing to assign a senior staff person to oversee and promote these potential opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION (27): The OEYCFC should continue to reach out and work closely with the two Indigenous organizations, to explore some of the suggestions in the previous section, and to seek a partnership arrangement over programming suggestions.

RECOMMENDATION (28): The OEYCFC should continue to reach out and work closely with the French school boards, though it must be recognized that the French-speaking population in and around Peterborough is only about 1.5% and specific programming for French-speaking families may be difficult to achieve.