

Conclusion

This 2010–2014 Toronto Child Care Service Plan was developed during an unprecedented time of change and unknowns in the child care field. The child care system could be on the verge of transformation as Children’s Services works with the Province to implement Early Learning and transition to an integrated early learning system. However, the success of this transition is contingent upon sufficient resources and tools to support new funding models, address service levels, ensure high quality of services and establish an integrated service system that is seamless and accessible to families and their children aged 0 to 12 years. The child care system is also facing financial pressures which further threaten the stability of the system.

The service plan is a tool to guide the funding and management of the child care system, allowing planning and delivery of services in a rational, accountable and equitable manner that maximizes the use of the resources available to the system. Regardless of the pressures, changes and unknowns, this service plan has been developed to “stand the test of time” and lead Toronto Children’s Services through the next five years.