



MNO Education & Training

# EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

**IMPACT  
REPORT  
2025**

April 2024 - March 2025

Métis Nation  
of Ontario 

## WHAT WE DO

As the Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Programs & Services team, we are committed to supporting Métis children aged 0-12 and their families through a holistic range of early learning programs, services, and resources. Early childhood education lays the foundation for lifelong learning, and we strive to ensure Métis children get a strong start and grow into resilient learners. We deliver programs that provide direct financial support to families, helping more Métis children access healthy, culturally grounded education. We also develop foundational early learning documents, regulations, pedagogy, and curriculum.

## ELCC FAMILY SUPPORTS

Our Family Supports Programs consist of several distinct programs: The Child Care Subsidy Program provides Métis families with financial support to access quality child care; the Child Care Stipend Program provides support for alternative child care when licensed child care is not an option; the Extra-Curricular Support Program fosters Métis children's social, emotional, and physical wellbeing; and the Summer Child Care Subsidy Program provides access to summer camp programming for school-aged children. Together, these programs provide support and make education more accessible to over 2500 children across Ontario.

"I am writing to express our sincere gratitude for the extracurricular program. This program has enabled our children to take piano lessons for several years. Recently, they participated in the Lakehead Festival of Music and Arts, achieving remarkable success with high marks, top placements, and awards. We appreciate the program's continued support of the arts and for providing our children with this opportunity."

"My wife and I would like to extend a great big thank you for your help and guidance over this time period... putting our kids in this program makes the transition to the 'big school' that much easier and with the help of you and the MNO it was a huge help to our family."

### ELCC FAMILY SUPPORTS

## BY THE NUMBERS

**2804**

children supported through the ELCC One Application portal

**1394**

children supported through the Extra-Curricular Support Program

**1568**

families supported through the ELCC One Application portal

**1402**

families supported through the Extra-Curricular Support Program

**739**

children supported through the Child Care Subsidy Program

**281**

children supported through the Child Care Stipend Program

**485**

children supported through the Child Care Subsidy Program

**178**

families supported through the Child Care Stipend Program

"Our family has greatly benefited from the programs you offer, and the hard work you do is such a blessing to many! Our children's lives have been enriched by the abundance of experiences they've been able to have because of this funding."

"[We] have been struggling financially this year and without your team and the supports we have received I honestly am not sure if [my child's ballet classes] would have happened this year... We are truthfully so grateful for all you and your team do each and everyday! You make such a difference and please never forget that!"

DRC  
**BY THE NUMBERS**

**130**

clients supported through the **Early Learning Education Developmental Resource Consultant Program**

**89**

clients supported through the **Developmental Services and Support Program**

**100**

clients attended **Parent Engagement Workshops**

## DEVELOPMENTAL RESOURCE CONSULTANT (DRC) SUPPORTS

Our Developmental Resource Consultant (DRC) Program provides support to Métis children aged 0-8 years by offering advocacy and navigation services so families can identify learning barriers and access support. Additionally, the DRC team offers parent engagement workshops and support groups focused on child development. Sessions include supporting children with Autism, learning disabilities, and developmental delays. If a child requires further assessment or intervention, they can be referred to the Developmental Services and Support Program (DSSP). This program addresses the needs of Métis children and improves access to clinical services and early intervention supports in homes, childcare settings, and schools.

"Without [DRC], I would not be able to support my daughter in the ways she needs and deserves... We have found community and support through the services provided that have allowed for much-needed respite and occupational therapy. You've given us much more than funds, you have given us hope."

"Thank you for sending such wonderful families our way - I've been getting the same great feedback from our Speech Language Therapists about your families! They have all been so kind and great at completing their home activities. It makes our job so much fun when families are truly on board. I'm loving this partnership! :) Thank you!"

## ELCC SPECIAL PROJECTS

Our Special Projects team oversees the development of early years books, resources, and Métis-based learning kits that connect to play-based learning. This work includes overseeing the Christmas Program, Baby Bundle Program, and Back-to-School Backpack Program, which all provide Métis families and educators with unique learning resources. The Special Projects team is also a community partner of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, which provides children (ages 0-5) with free books. Key to their work, the Special Projects team also hosts virtual and in-person events, including Camp AGA, in-person and virtual camps, and Rendezvous. Notably, the team hosts an annual professional Early Learning & Child Care conference where educators working in the sector can connect and learn about Métis ways of knowing and how to incorporate this knowledge into their learning environments.

"I just wanted to express gratitude from my family to the entire early learning program at MNO... We received our Christmas package in the mail today & it is beautiful. Our family really appreciates all of the extra support you all provide & can say it really makes life a little easier for us!"

"Amazing event! Learning about the history of the Métis communities and about [their] struggles and successes... inspired by the amazing collaboration with families and the authentic dedication to the future generations with concrete action."

"Our two kids received their back-to-school kits and we are delighted with all the excellent contents to prepare them for a great start to the year. We want to extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to everyone involved in this program for putting these bags together. The items were very thoughtfully chosen and will be put to great use."

"The programs were so well thought out and fun. Kids had a great time - 'best camp ever!'"

SPECIAL PROJECTS  
**BY THE NUMBERS**

**1865**

Back-to-School Kits shipped

**1374**

Outdoor Learning Kits shipped

**2304**

children supported through the **Christmas Gift Program (with 1287 families)**

**285**

attendees at the **annual Professional Conference in February 2025**

## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- ∞ The Métis Tales Working Group—a group of staff across multiple ELCC teams who are content experts in child development and phonetic awareness—developed several series of age-appropriate Métis-specific books, including the **Christmas Book** series and the **Real-Life Métis Superhero** series.
- ∞ ELCC Programs & Services events, programs, series, and various supports became available on the **MNO Education Hub** mobile app—a virtual Indigenous education centre for MNO citizens, educators, families, and students.

## ABOUT EDUCATION & TRAINING

The MNO began to offer training initiatives in 1996 with funding from the Métis Human Resources Development Agreement. Since then, the Education and Training Branch has grown and developed to include a comprehensive infrastructure that delivers a full range of programs. It supports the educational success of all Métis across Ontario, beginning in early learning, continuing through kindergarten to grade twelve, into adulthood through post-secondary education, and then into employment. We also work to retain and revitalize our languages, honour our culture and way of life, and provide ongoing learning outside formal education structures.

We take pride in our culture and history, recognize and honour the Métis knowledge holders and senators who contribute to our way of life, teaching and learning opportunities, and take pride in our Métis languages. We look forward to sharing our traditions with future generations as we aspire to achieve our highest potential.

*Bryanna Scott-Kay*

**Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay**  
Director, Education & Training Branch  
Métis Nation of Ontario



### ABOUT THE

## ET BRANCH SASH

One of the most prominent symbols of the Métis Nation is the brightly coloured, woven sash. Originally used for both practical purposes and cultural expression, the sash holds deep significance within Métis culture. The Education & Training Branch has introduced its own special sash, featuring colours representing the different teams and important ideologies.

**Light Green:** Early Learning & Child Care  
**Purple:** Kindergarten - Grade 12  
**Light Blue:** Post-Secondary Education  
**Yellow:** Métis Languages Initiatives  
**Red:** Employment & Training  
**Dark Green:** All E&T programs coming together to support a Métis person's lifelong learning journey  
**Dark Blue:** Métis inclusion in all learning environments

### ELCC: PROGRAMS & SERVICES

## CONTACT US!

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Download the **MNO Education Hub** app to stay up to date with ELCC programs & events!



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