

Community Mapping Report

Understanding the Early Years

City of Kawartha Lakes & Haliburton County, Ontario



Catharine Tozer, UEY Coordinator
December 2008

The Understanding the Early Years Initiative is funded by Human Resources & Social Development Canada. For further information visit hrsdc.gc.ca

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We hope you will use the data and reports from this report, however please cite: "Understanding the Early Years Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Community Mapping Report, 2008, housed at the Ontario Early Years Centre, Lindsay office".

“The **whole community** has a responsibility for young children. The school can help out by saying these are things we find about these kids in the EDI. **We**, along with other leaders in the community, **have** to find a way to improve the environment for kids in the first five years of life. And I’m **convinced** that if you’re going to raise the life quality of children zero to five in Canada, it won’t be done by a top down approach by the government saying we should do this or that, it’s going to be done community by community. And the results of the EDI can help to motivate communities to know what to work on, and to be able to work on these issues.”

~ **Dr. Dan Offord**

McMaster University, Canada 2003

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The government of Canada's commitment to learning more about young Canadian children led to the Understanding the Early Years (UEY) initiative that supported the UEY Kawartha Lakes Haliburton project. We are deeply grateful to Andre Bordeleau, Donald Nadeau, Tarah Turcotte, Liz Nieman and Gong-li XU at Human Resources and Social Development Canada for their unwavering support. Dr. Magdalena Janus, Ashley Gaskin, Cindy Walsh and Rob Raos at the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University (Hamilton, Ontario) are an inspiration to work with on the Early Development Instrument (EDI), and we thank them for their support, as well as 100% of local kindergarten teachers who shared their professional insight in their EDI responses. Thanks also to the local professionals who completed the direct assessments, the Haliburton Echo for pictures, and the Kawartha Lakes Community Futures Corporation, Fed Nor and Industry Canada for the GIS youth intern, Andrew Steffler, who produced the maps used in this report.

Special thanks are extended to our community partners: Shelley Mierle and the Trillium Lakelands District School Board; Ron McNamara, Lori Gosselin and the Peterborough, Victoria, Northumberland & Clarington Catholic District School Board (PVNC); Fiona Kelly, Anne Marie Holt and the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit; and the local UEY Coalition: Sheila Olan-MacLean, Darlene Callan, Jackie Brooks, Janine Mitchell, Sal Polito, Barb Fraser, Wanita Livingstone, Rosemary McColeman, Marg Cox, Connie Friar, Dianne Hall, Gena Robertson and Steve Burke.

The author also extends warm gratitude to Jude Tripp, Executive Director of the OEYC Haliburton Victoria Brock, who steered and championed this UEY initiative for three years, and to Lisa Stiner, Angela Cooper and Catherine Burgin who ably provided research assistance. We all recognize that without the parents and children who participated, we would not have the valuable data in this study, and to them we are most grateful.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County, Ontario are great places to raise young children – and we can prove it. The Understanding the Early Years Community Mapping Report indicates that, as a community, we are doing an excellent job of supporting young families while the children are in their preschool years.

- Understanding the Early Years (UEY) is a three year Government of Canada initiative with Human Resources and Social Development Canada. For further information visit www.hrsdc.gc.ca. The local sponsor of the UEY initiative was the Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock, through its office and centre at 55 Mary Street West, Lindsay, Ontario. Catharine Tozer was the UEY Co-ordinator for the duration of the initiative and she wrote the Community Mapping report with support from the rest of the UEY team.
- UEY Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton began in October 2005 and was completed in December 2008. The focus is on young families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old.
- The goal of UEY Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton is to provide new knowledge to all agencies and programs in our community. Together we can improve services for children and young families. We hope this knowledge has also captured the imagination of the business community who can envision the positive affect of purposeful planning for the future of our community. The hours they are open, however, may be quite restricted. Libraries are excellent support of early literacy skills.

1. **Community Surveys:** The local UEY team talked with 382 parents of senior kindergarten (SK) children (5 years olds) across the City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL) and Haliburton County in the spring of 2007. Parents generously completed 1 ½ hour interviews (320 questions) based on the National Longitudinal Study of Children and Youth (NLSCY) telling us about their child’s development, recreational activities, child care, their work & income, their neighbourhoods, community engagement and their family.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:

- Reading to their children: 83% of kindergarten parents in CKL and 95% in Haliburton County reported they read to their child every day. This is significantly higher than the 77% Canadian average.
- Computers: 20% of SK children in both CKL and Haliburton County almost never go on a computer outside of school hours, whereas 22% of 5 year olds use a computer almost daily (outside of school).
- Childcare: 63% of SK children in both CKL and Haliburton County use some form of childcare.

2. **Direct Assessments:** Young children learn many skills BEFORE they get to school. The UEY initiative measured the skills that children have brought with them from growing up in their community. With their 'parents' consent, we tested the skills of 449 five year old children in CKL and Haliburton County.

HIGHLIGHTS OF LOCAL CHILDREN'S LITERACY & NUMERACY SKILLS:

- Local children scored higher than the Canadian average in their ability to understand what they hear known as receptive language.
- They scored about the same as the Canadian average on number knowledge and pre-literacy skills.

3. **School Readiness:** The UEY initiative partnered with local school boards Trillium Lakelands District School Board and the PVNC Catholic District School Board, and asked their senior kindergarten (SK) teachers to tell us about the development of the children in their classes. Every SK teacher at every school in CKL and Haliburton County participated in sharing their professional opinion about the developmental levels of their class using the Early Development Instrument (EDI) developed by the Offord Centre at McMaster University. This anonymous, population-based scale tells us how well we are doing as a community at supporting young families so local children develop as well as they can in the important years before school starts. The EDI an outcome measure of early childhood and an important measure of community health. We studied the skills of a group of 708 children in senior kindergartens, who had a mean age of 5.7 years old, who were not identified as having special needs, and for whom we had complete data in their EDIs. This represents about 90% of the SK population in CKL and Haliburton County in 2006, an excellent sample size.

Highlights of the EDI:

- Overall, growing up in CKL and Haliburton County seems to have prepared children well. Local children are generally Ready to start school.
- Our children scored significantly higher than the Canadian norm on four out of five scales: 1) Physical Health & Well-being, 2) Social Competence, 3) Language & Cognitive Development, and 4) Communication & General Knowledge.
- Our community's children scored about the same as the Canadian norm on Emotional Maturity, however the percentage of children who scored low on this domain is higher than the other domains for many of our planning neighbourhoods.
- Boys in CKL and Haliburton County scored significantly lower than girls in all five developmental skill areas. This is consistent with a tendency across Canada.

4. **Demographics:** The UEY Initiative looked at the community at large, the neighbourhoods where young children live, and the types of families young children live in here in the City of Kawartha Lakes using Statistics Canada Census data. These young families will grow to be even more important to the future prosperity of all parts of CKL.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DEMOGRAPHIC FINDINGS:

There are 4,580 children 0 to 6 years old living in CKL. 26% of CKL's early years children (1,190) live in Lindsay. There are 760 children 0 to 6 years old living in Haliburton County according to Statistics Canada neighbourhood data, 2006.

- Median family income for couple-families in the City of Kawartha Lakes (just for young families with at least one child 0-6 years old) is \$67,900. That's 6% lower than the Ontario young-family mean income of \$72,500. For Haliburton County it is \$55,500 which is 23% lower than the Ontario mean.
- Poverty: 1 of every 5 young children (0 to 6 years old) in CKL lives in poverty according to Statistics Canada data, slightly below the Ontario average, however that is 910 impoverished children living locally in 680 families in CKL. In Haliburton County there are 180 young children living in 140 impoverished families according to Statistics Canada neighbourhood data, 2006. Almost 1 in 4 young children in Haliburton County are poor.
- Lone-parent families: 20% of young children (0 to 6 years old) live in lone-parented families (eg. their parents don't live together) in CKL. 25% of families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old in Haliburton County are headed by one parent at a time.

5. Local services:

The UEY initiative consulted local programs that provide services to young families with at least one an infant, toddler or preschool child.

- Cavities: 17% of children in CKL had cavities in kindergarten (mostly 5 year olds), and half of these had not been treated. In Haliburton 14% of kindergarten children had cavities, and half of them were untreated. This is considerably higher than the Ontario Dental Association's indication that 6% to 10% of Ontario kindergarten children have cavities.
- Libraries are widely available in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County. They have children's collections and inter-library loans. There are a number of them available in small towns and villages in CKL particularly. The hours they are open may be quite restricted however. Libraries are an excellent support of early literacy skills.

The Community Mapping Report recommends that the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County could benefit from setting goals to continue to improve the early years such as a Mayor or Warden's Roundtable on Children and a Charter for Children. Measuring progress annually through a report such as Vital Signs currently used in cities, would ensure our vibrant community goals are reached.

WORK UPSTREAM

In 1983, the year after Sheela Basrur received her degree in medicine from the University of Toronto she bought a round-the-world airplane ticket. She spent a year in Nepal and rural India, where her parents were born. There she saw such horrifying evidence of the impact of substandard public sanitation and poor water that she returned to university to study community health. As Medical Officer of Health for the city of Toronto Dr. Basrur became well-respected for such initiatives as ending smoking in restaurants and DineSafe, even before becoming famous for her calm fortitude when Toronto was hit by the SARS crisis. The following year, in 2004, she was appointed Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, the first woman of colour to hold that position.

Dr. Basrur told this story about why she chose to work in preventative medicine:

“It smacked me squarely in the face... when you are downstream and you see people struggling in the water, drowning, you pull them out. But more keep on coming and coming. So finally, you go upstream to find out how they ended up there in the river being swept downstream in the first place.”

Even as a busy single mother, Dr. Basrur devoted the rest of her life to leading initiatives that would improve conditions early, when it made the most difference.

WE CAN WORK UPSTREAM TOO. When we say this UEY Community Mapping Report is about preschool children, sometimes people think we are lobbying for childcare or poverty funding. It is about much more than that. It's about turning new knowledge of our community into evidence-based action to improve the future of all children here, and it doesn't have to cost money. Small changes make a big difference to local families. Children can grow stronger, smarter and happier all because they spent their early years right here.

WHO CAN MAKE THAT HAPPEN? Not just the agencies that provide social services or children's services, or schools or churches; not just Council, or the MP and MPP; not just the chambers of commerce or the Rotary Club, but right down to the grassroots – you and me – we can make that happen.

How can our entire community be improved? It's simple. We can start with planning how to use the information in this Community Mapping Report to make things better during the time young children spend all day in our towns and villages and countryside, well before they step through the door of school when they are four. They say the early years last a lifetime. That's where upstream is.

Catharine Tozer

B.A.Sc. (child studies), M.Ed.(measurement), PhD candidate (OISE/University of Toronto).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

It has been a great privilege for Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock Inc. (OEYC HVB) to be able to host the Understanding the Early Years (UEY) initiative for the City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL) and Haliburton County. Many thanks go to Catharine Tozer who had the foresight to envision how the gathering of everything we can learn about 5 year olds would inspire and inform community planning for our youngest children. Being only one of 21 projects chosen in **UEY Phase II** is mainly due to the focus and perseverance of the UEY team as they worked through the intricate proposal process. In addition, we would like to thank the UEY Coalition (formerly the One Roof Task Force) for supporting, overseeing and advising Catharine and the UEY team through the three years of the project. It has been an experience in community collaboration coinciding nicely with planning and data collection of the Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton Best Start Network and both CKL and Haliburton County children's planning tables. The process of gathering information from various sources and through many creative strategies, analyzing what we see, soliciting community input and keeping the coalition and the community informed has required diligence and hard work on the part of the UEY team. The results have been well worth the effort. The Charter for Children excited the imagination of community partners in both CKL and Haliburton County where the job of completion has been taken over by the respective children and youth planning tables. For the first time ever, due to the UEY project, EDIs have been completed, at the same time, in all schools that have senior kindergartens in CKL and Haliburton County. Along with the direct assessments and parent interviews, we have gathered more information about our 5 year olds than, in all likelihood, we will ever get a chance to investigate again. We have had the advantage of being affiliates of UEY projects conducted across the county and have had numerous opportunities for training and networking. This report alone, the final deliverable responsibility for the project will generate many avenues for further investigation and it is our genuine purpose that it will be an invaluable tool for all community organizations and networks to use in planning and generating funding for proposals to support our community children as they develop their school readiness skills.

Judith Tripp
Executive Director
Ontario Early Years
Haliburton Victoria Brock, Inc.

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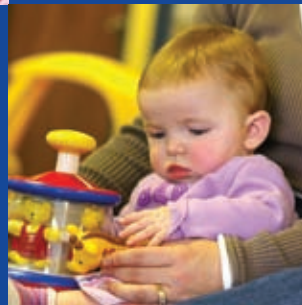
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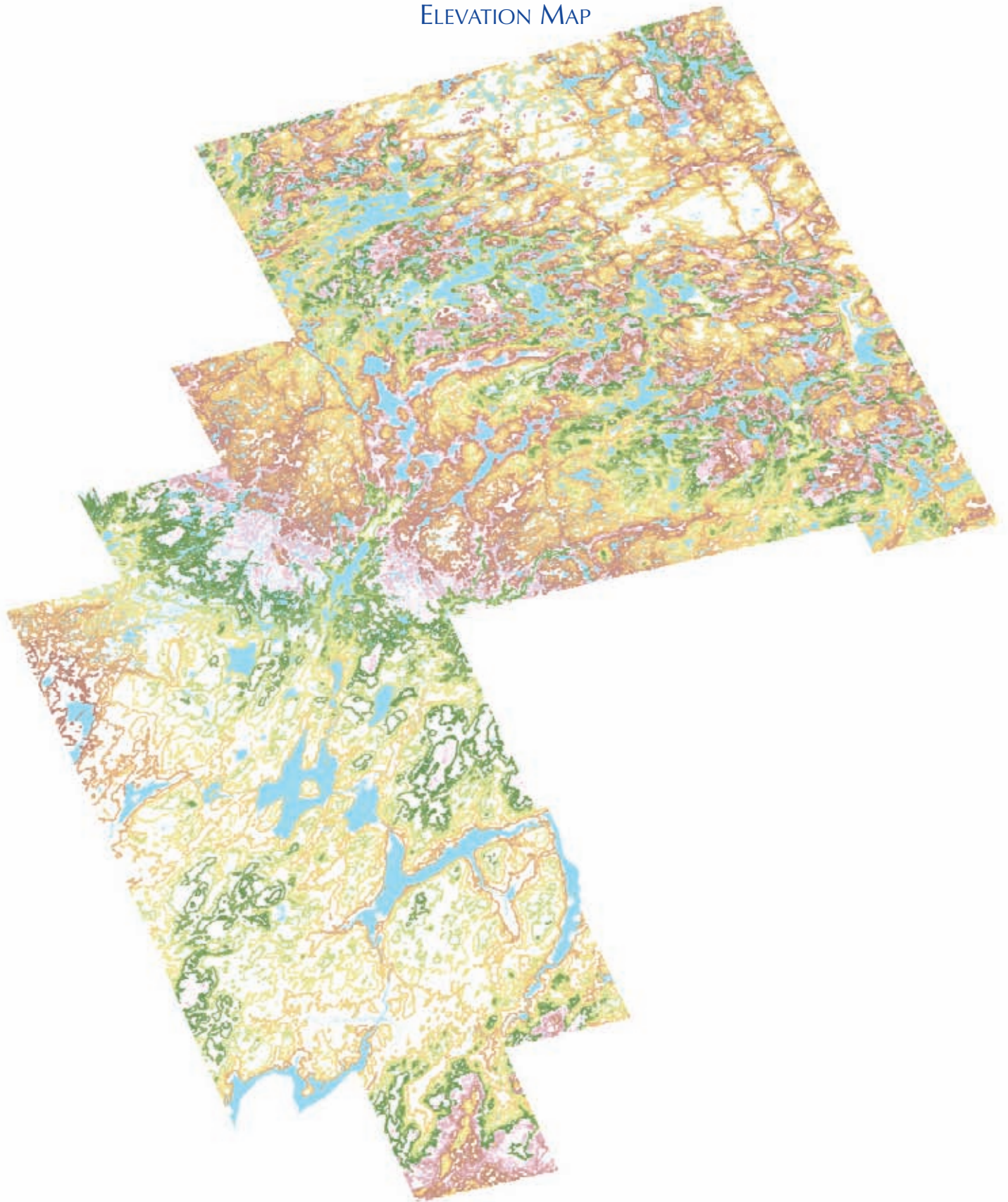




INTRODUCTION

THE CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES & HALIBURTON COUNTY

ELEVATION MAP



ABOUT THE STUDY

Understanding the Early Years (UEY) is a national initiative that helps our community work together to enhance the lives of local children. This report represents the end of our first task – to find out more about what it's like to be a young child living in our area. The second task has already begun: to use this information to build on our strengths, to take action, in the towns, villages and rural areas of the City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL) and Haliburton County the best places they can be to raise a family.

WHERE YOU GROW UP DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

School readiness is about the ways rural neighbourhoods support young families so children will be really ready to learn when they are old enough for grade one. Whether you live in a rich house, or a poor one, the community around you has a strong effect. By the time children step through the doors of kindergarten, they have already learned to run, talk, sing, climb, print the first letter of their name and zip up their coat. They have begun to learn to wait their turn, make a friend and try something new. They learn so much BEFORE they start school. Children's first 4 or 5 years is spent completely in their town, their village or their rural area. What is it like to grow up here? How is it different from other places in Ontario? In Canada? As a community planning for the optimal development of our children, these are answers that we need to know. That's what this Community Mapping Report is designed to tell us. How can we ensure our area is a great place to grown up during their early years? How can we, as a community, improve chances to learn between birth and 6 years old for all local children? Good planning is based on solid information and that will help ensure the future of our entire community.

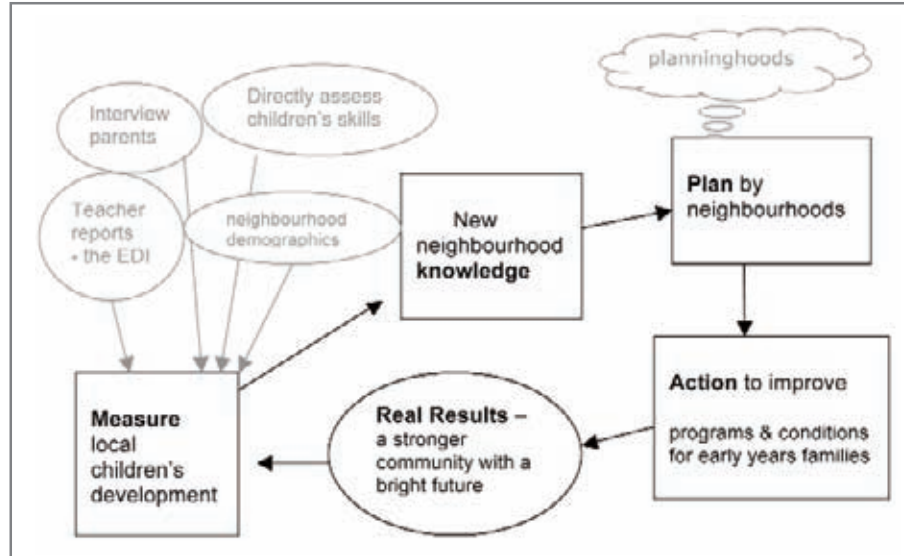
EDUCATION IS TOO IMPORTANT TO LEAVE TO SCHOOLS ALONE



FIRST WE UNDERSTAND, THEN WE TRANSFORM

The local UEY Coalition of community agencies serving young children from birth to 6 years old, met frequently over the three-year project. It had representatives from agencies that serve our local young children and their families. The UEY initiative sought the opinion of experts – parents, and kindergarten teachers. We also directly assessed the skills of select senior kindergarten (SK) children. As the following figure illustrates, the data was used to paint a picture of New Neighbourhood Knowledge – this Community Mapping Report. The UEY Coalition of agencies has already begun the next step: Planning by neighbourhoods, both within their agencies and together in new partnerships. Their Action Plan will be carried forward by other coalitions such as the Child & Youth Planning Tables of CKL and Haliburton County. Even small changes make a big difference when it comes to young families. Those Real Results should continue to be measured over time to ensure that we – as a community- are using effective strategies.

THE UEY PROCESS



HOW DID WE MEASURE HOW WELL OUR COMMUNITY IS DOING AT SUPPORTING YOUNG FAMILIES?

WHAT WE WONDERED	HOW WE COLLECTED INFORMATION	WHO WE CONSULTED	HOW MANY CHILDREN?	WHAT % IS THAT?	WHEN
How well are our young children doing?	Early Development Instrument (EDI)	Teachers' opinion of SK children's development	708 kindergarten children (mostly 5 year olds)	90%	Winter 2005
	Community Survey - Parent interviews	Parents' opinion of SK children's development	Haliburton Co - 43	33%	Spring 2006
			CKL - 289	47%	
Direct Assessments of children's skills	Sr. Kindergarten children	Haliburton Co - 40	33%	Spring 2006	
		CKL - 342	56%		
What is our community like?	Statistics Canada Census 2006 data	population	90,708 Total Population	almost 100%	2006 Census data
What are our young families like as a group	Statistics Canada Taxfiler data 2006	young families with at least one child 0-6 years old	Haliburton Co - 760	almost 100%	2006 taxfiler custom order
			CKL - 4,580		
What resources (for young children) do we have in our community?	Survey	community services such as libraries, childcare centres and social housing	n/a	approx. 100%	2007

THE EARLY YEARS LAST A LIFETIME

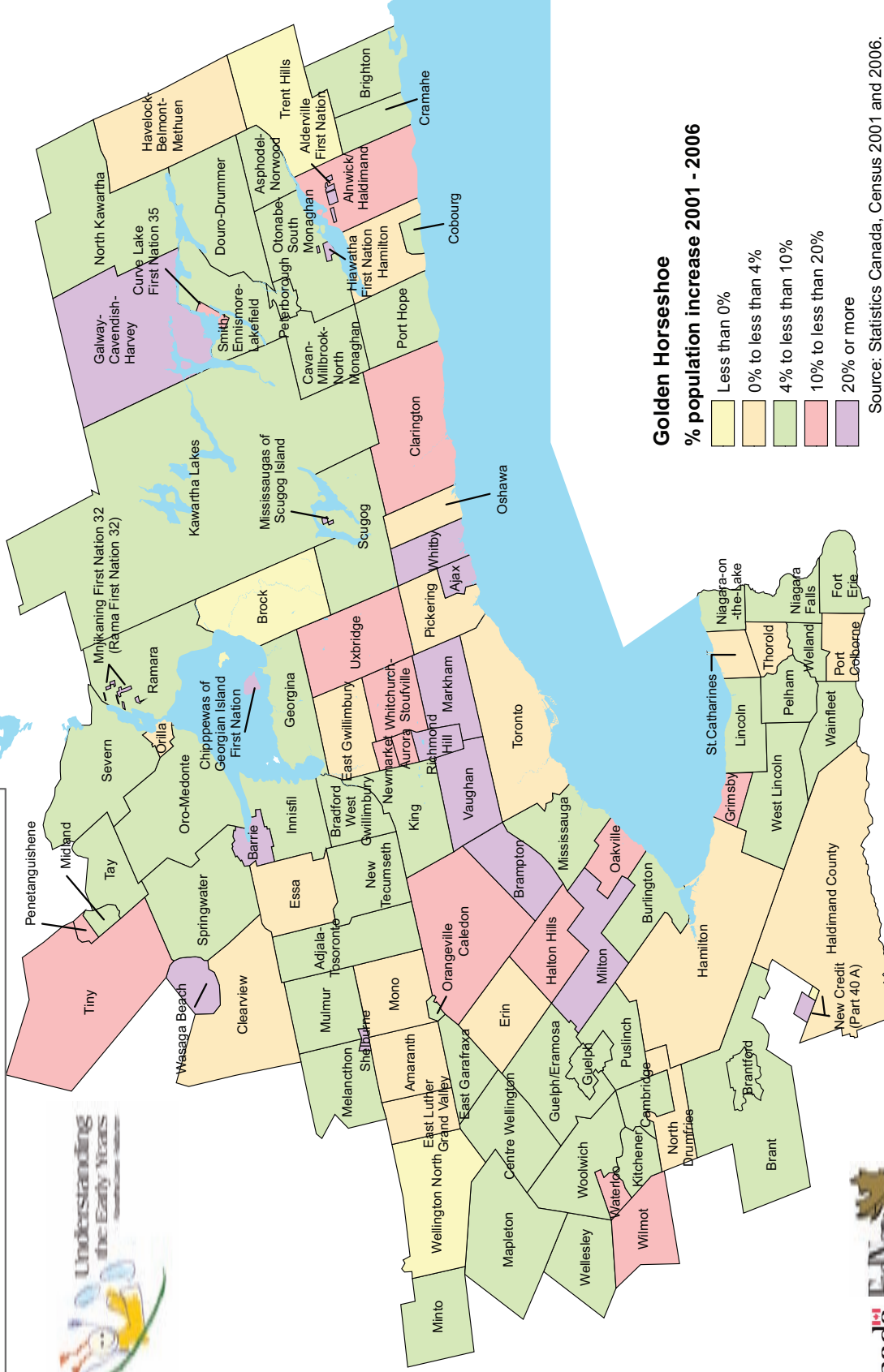
Dr. Jason Ramsay, of the University of Toronto and St. Michael's Hospital is one of many researchers who point to the new research on brain development which indicates that actual physical changes take place in the brains of infants, dependent on the environment in which they live. The baby is nested in the family, of course, but clearly, the family is nested in the neighbourhood, and the neighbourhood is nested in the community. It's up to the entire village to demonstrate a sense of social cohesion that supports young families who choose to raise their children in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County. This Understanding the Early Years Community Mapping Report provides the first step.

WHAT MAKES "BRAIN-DEVELOPMENT FRIENDLY" NEIGHBOURHOODS?

PROTECTIVE	RISK
Parent Support Programs	Parental stress
Quality child care	Poor child care resources
Nutrition	poor nutrition
Income Support	Low stimulation
Building community cohesion	Poor access to health care
Community-wide resources for adults	Deficit in community-level resources
Violence reduction	Stressful neighbourhood conditions
Play-centered learning	Lack of knowledge about child development

Source: Dr. Jason Ramsay,
[http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/pdf/crich/august9_07slides.ppt#259,1,Children, Neighbourhoods and Development](http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/pdf/crich/august9_07slides.ppt#259,1,Children,Neighbourhoods%20and%20Development)

Golden Horseshoe Growth Patterns



Published in the Community Mapping Report, 2008, Understanding the Early Years Kawartha Lakes & Haliburton County.



POPULATION PROJECTIONS – MORE YOUNG CHILDREN FOR CKL & HALIBURTON COUNTY

The city of Kawartha Lakes was named in the Ontario Places to Grow Act (2005) as part of the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH), one of the fastest growing regions in North America. CKL, one of the fifteen municipalities in the outer ring, is at the eastern edge of the GGH, along with Northumberland and Peterborough city (see map, facing page). All twenty-one single-tier municipalities have begun to use a coordinated approach to develop ‘complete communities’ and implement the policies of *Places to Grow*, *Better Choices*, *Brighter Futures*, the GGH growth plan developed by the Ontario Growth Secretariat of the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal.

Complete communities meet people’s needs for daily living throughout an entire lifetime by providing convenient access to an appropriate mix of jobs, local services, a full range of housing, and community infrastructure including affordable housing, schools, recreation and open space for residents.

One quarter of all Canadians currently live in the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The Ministry has developed this special focus on the Golden Horseshoe region because it is forecasting growth by an additional 3.7 million people in the next quarter century to total 11.5 million people living in the GGH by 2031, which will account for over 80% of Ontario’s population growth. CKL has grown only slowly over the past decades, however Places To Grow is planning for more than 25,000 people to move here over the next 25 years, creating a population of 100,000 in the city of Kawartha Lakes.

In a separate forecast, the Ontario Ministry of Finance projects specifically that the number of young children in CKL will begin to increase now, after a number of years of decline across the province.

- Ontario’s 0-4 year old population will increase by 19% between 2007 and 2021. The central Ontario area, comprised of CKL, Haliburton County, Northumberland County and Peterborough County, can expect a 15% increase 2007-2021.
- CKL is projected to have almost 10% more 0-4 year olds across the city over the next 13 years. In other words, 260 more infants, toddler & preschoolers will live here in 2021 than in 2007.
- Haliburton County can expect almost 4% more 0-4 year olds across the County over the next 13 years. In other words, an increase from 530 to 550 infants, toddlers & preschoolers by 2021.

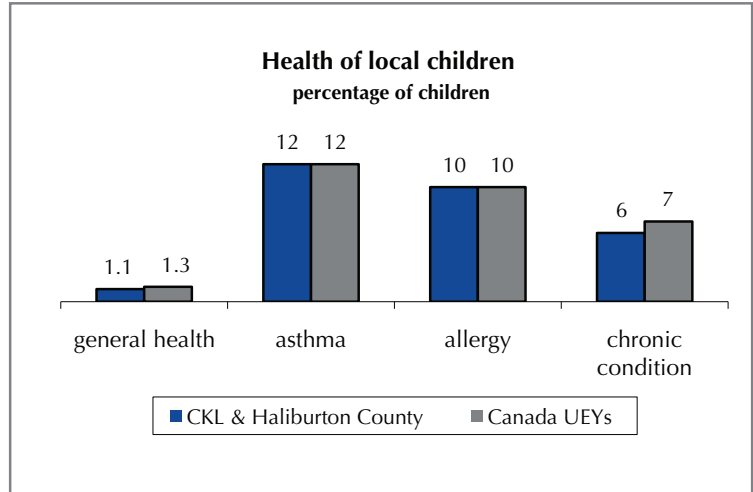
Programs that serve young children in our area such as childcare centres, the Ontario Early Years Centre locations, Preschool Speech & Language, Healthy Babies Healthy Children and Five Counties Children’s Centre, to name a few, will notice the increase well before schools do.

Data notes: Places to Grow, www.ontario.ca/placestogrow. Spring 2008 Population Projection adjustments, net migration (rather than birth rate) will be the source of population increase for all of Ontario, www.fin.gov.on.ca/english/economy/demographics/projections/

HEALTH

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

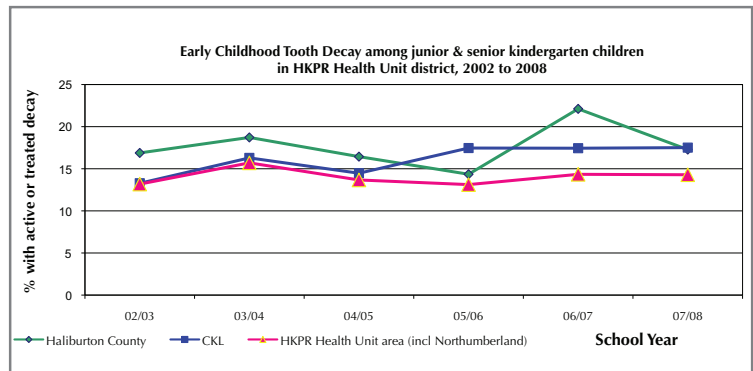
In the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County, the vast majority of children were considered to be in excellent health by their parents. About 1% were reported as being in only fair or in poor health, about the same as the Canadian UEY average. Kindergarten parents reported the prevalence of asthma as 12%, allergies as 10%, and other chronic conditions as 6%. The incidence of these four health conditions is not significantly different from the Canadian UEY average.



Data source: UEY Community Survey of kindergarten parents, 2007.

DENTAL HEALTH

Early childhood tooth decay (ECTD) is an aggressive form of tooth decay that occurs in preschool children, ages 3 years old and younger. HKPR, the local health unit district, is comprised of Haliburton County, the city of Kawartha Lakes (CKL) and Northumberland County. The Health Unit's dental department visits every school each year to check the teeth and dental health of kindergarten children.



Data source: HKPR District Health Unit, Dental Screening Summary Report, 2007-08.

In both Haliburton County and CKL, there was a higher percentage of combined junior kindergarten and senior kindergarten children (mostly 4 and 5 year olds) identified each year at the time of screening as having active or treated early childhood tooth decay (ECTD), compared to the HKPR Health Unit district overall. The overall proportion of

identified ECTD in the HKPR Health Unit district for the 2007/2008 school year was 14.3% among JK and SK children (combined), compared to 17.3% in Haliburton County and 17.5% in CKL. This local trend has been consistently observed over time. Incidence in Ontario ranges from 5 to 14% according to the Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry in 2001 (www.healthunit.biz).

TEENAGE PARENTS

What percentage of parents under 30 years old are teenagers? In the City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL) there were 2,840 parents between 15 and 29 years old in 2006. Of these, 140 were teenage parents 15 to 19 years old (4.9%). (Statistics Canada does not classify anyone below 15 years old as a parent).

INCREASE – The percentage of parents under 30 who are teens living in CKL increased significantly in the six years between 2000 and 2006.

NOT LIVING ALONE - Most teenage parents in CKL are married or living with partners (85%), 120 of the 140 teen parents.

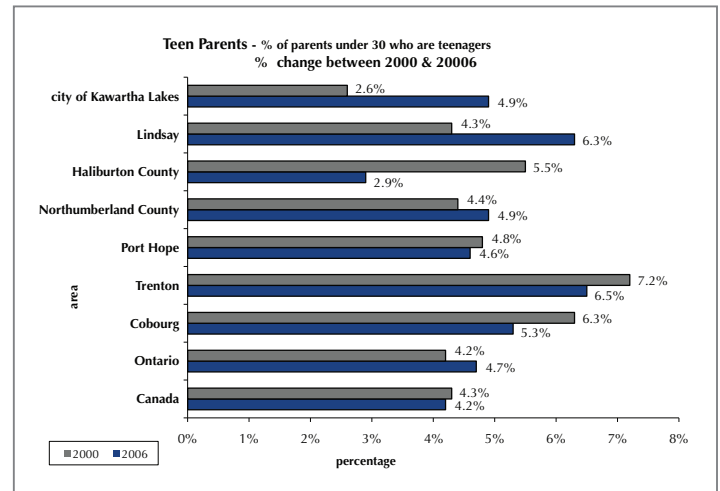
TEEN FATHERS – Both mothers and fathers are included in the ‘teen parent’ count. It is not known how many teen mothers’ partners are no longer teenagers. However, since so few CKL teen parents are lone parents and assuming that at least some partners of teen mothers are still in their teens as well, it could be estimated that there are between 10 and 50 teen fathers in CKL.

LINDSAY – About 43% of CKL teen parents live in Lindsay (60 of the 140). This represents just over 6% of all parents under 30 living in Lindsay. This is higher than the provincial (4.7%) and national average (4.2%). When the Lindsay (K9V) rural routes are included with the former town limits, the percentage jumps to almost 8% (according to Statistics Canada, Small Area Data, 2006).

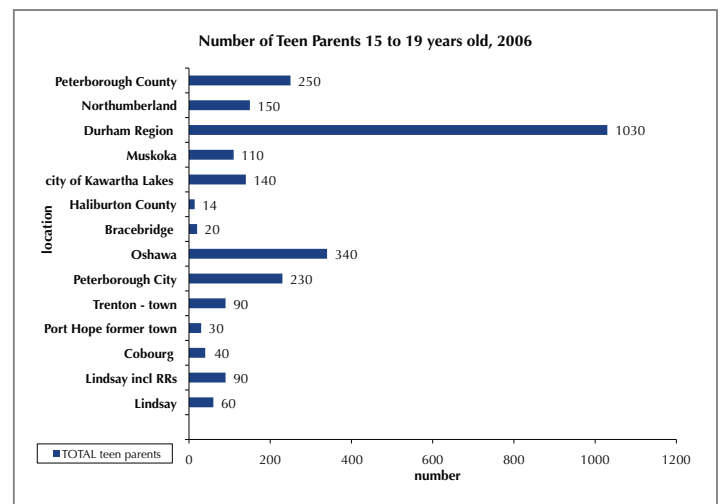
In terms of numbers, the city of Peterborough and Northumberland County have more teen parents, however it will continue to be important to develop programs for teen mothers and fathers in CKL.

In Haliburton County there were 450 parents who were between 15 and 29 years old in 2006. Of these, the number of parents who were teenagers 15 to 19 years old was too low to be reportable (fewer than 15 teens, which is less than 3% of parents under 30 years old in the County). No information was available regarding teen partnerships or number of teen fathers. In 2000, 5.5% of parents under 30 living in Haliburton County were teens. This percentage has decreased by 2006 to less than 0% to 3%.

Parents 15 to 19 years old who are living in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County, whether or not their babies were born there.



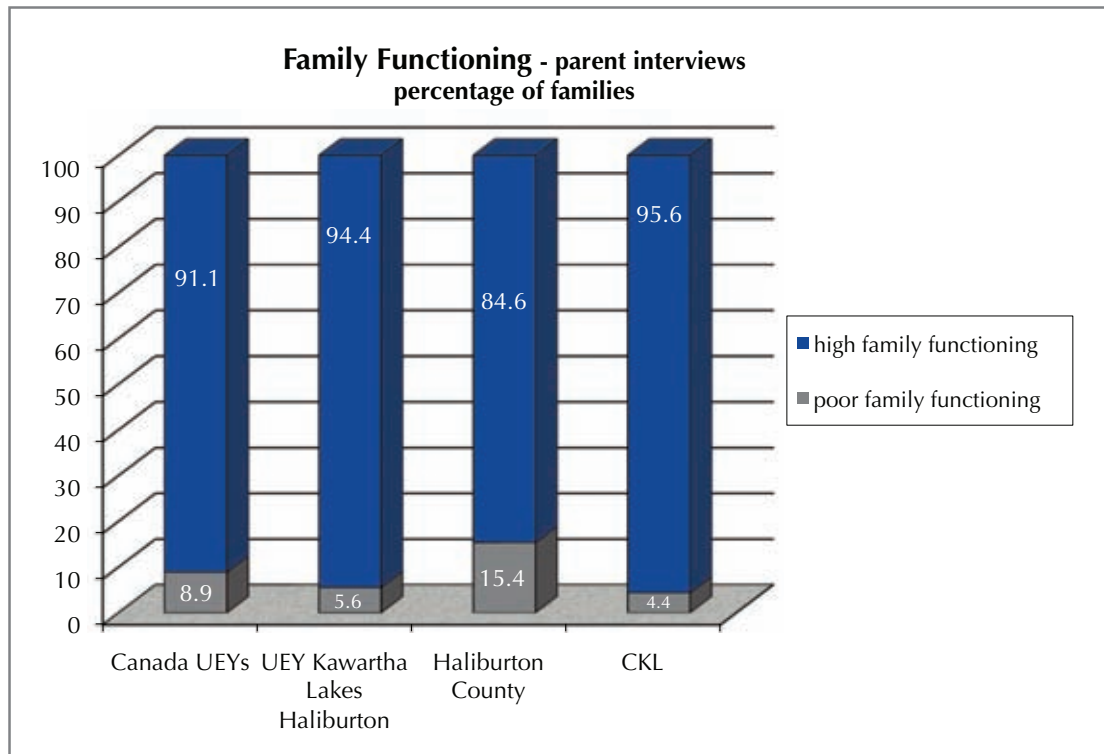
Data Source: Statistics Canada, Small Area Administrative Data, 2006.



FAMILY FUNCTIONING

A number of research studies indicate that the way a family functions significantly impacts the development of children. As part of our parent interviews in the present study, family functioning was measured with twelve questions regarding the family's ability to communicate, make decisions, solve problems together, talk about their feelings, get along together and feel accepted for who they are. The range of scores was from 0 to 36. Families with scores below 12 answered 'disagree' or 'strongly disagree' on most statements in this part of the parent interviews so a score of 12 was set as the cut-off for poor family functioning.

- About 9% of families across Canada in UEY studies in the same year scored below 12 in family functioning.
- Families in the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton UEY study scored significantly higher than the Canadian UEY, with less than 6% demonstrating poor family functioning patterns.
- The vast majority of families in the City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL) seem to be functioning well, with just over 4% struggling with issues affecting family functioning.
- The sample size in Haliburton County was too small to generalize to the general population (n=40), however more than 1 in 6 families (15.4%) of the sample were in need of help with factors affecting the function of their family, significantly higher than the Canada UEY percentage.



PARENTING STYLES

Parenting Practices: As young parents develop their parenting style, they establish practices they use in their relationship with their child. Some of these parenting practices are readily measurable and tell us about how communities tend to interact within families. The parent interviews included 28 questions that were used to develop a ten-point scale for each of the four types of parenting practices.

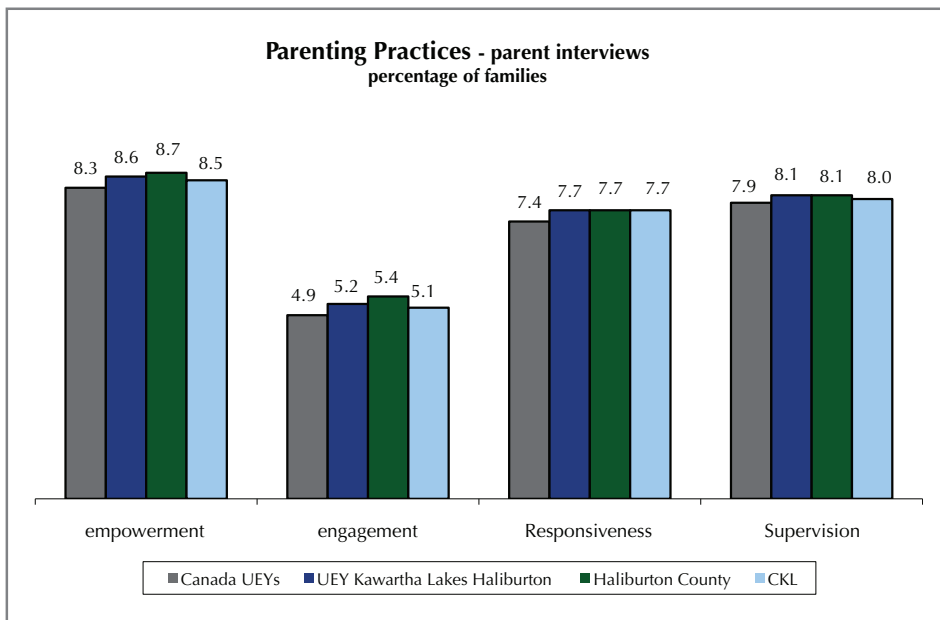
EMPOWERMENT AND ENGAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Empowerment is the practice of providing children with opportunities. Parents who scored high on this scale consciously incorporate opportunities for their child to develop respect for others, responsibility, conflict resolution, fairness and honesty into their daily routines.
- Engagement measures the extent to which parents are directly involved with their child in activities such as reading to them, singing songs and playing together, as well as counting or early literacy activities.

RESPONSIVENESS AND SUPERVISION PRACTICES

- Responsiveness measures how much parents are in touch with their child and responsive to the child's needs and interests.
- Supervision: measures the extent to which parents supervise their child, practice positive discipline and expect age-appropriate obedience and self-control.

Overall, UEY Kawartha Lakes Haliburton was higher than the Canadian UEY average on all four parenting scales. The City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County each had higher than average levels of empowerment, engagement, responsiveness and supervision than expected as well.

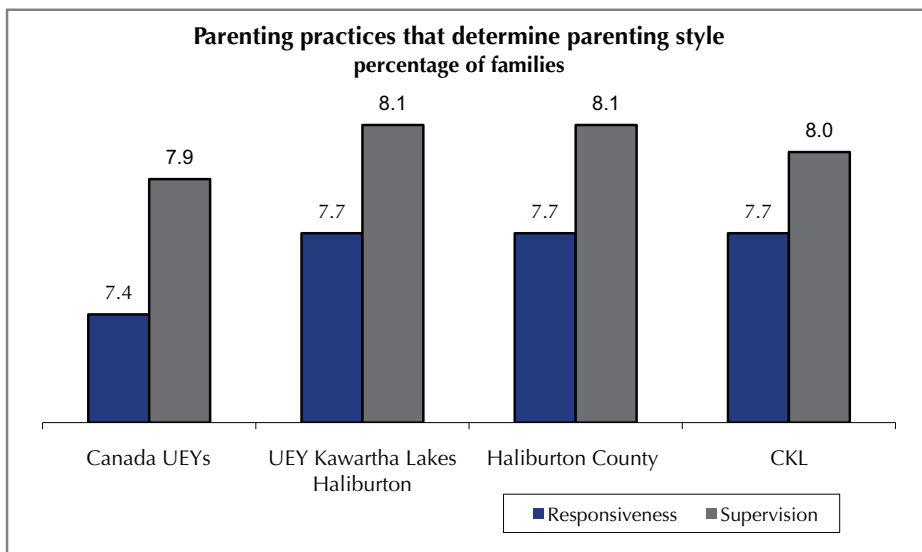
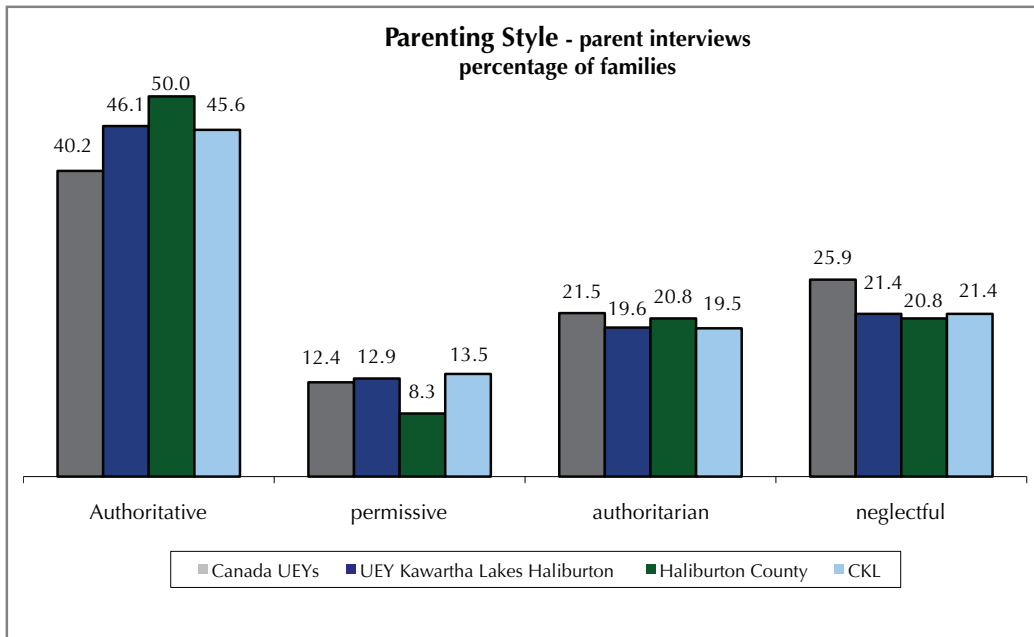


PARENTING STYLE:

Responsiveness and supervision scores combine to measure the parenting styles prevalent in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County. An authoritative style is the best support for children. This style of parenting balances responsiveness (warmth & understanding) with positive supervision (structure & expectations). Authoritative parents create an atmosphere of love and acceptance in the household with clear limits, but also the opportunity for children to learn to make decisions on their own. They tend to notice when their child does something right, and they use positive reinforcement and active listening. A community that fosters a high incidence of authoritative parenting will have children who develop into responsible and caring adults. The other styles of parenting are permissive, authoritarian and neglectful.

PARENTING STYLE	RESPONSIVENESS	SUPERVISION
AUTHORITATIVE	high	high
PERMISSIVE	high	low
AUTHORITARIAN	low	high
NEGLECTFUL	low	low

Both CKL (46%) and Haliburton County (50%) have a higher percentage of the authoritative parents than the Canadian UEY average (40%). Still, about 2 of every 5 parents locally have a neglectful parenting style with too little responsiveness and supervision, or an authoritarian style with too much control and a harsh approach to discipline.

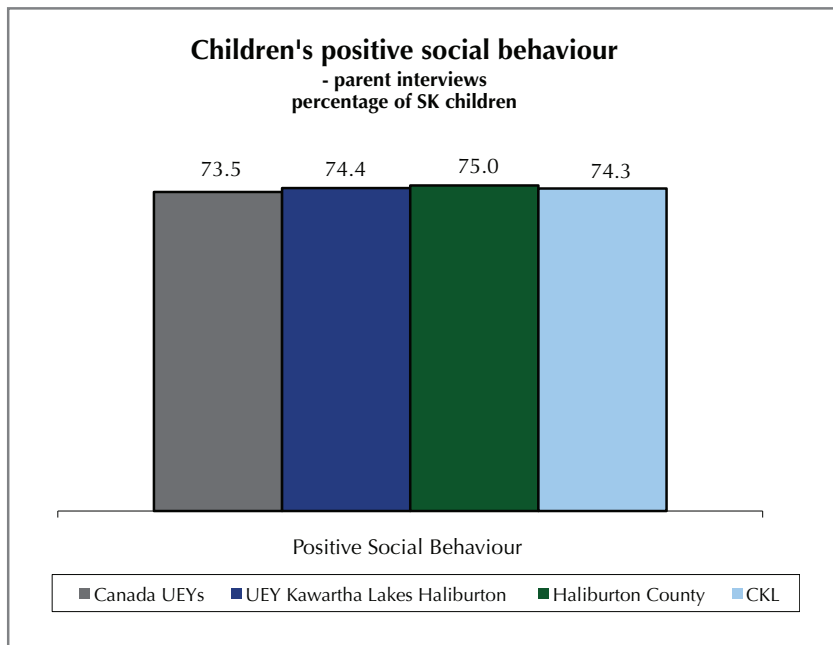




BEHAVIOUR OUTCOMES

POSITIVE SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR SCALE:

Based on parents responses in the parent interviews, children in both the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County are about as likely as other Canadian children to have positive social behaviours.



BEHAVIOUR OUTCOMES

Identifying a child's behaviour is based on assessments by the person most knowledgeable about the child, usually the mother. The measurements comprise several questions, each with the same format. The mother is asked how often her child cannot sit still, is restless or is hyperactive. She answers with one of three possible responses - "never or not true"; "sometimes or somewhat true"; and "often or very true."

The assessment included the following elements:

Positive social behaviour: children who exhibit higher levels of positive social behaviour are more likely to try to help and comfort others. They may offer to help pick up objects that another child has dropped or offer to help a child who is having trouble with a difficult task. They might also invite their peers to join in a game.

Indirect aggression: this element identifies children who, when mad at someone, try to get others to dislike that person; who become friends with another for revenge; who say bad things behind the others back; who say to others, "Lets not be with him/her"; or who tell secrets to a third person.

Hyperactivity: hyperactive children cannot sit still; are restless and are easily distracted; have trouble sticking to any activity; fidget; cannot concentrate; cannot pay attention for long; are impulsive; have difficulty waiting their turn in games or groups; cannot settle to do anything for more than a few moments.

Emotional disorder/anxiety: this element identifies children who seem to be unhappy, sad, or depressed; are too fearful or anxious; are worried; cry a lot; tend to be rather solitary; appear miserable, unhappy, tearful, or distressed; are not as happy as other children; are nervous, high strung, or tense; have trouble enjoying themselves.

Physical aggression & conduct disorder: these children get into many fights. When another child accidentally hurts them (by bumping into them, for example), they assume that the other child meant to do it, and then react with anger and fighting. Also included are children who kick, bite, or hit other children; physically attack people; and who threaten people, are cruel or bully others.

Human Resources and Social Development Canada (2002). Understanding the Early Years, Early Childhood Development in Southwestern Newfoundland. Accessed December 2008 at <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/cs/sp/sdc/pkrf/publications/nlscy/uey/community/2002-000025/page06.shtml>.

BEHAVIOUR SCALES:

About the same percentage of children in the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton UEY community exhibit inattention and physical aggression as other Canadian children (differences are not statistically significant), as reported by parents. Children with signs of depression and low demonstration of positive social behaviours are also about as prevalent, however the small sample of families who responded in Haliburton County (n=40) seem to show a higher level of childhood depression and less positive social behaviours which may warrant further study.

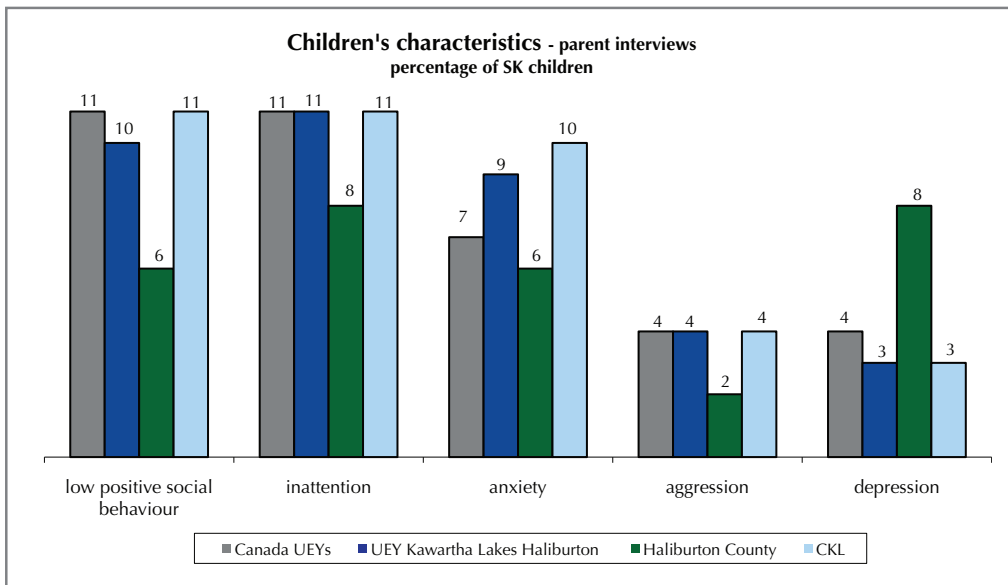




Photo credit: Matt James/Haliburton Echo



Photo credit: Corey Pietryszyn/Haliburton Echo



SCHOOL READINESS

EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (EDI)

TEACHERS TOLD US ABOUT LOCAL KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN...

(mostly 5 year olds)

- 94 % print their own name
- 88 % can identify letters
- 75 % read simple words
- 81 % recognize 1 to 10
- 87 % can count to 20
- 91 % know time concepts
 - 4 % are hungry
- 15 % arrive late for school
- 10 % are tired
 - 9 % already show special math skills
- 12 % special literacy skills
 - 7 % special visual arts skills
 - 2 % special music skills
 - 4 % special athletic, dance or drama skills
 - 5 % special problem solving skills
- 70 % can follow class routines
- 61 % have self confidence
- 66 % demonstrate self-control

- Percentage who 'often' display these attributes.

Data source: UEY Kawartha Lakes Haliburton 2006 EDI, 708 senior kindergarten children (almost 90% of kindergartners).

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) is a Canadian-designed measure of the extent to which a population of children is prepared for the rigours of academic learning in grade one. The EDI was based on questions from the National Longitudinal Study of Children and Youth (NLSCY). It was developed by the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University (Hamilton, Ontario) by Dr. Dan Offord and Dr. Magdalena Janus. Data has been collected on over 520,000 kindergarten children across Canada and in other countries. British Columbia, Manitoba and Ontario regularly complete the EDI province-wide and in 2009 Australia will complete the EDI country-wide.

OUTCOME MEASURE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

The EDI is an indicator of school readiness. It is an outcome measure of how well the community supported young children and their families through the years leading up to kindergarten, before the child entered school. It has also been shown to be a good indicator of children's success later in school (see Forget-Dubois et al 20007 in References), so school boards also use results for internal planning.

DOMAINS OF DEVELOPMENT

The EDI yields results for each type of child development (domain) that it measures:

- Physical health and well being
- Social development
- Emotional maturity
- Language & cognitive development
- Communication & general knowledge

Communication and general knowledge measures children's ability to use language in play, and to make themselves understood to adults and their peers. An example would be dramatic or make-believe play which requires a great deal of discussion between children to make it work. This domain also measures a group of children's general knowledge about the world.

NUMBER VERSUS PERCENTAGE

Like many early years mapping projects, our planning neighbourhoods ("planninghoods") do not have equal numbers of children 0 to 6 years old. This has implications when percentages are thematically mapped by colour as they are in the maps in the next section. The East Haliburton County planninghood, for example, is pink in the School Readiness EDI map for Social Competence on page 38, indicating a high percentage of children who are vulnerable in this developmental domain. However the actual number of children is higher in West CKL (Little Britain area) which

is coloured green, indicating less vulnerability. This is because 15-28% of the 680 children in West CKL is represents a higher number of children than 39-60% of the 120 children 0-6 years old in East Haliburton County. See page 74 for more about the development of planninghood boundaries. See page 75 for tables of the actual number of children 0 to 6 years old in each planninghood.

ABOUT THE LOCAL EDI (2006)

In CKL and Haliburton County, all schools and every senior kindergarten (SK or just 'kindergarten') teacher participated in the EDI in the winter of 2006. They provided their professional opinion of the development of 708 local kindergarten children using the 8-page survey and 104 questions. The EDI was analyzed for the UEY Kawartha Lakes Haliburton initiative by the Offord Centre, and further micro analysis of sub-domains completed by the local UEY Co-ordinator. Special needs children were not included in the present study so 708 kindergarten children were part of the 2006 EDI. That is about 90% of local SK children

POTENTIAL USES OF EDI RESULTS

EDI results are used in combination with other information such as demographics, direct assessments of children's skills, parent surveys and an inventory of neighbourhood services.

- shows what we have to work on as a community.
- suggests areas where intervention programs are needed.
- flags neighbourhoods that may need resources such as childcare, library services, playgrounds and recreation programs.
- EDI can also monitor change over time.
- It is a mobilization tool for our community.

Examples of some of the many local programs already implemented that are designed to improve different domains of development are listed on page 47 & 48. Local agencies that serve children 0 to 6 years old, and their families, are listed on pages 61 and 71.

EDI results are provided for each planning area, or 'planninghood', in CKL and Haliburton County, by individual domain. Information on the percentage of children are shown on the EDI maps, however it should be noted that the planninghoods have unequal numbers of children, so the number of children who are in the lowest 25% of EDI scores and therefore 'vulnerable' is shown in the table at the bottom of each EDI page.

Overall, EDI results for 2006 indicate that CKL and Haliburton County are doing well at providing supports for young children, and their families.

TEACHERS TOLD US ABOUT LOCAL KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN...

(mostly 5 year olds)

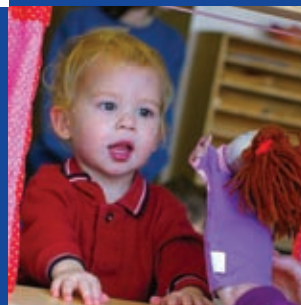
- 55 % can independently solve problems often
- 69 % can follow directions
- 58 % listen
- 87 % are curious
- 78 % adjust well to change
- 83 % have knowledge of the world
- 72 % often play with various children
- 55 % help children who are hurt
- 43 % comfort other children who are upset
- 33 % invite bystanders
- 5 % are upset when left
- 2 % get into fights
- 3 % bully or are mean
- 7 % are shy
- 80 % respect adults
- 62 % work neatly
- 76 % are eager to explore new books
- 90 % are eager to explore new games
- 92 % are eager to explore new toys

- Percentage who 'often' display these attributes.

Data source: UEY Kawartha Lakes Haliburton 2006 EDI, N=708 senior kindergarten children (almost 90% of kindergartners).

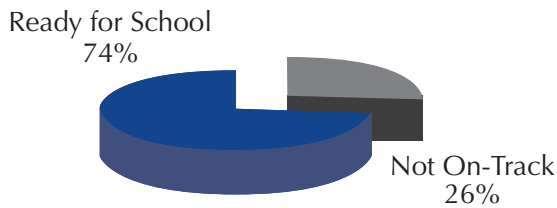


Photo credit: Sunita Karir/Haliburton Echo

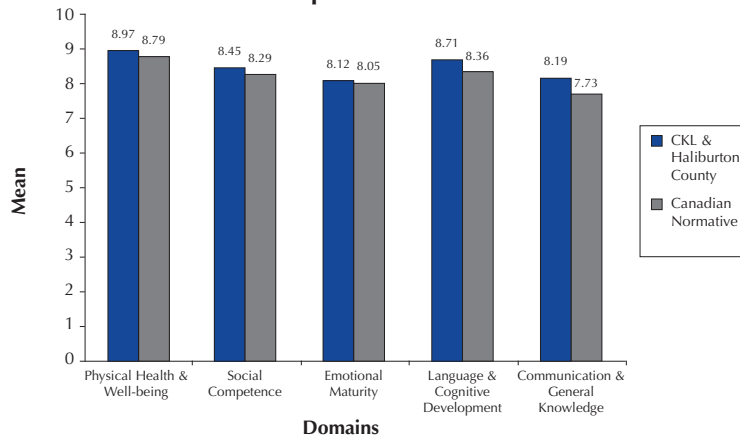


HOW WELL IS OUR COMMUNITY DOING – READY OR NOT?

Portion of children in CKL and Haliburton County who finished their early years in the community Ready for School



EDI 2006 City of Kawartha Lakes & Haliburton County, Ontario Comparison of Means



- McMaster University’s Offord Centre for Child Studies uses a Gold Standard normative which only includes EDIs without missing data, and as well, children with special needs are analyzed separately. The chart at left illustrates EDI 2006 results for CKL and Haliburton County indicating our community’s results are not statistically different from the Canadian normative sample. Statistical significance of $p < 0.05$ is used for EDI reports, which implies less than a 5% chance of the difference occurring by chance.
- During their preschool years in the community, almost 3 out of 4 children in CKL and Haliburton County have learned all the skills and social-emotional abilities they need to be ready to learn at school.
- 15% scored low on at least two school readiness domains. This was not significantly different from the Canadian normative sample of the Offord Centre’s Multiple Challenge Index.
- The range of means for the five developmental domains of CKL and Haliburton County’s EDI was from 74% (Social Competence as well as Communication Skills & General Knowledge) to 82% (Physical Health & Well-being).
- The mean for Emotional Maturity (8.12) in the bar graph on the left is not statistically different from the Canadian normative. All the remaining four domain means for CKL and Haliburton County are higher than the Canadian normative means which indicates that children in our community are more ready for school in their development of skills in Physical Health & Well-being, Social Competence, Language & Cognitive Development, and Communication & General Knowledge than Canadian children.
- Scoring the same or better, on average, as other communities in Canada at preparing our children for school is only part of the picture, however. The following pages detail the sub-domains of development where we, as a community, still have some work to do.

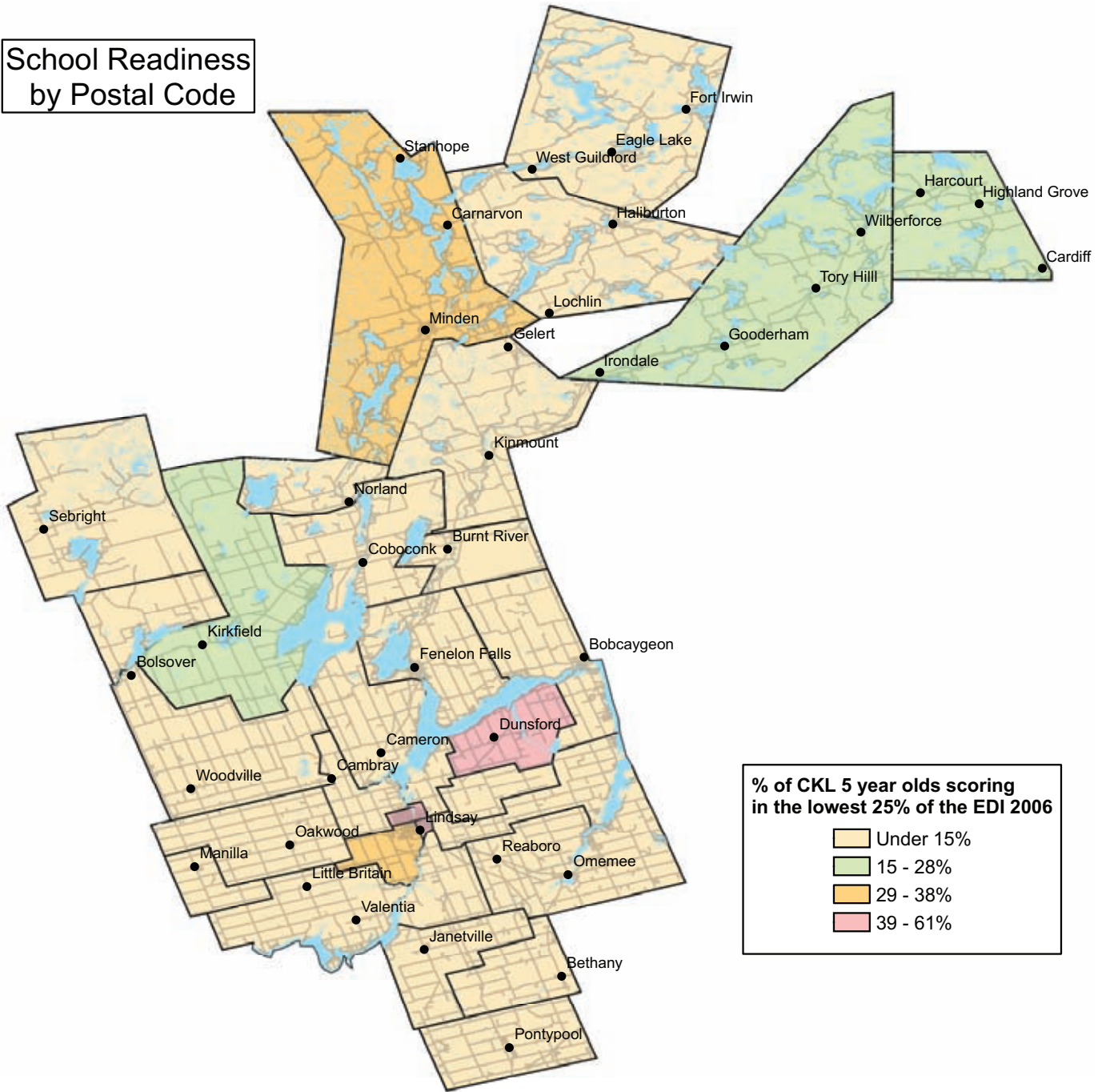
TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT (DOMAINS) AND THEIR SUB-DOMAINS

Physical Health & Well-being	Social Competence	Emotional Maturity	Language & Cognitive Development	Communication Skills & General Knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical readiness for school day • physical independence • gross motor & fine motor skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • overall social competence • responsibility & respect • approaches to learning • readiness to explore new things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prosocial & helping behaviour • anxious & fearful behaviour • aggressive behaviour • hyperactivity & inattention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • basic literacy • interest in literacy & numeracy & memory • advanced literacy • basic numeracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communication skills (no other sub-domains)

PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

How well do we support our youngest members?

School Readiness
by Postal Code

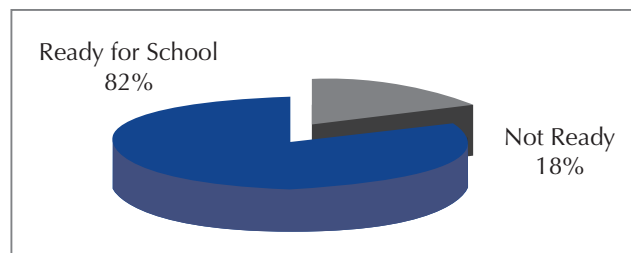


PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

EDI 2006 SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS IN CKL & HALIBURTON COUNTY

INTERPRETATION TIP: The **higher** the % in the *Ready for School* or *Middle* columns, the **fewer** children there are that need help in that sub-domain skill.

Whereas in the group of children who were *Not Ready for School*, the **higher** the % in the *Not Ready for School* column, the **more** children there are that need help in that sub-domain skill.



READY OR MIDDLE

Sub-domain	Ready for School	Middle	A high % indicates more of the Ready or Middle group of children with the following ready for school attributes:
Physical readiness for the school day	75.8%	16.8%	This % of Ready or Middle children arrive at school well rested, and appropriately dressed for school activities. They rarely arrive late or hungry.
Physical independence	91.4%	0.0%	Group of children who look after their own needs independently, have an established hand preference, are well-coordinated, and do not suck a thumb or finger.
Gross motor & fine motor skills	58.8%	16.1%	Age-appropriate large muscle skills like running & climbing, as well as small muscle skills commonly used in school such as controlling a pencil and turning pages without tearing the page.

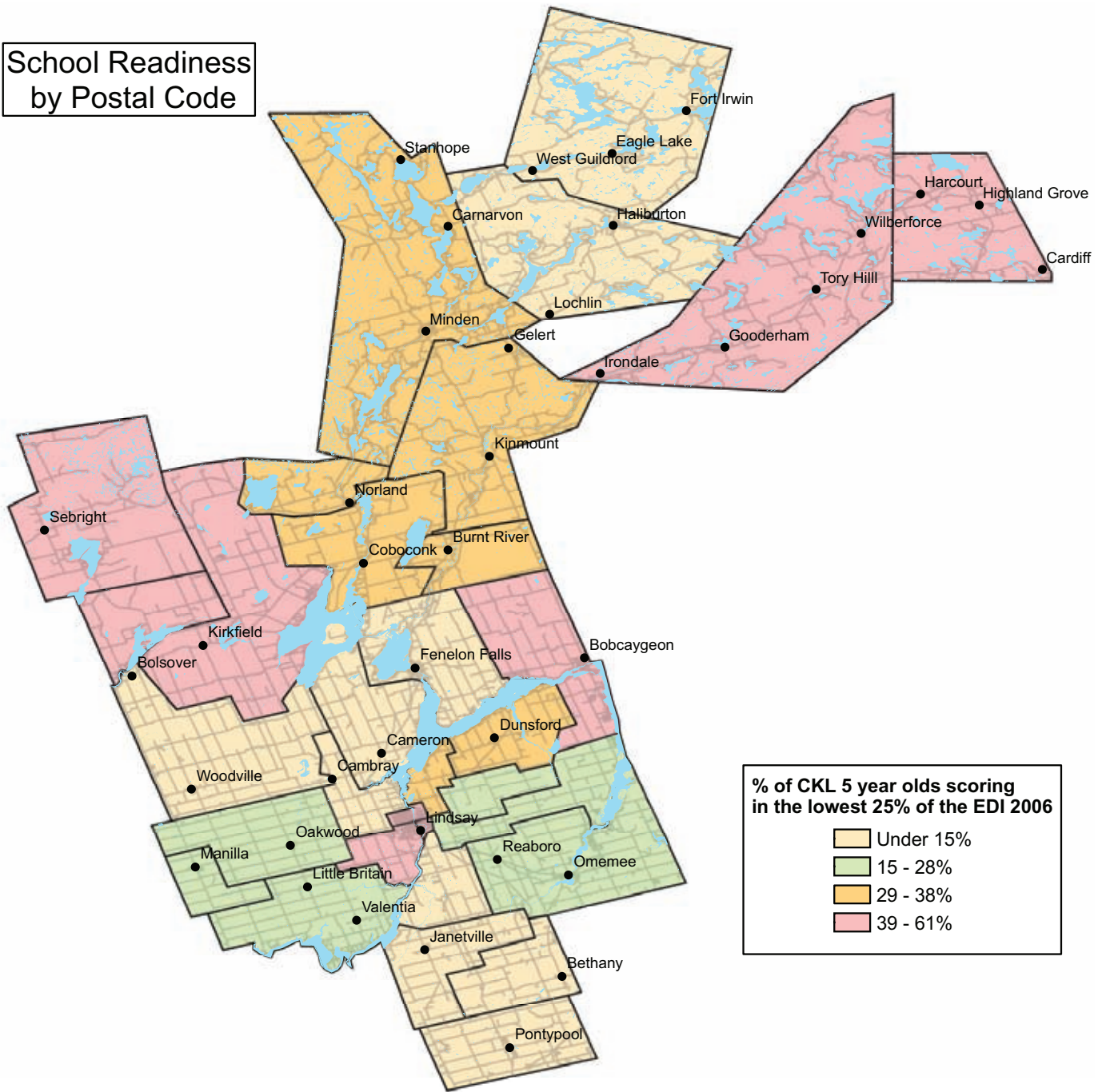
NOT READY

Sub-domain	Not Ready for School	A high % indicates more of the Not Ready for School group of children with the following not on track attributes:
Physical readiness for the school day	7.4%	These children have arrived at school (at least sometimes) tired, late or hungry. They may be under-dressed or over-dressed for school activities.
Physical independence	8.6%	These children vary from those who have not developed one of the three skills (independence, handedness, coordination).
Gross motor & fine motor skills	25.0%	Group of children who have not had enough experience with large muscle skills like running & climbing in order to be well-co-ordinated, or with small muscle skills like controlling a pencil or brush. They may have poor overall energy levels and physical skills.

SOCIAL COMPETENCE

How well do we support our youngest children?

School Readiness
by Postal Code

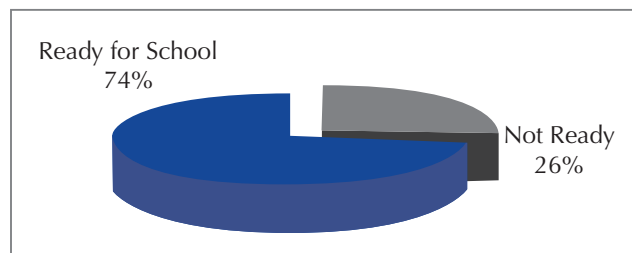


SOCIAL COMPETENCE

EDI 2006 SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS IN CKL & HALIBURTON COUNTY

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Whereas in the group of children who were *Not Ready for School*, the **higher** the % in the *Not Ready for School* column, the **more** children there are that need help in that sub-domain skill.



READY OR MIDDLE

Sub-domain	Ready for School	Middle	A high % indicates more of the Ready or Middle group of children with the following ready for school attributes:
Overall social competence	65.0%	27.4%	Group of children with excellent or good overall social development, very good ability to get along with other children and play with various children. Usually cooperative and self-confident.
Responsibility & respect	78.1%	17.7%	Always or most of the time show respect for others and property, follow rules and take care of materials, accept responsibility for actions & show self-control.
Approaches to learning	64.5%	28.4%	Listen well, work independently, and solve problems. They follow instructions & class routines and easily adjust to changes.
Readiness to explore new things	85.7%	13.6%	Group of children who are curious about the surrounding world, and are eager to explore new books, toys and games.

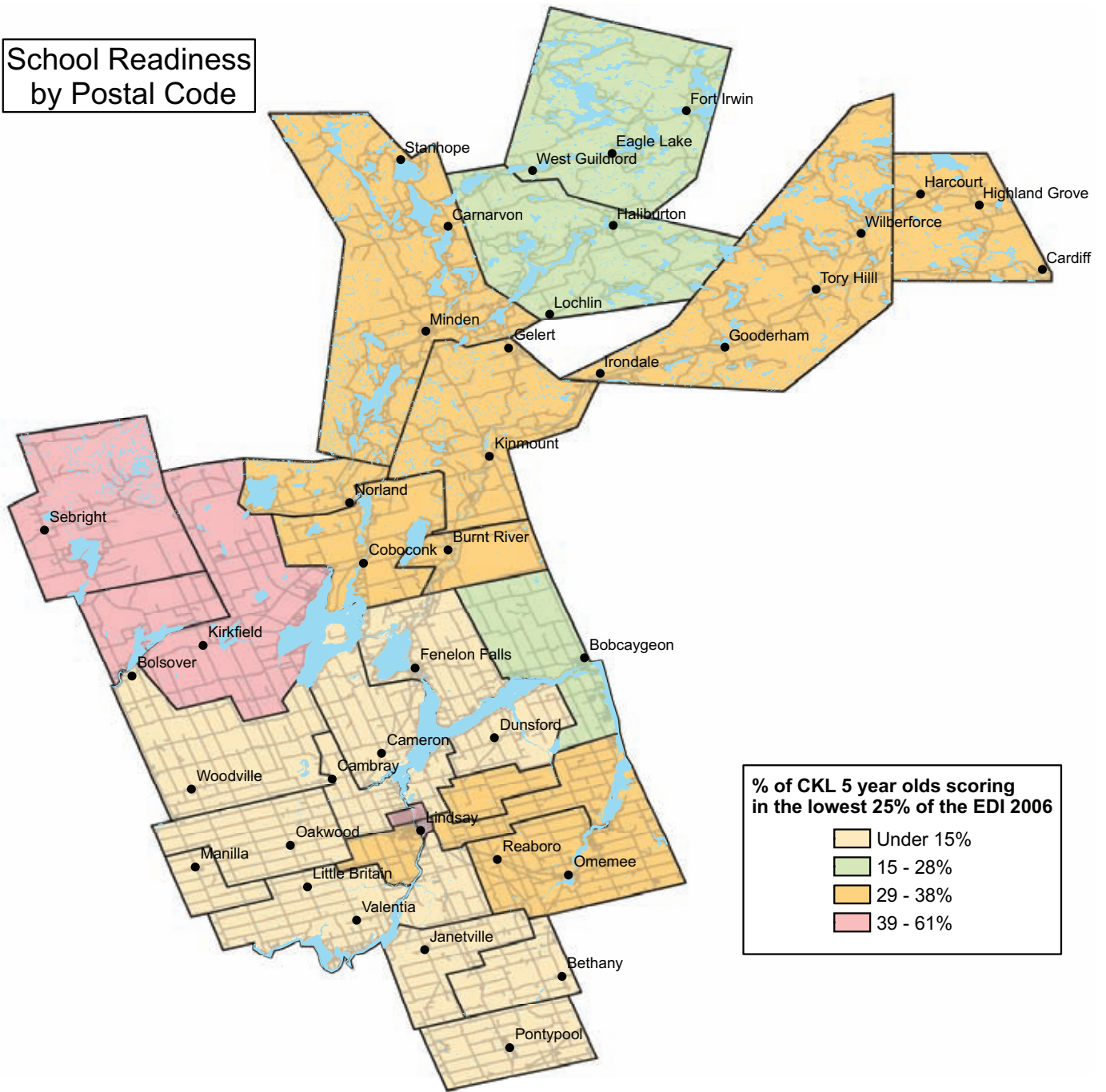
NOT READY

Sub-domain	Not Ready for School	A high % indicates more of the Not Ready for School group of children with the following not on track attributes:
Overall social competence	7.6%	Group of children who have average to poor overall social skills, low self-confidence and have trouble playing with a variety of children and interacting co-operatively.
Responsibility & respect	4.2%	Difficulty with ability to accept responsibility for actions, show respect for others and for property, and demonstrate self-control. They are rarely able to follow rules and take care of materials.
Approaches to learning	7.1%	Group of children who only occasionally work neatly & independently. They are rarely able to solve their problems without help or to follow class routines and they do not easily adjust to changes in routines.
Readiness to explore new things	0.7%	Children who never, or only sometimes, show curiosity about the world. They are rarely eager to explore new books, toys and games.

EMOTIONAL MATURITY

How well do we support our youngest children?

School Readiness
by Postal Code

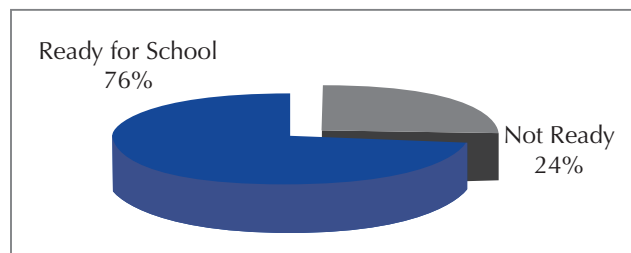


EMOTIONAL MATURITY

EDI 2006 SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS IN CKL & HALIBURTON COUNTY

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Whereas in the group of children who were *Not Ready for School*, the **higher** the % in the *Not Ready for School* column, the **more** children there are that need help in that sub-domain skill.



READY OR MIDDLE

Sub-domain	Ready for School	Middle	A high % indicates more of the Ready or Middle group of children with the following ready for school attributes:
Prosocial and helping behaviour	39.5%	35.3%	Group of children who often show most of the helping behaviours appropriate for their age: helping someone who is hurt, sick or upset, offering to help spontaneously, and inviting bystanders to join in.
Happy and calm	87.3%	9.8%	Usually happy and able to enjoy school. By January they are comfortable being left at school by caregivers. Rarely or never show most of the anxious behaviours.
Getting along with others	81.8%	9.3%	Being kind to others, almost never have temper tantrums, they find ways to solve conflicts other than with aggression. This group of children rarely or never show most of the aggressive behaviours.
Attention	70.7%	14.9%	Group of children who almost never show most of the hyperactive behaviours: they are able to concentrate, settle to chosen activities, wait their turn, and most of the time think before doing something.

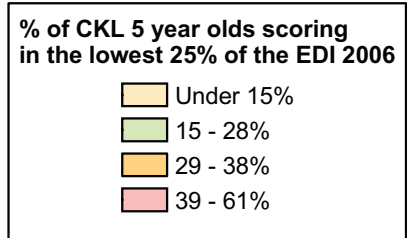
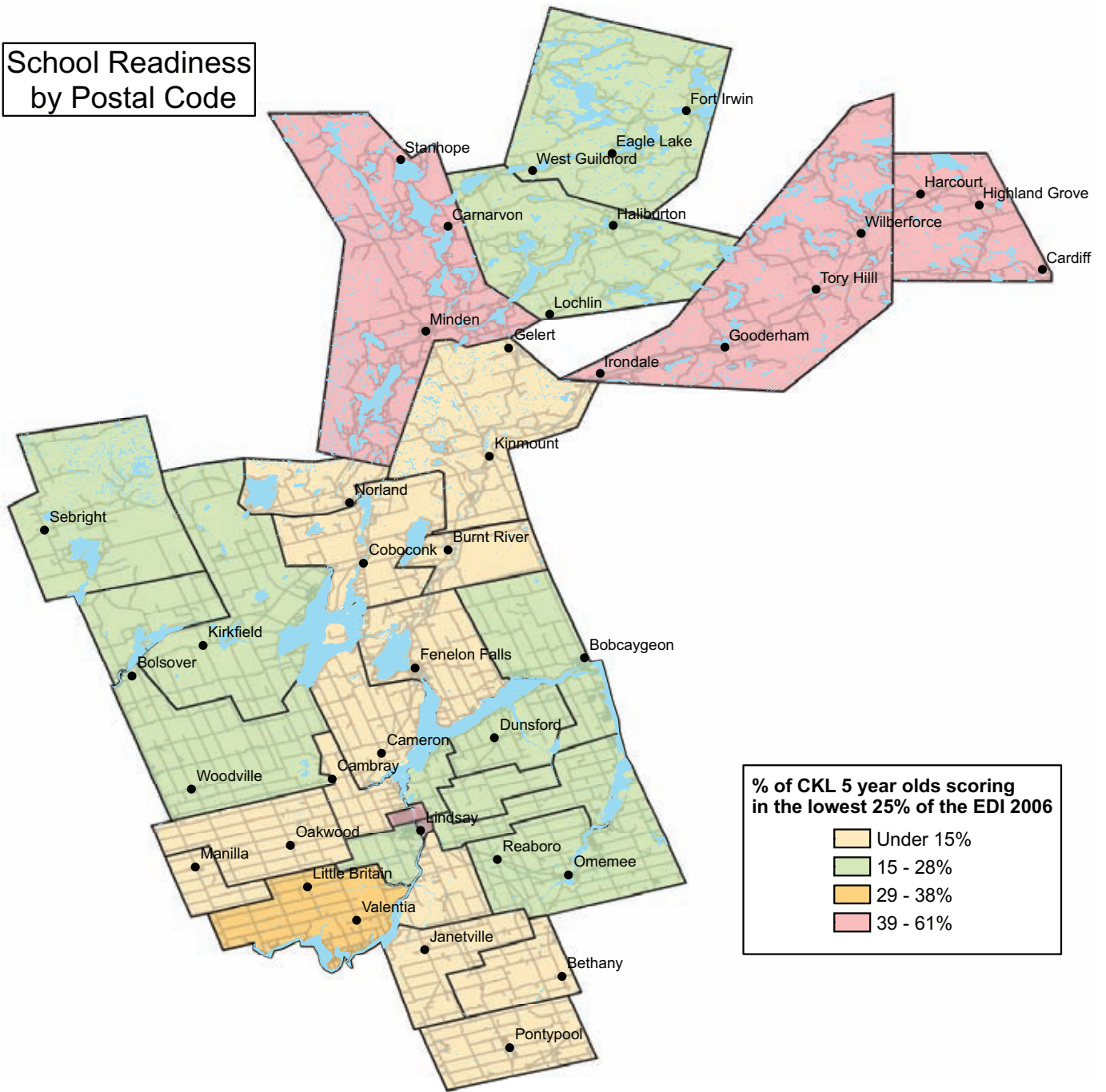
NOT READY

Sub-domain	Not Ready for School	A high % indicates more of the Not Ready for School group of children with the following not on track attributes:
Prosocial and helping behaviour	25.2%	Group of children who never or almost never show most of the helping behaviours appropriate for their age: they are not likely to help someone hurt, sick or upset or to spontaneously offer to help, and they haven't learnt to invite bystanders to join in.
Happy and calm	3.0%	Often show most of the anxious behaviours: they could be worried, unhappy, nervous, sad or excessively shy, indecisive; and they can be upset when left at school.
Getting along with others	8.9%	Group who often show most of the aggressive behaviours; they may get into physical fights, kick or bite others, take other people's things. They may be disobedient or have temper tantrums.
Attention	14.4%	Group of children who often show most of the hyperactive behaviours; they could be restless, distractible, impulsive. They fidget and have difficulty settling and making decisions.

LANGUAGE & COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

How well do we support our youngest members?

School Readiness
by Postal Code

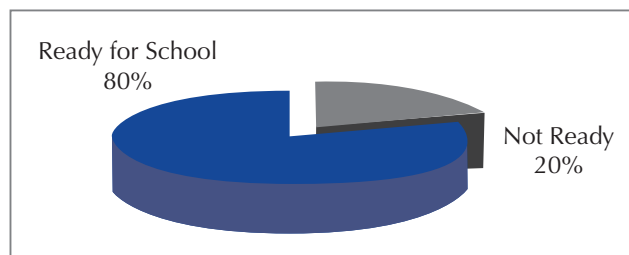


LANGUAGE & COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

EDI 2006 SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS IN CKL & HALIBURTON COUNTY

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Whereas in the group of children who were *Not Ready for School*, the **higher** the % in the *Not Ready for School* column, the **more** children there are that need help in that sub-domain skill.



READY OR MIDDLE

Sub-domain	Ready for School	Middle	A high % indicates more of the Ready or Middle group of children with the following ready for school attributes:
Basic literacy	78.0%	15.4%	Group of children who have all the basic literacy skills: they know how to handle a book, they identify letters and associate sounds to some letters. They show awareness of rhyming words, know that printing goes from top to bottom & left to right, and they are able to print their own name.
Interest in literacy numeracy and memory	79.7%	10.7%	Show interest in books and reading, math and numbers, and have no difficulty with remembering things. They are interested in games involving memory or numbers.
Advanced literacy	77.0%	9.7%	This group has at least half of the advanced literacy skills such as reading simple words & sentences, printing simple words & sentences, and printing voluntarily.
Basic numeracy	79.0%	8.9%	Children have all the basic numeracy skills: they can count to 20, recognize shapes & numbers, compare numbers, sort & classify, use one-to-one correspondence, and they understand time concepts.

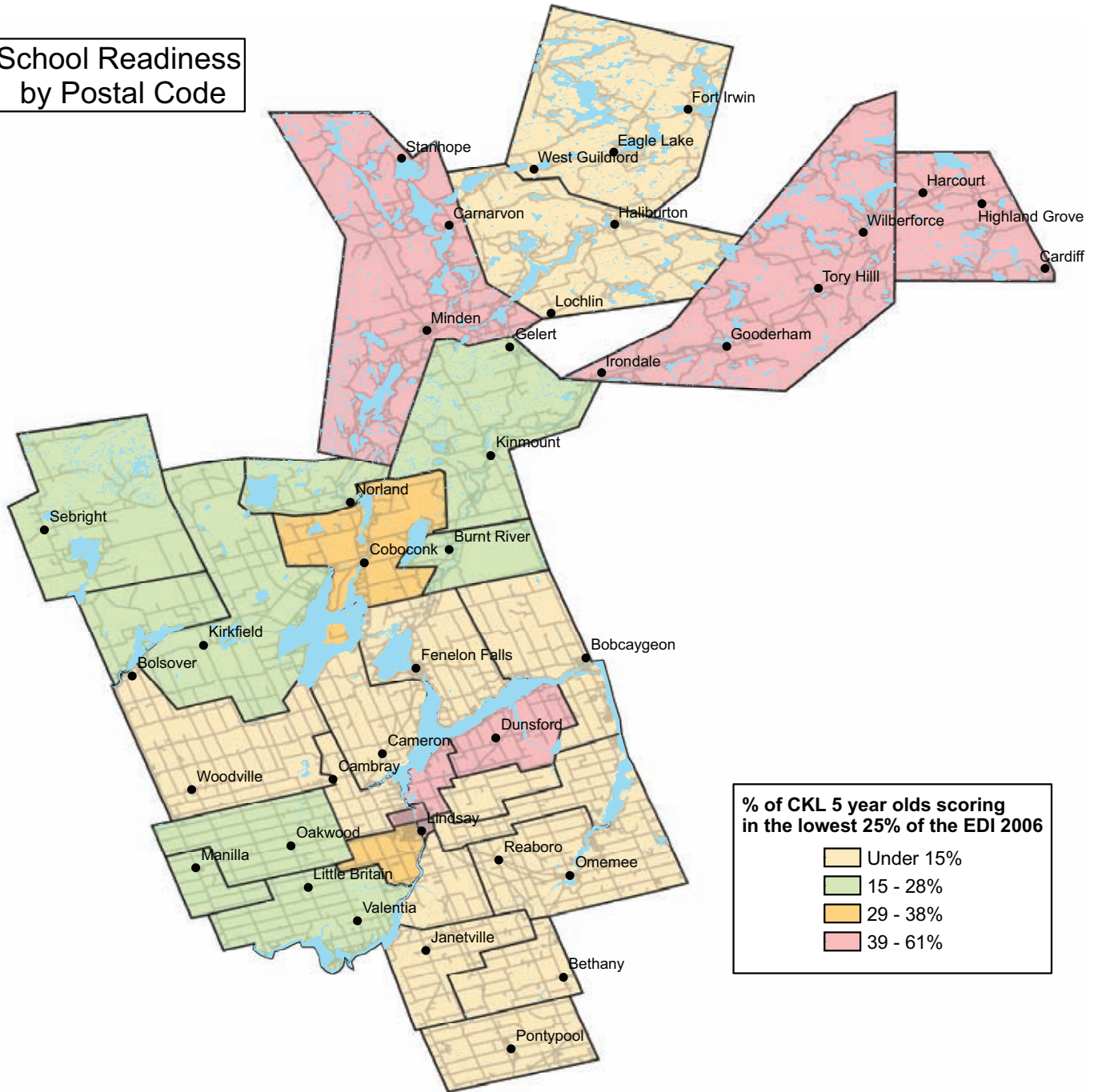
NOT READY

Sub-domain	Not Ready for School	A high % indicates more of the Not Ready for School group of children with the following not on track attributes:
Basic literacy	6.6%	Group of children who do not demonstrate most of the basic literacy skills: they have problems identifying letters or attaching sounds to them, difficulty with the concept of rhyming, and they may not know the directionality of printing or how to print their own name.
Interest in literacy numeracy and memory	9.6%	May not show interest in books & reading, math & number games, or both. They may have difficulty remembering things.
Advanced literacy	13.3%	Children who have only up to one of the advanced literacy skills. They cannot read or print simple words or sentences, and they rarely print voluntarily.
Basic numeracy	12.1%	Have marked difficulty with numbers. They do not count, compare or recognize numbers. They may not be able to name all the shapes and they may have difficulty with time concepts such as today, summer and bedtime.

COMMUNICATION & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

How well do we support our youngest members?

School Readiness
by Postal Code

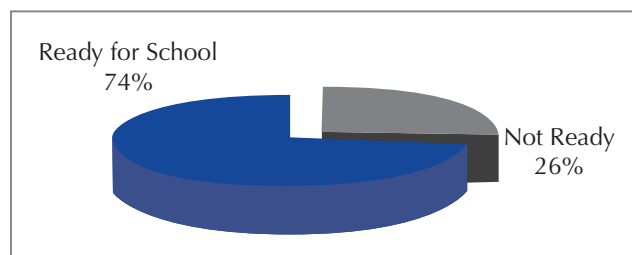


COMMUNICATION SKILLS & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

EDI 2006 SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS IN CKL & HALIBURTON COUNTY

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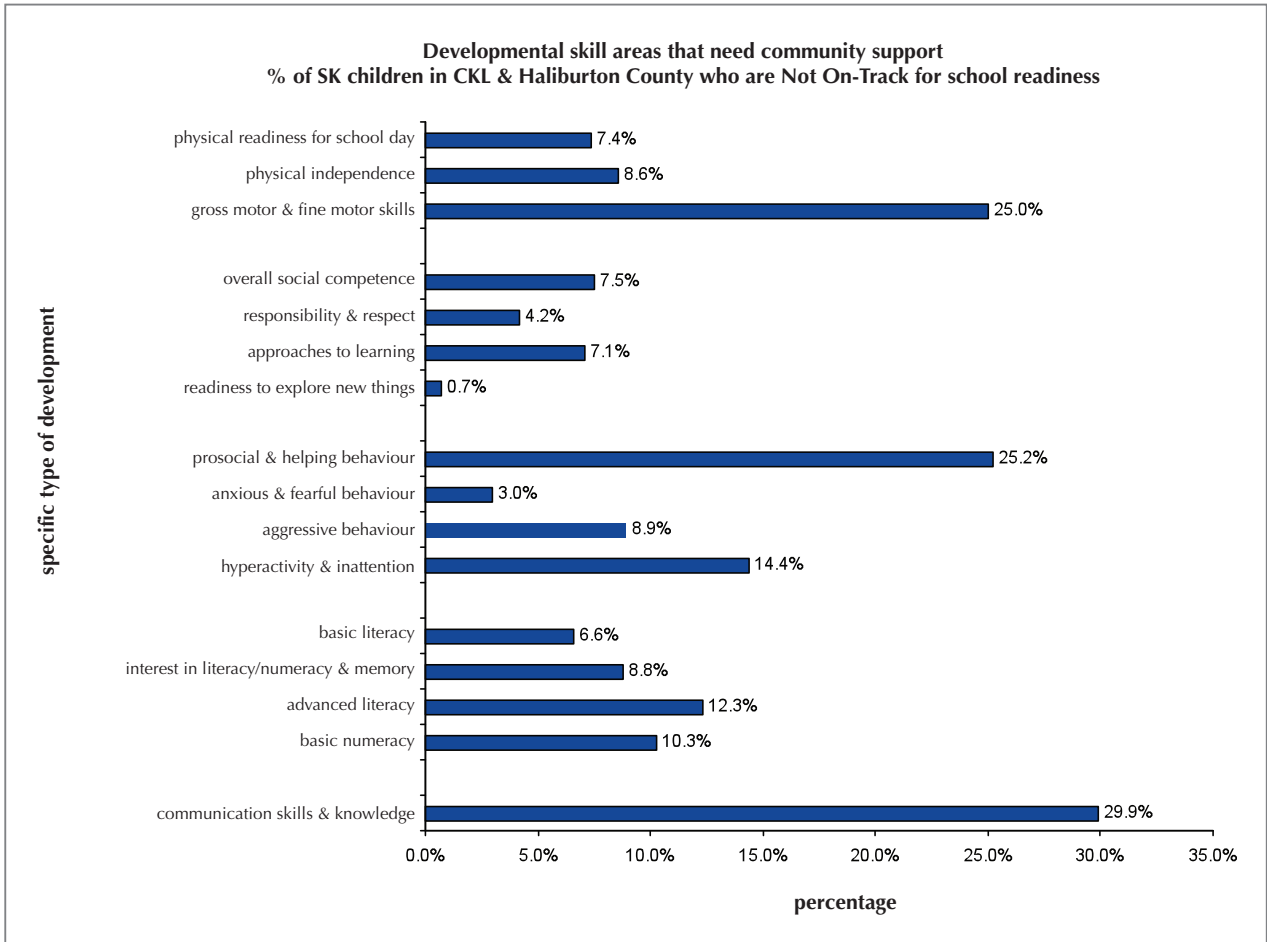
READY OR MIDDLE

Sub-domain	Ready for School	Middle	A high % indicates more of the Ready or Middle group of children with the following <u>ready for school</u> attributes:
Communication Skills & General Knowledge	45.9%	24.4%	Group of children who have excellent or very good communication skills. They can communicate easily and effectively. There are comfortable with activities that involve a lot of talking & listening (such as telling a story, show & tell, and imaginative play). They can effectively communicate their ideas, wishes & feelings, even to their peers, and they are proficient in their native language.

NOT READY

Sub-domain	Not Ready for School	A high % indicates more of the Not Ready for School group of children with the following not on track attributes:
Communication Skills & General Knowledge	29.9%	Children who can range from being average to very poor in effective communication. They may have difficulty in participating in games involving the use of language, it may be difficult to understand them, and they may have difficulty understanding others. They may show little general knowledge of the world around them.

SPECIFIC SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS



THE TOP THREE SKILL AREAS THAT NEED COMMUNITY SUPPORT

PROSOCIAL & HELPING BEHAVIOURS

¼ of local children are starting school without the social and helping skills they need at 5 years old. Only 40% are really ready. While this is a common area of need in Ontario there is a lot we can do to support improving these skills.

COMMUNICATION & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Almost 30% of local children do not have the language skills they need to get a good start in school. They are not as proficient in speaking, being understood by their peers or understanding spoken language as we could help them to be.

GROSS MOTOR & FINE MOTOR SKILLS

One in four local children need more experience in physical activity and fine motor activities like art, before they start school. Playing outside, and guided or spontaneous sports would help children become more coordinated and confident.

PROGRAMS THAT IMPACT EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Agencies that serve young families with children from birth to 6 years old in The City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County have implemented a wide range of programs with the goals of supporting young families, improving parenting confidence, and making the area a great place to raise children. While not an exhaustive list, the following are just a few examples of locally-available birth to 6 year old programs for parents alone, parents & the young child together, or preschoolers alone, most of them completely free:

EXAMPLES OF EARLY YEARS PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY:

PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

- Jigga Jump
- Have a Ball
- Busy Bodies
- Swimming & S.K.I.s (specialized kids inclusive swimming)
- Skating (eg. Stick'nPuck)
- Baseball, softball, soccer, hockey, figure skating
- Gymnastics
- Dance (eg. Junior Jazz, Pre-Dance)
- Fit Kids
- School's Cool

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Second Step
- DECA
- Cooking with Kids
- Good Discipline Good Kids
- Sparks (5 & 6 year old girls)
- Beavers (5-7 year old boys)
- Drama (eg. Lindsay Little Theatre, Kiwanis Club Theatre Productions)
- School's Cool

HOME-GROWN SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

SIRCH Community Services and Consulting, based in Haliburton County, created the well-known school readiness program used in kindergartens and pre-kindergartens across Canada, School's Cool, in 1998. School's Cool is a 72 hour school readiness program for 3 – 5 year olds and has been delivered to more than 2,000 children by agencies and school boards across Canada. The curriculum is play-based and outcome-focused with a clear connection between specific play experiences and learning outcomes. Evaluation, measurement of success, and parent involvement are critical components of School's Cool. The program “helps even the most vulnerable parent become more comfortable, confident, and positive about their child's entry to school.” www.schoolscool.org.

EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- DECA
- Good Discipline Good Kids
- Right from the Start
- Roots of Empathy
- The Incredible Years

LANGUAGE, LITERACY, NUMERACY AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Esso Family Math
- Wings of Discovery science program
- Kids Have Stress Too
- Learning Begins
- Infant Brain Development
- You Make the Difference
- From Lullabies to Literacy
- Connecting through Rhyme & Play
- Public library story times
- Just Me & Mom
- Parent-Infant Mother Goose
- Parent-Child for preschoolers
- School's Cool
- The Incredible Years
- RAPP (Reading and Parents Program)
- Family Reading Circles
- Stretch a Story
- Let's Make a Book
- The Road to Reading
- Make & Take activities
- Hooked on Books
- PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters)
- Getting Ready for Kindergarten

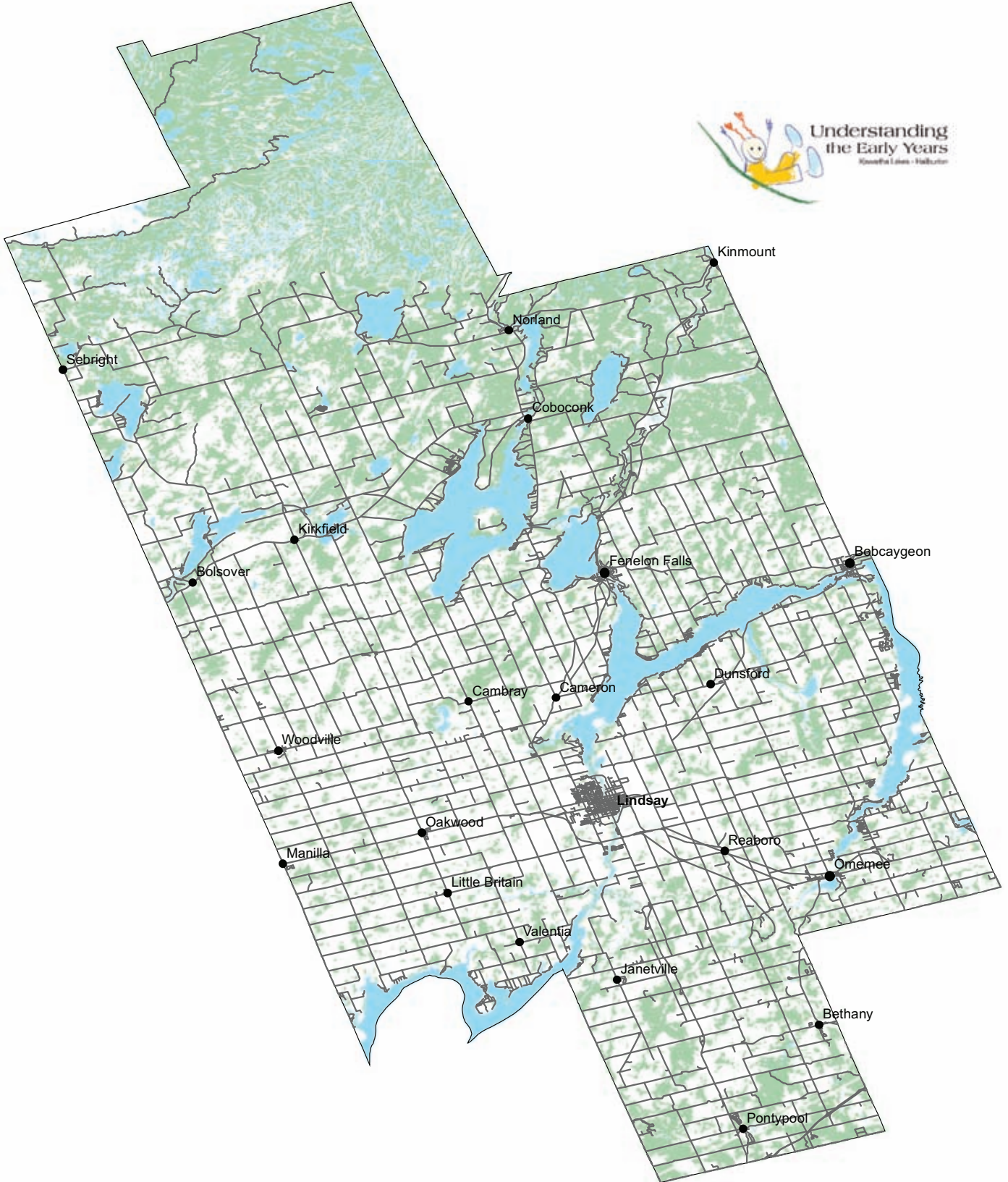
RAPP PACKS

The Reading and Parents Program (RAPP) was developed by Kingston (Ontario) Literacy staff in 1990 to stimulate families to read together and expand children's stories beyond the book. A parent, grandparent or caregiver visits a free drop-in such as the Ontario Early Years Centre with their young child (infant to 6 years old). The early childhood educator or early literacy specialist reads a children's story to the adults & children together (modeling how to read to young children), and then each family signs out a pack. The RAPP pack consists of the children's book, reading and language hints, poems or finger plays, a craft and finally, age appropriate activity sheets all of which reflect the theme of the story in the book. All young children in the family can take home a RAPP pack appropriate for their age and enjoy their own activities in their home. In two weeks, the family returns the book in the RAPP package, but keeps the other activities from the pack. RAPP packs are a stimulating way to increase parent engagement, expand early literacy beyond the pages of the book, and excite children's imaginations.



NEIGHBOURHOOD REPORTS

THE CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES



THE CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES

STUDY RESULTS

ABOUT OUR GEOGRAPHY

- The City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL) covers 3,060 sq km, with a population density of 24.4 people per sq km.
- Of the 37,986 private residences in CKL, 29,509 (78%) are occupied by 'usual residents' -which means 22% are cottages.

DEMOGRAPHICS ~ Just families with early years children (0-6 yrs old)

- CKL has a population of 74,561 (Statistics Canada, Census 2006)
- 4,580 are children 0-6 years old living in 3,340 families (StatsCan Neighbourhood Information Data, custom tabulation, 2006)
- **Family size:** Early years children (0-6 year olds) here have an average of 3.8 people in their family, just a little larger than the 3.7 young family average size in Ontario.
- **Lone parenting:** In the City of Kawartha Lakes, 1 in 5 families with young children are in lone-parented families (they live with only one parent at a time). This is slightly higher than the provincial incidence (19.5%) and national incidence (19.6%) for young families with at least one child 0-6 years old. Children – 18% of children 0-6 years old in CKL live in lone-parented families, about the same as the provincial average.
- **Family income:** The median family income in CKL in 2006 was \$57,700 just for families with early years children 0-6 years old, about 6% lower than the median income of \$61,100 for young families in Ontario.
- **Low income:** One in every five young children in CKL live in poverty (20.4%, Statistics Canada NID, custom tabulation, 2006). That is 910 local young children from birth to 6 years old living in families with low incomes. They are 680 young families whose median income is \$14,900 for lone-parented families (supporting an average of 2.8 people each year), and \$20,200 a year for couple families (supporting an average of 4.2 people every year). Both low income averages here are slightly above provincial and national averages.
- **Lone parented and low income:** Almost 57% of lone-parented families with young children in CKL live in poverty. Lone-parented families are much more likely to have a low income. In CKL there are 380 families with young children that are both lone-parented and low income.

**4,580 YOUNG CHILDREN
(BIRTH TO 6 YEARS OLD)
LIVE IN THE CITY OF
KAWARTHA LAKES**

PARENT INTERVIEWS

- The UEY Kawartha Lakes Haliburton initiative talked with 340 parents of SK children in CKL alone who generously completed 1 ½ hour interviews based on the National Longitudinal Study of Children and Youth (NLSCY). They told us about their neighbourhoods, their child's development, recreational activities, child care, their work & income, community engagement and their family. Each family decided who was the 'person most knowledgeable about the child. The PMK was the person who spoke to the interviewer or completed the on-line report.

Our Parent Interview findings:

1. DEMOGRAPHICS OF FAMILIES WITH AN SK CHILD

- **First Nations:** less than 5% of the 340 CKL families interviewed identified their child as Aboriginal
- **Language:** 98.8% speak only English at home.
- **Nationality:** 99.1% of SK children were born in Canada, 0.3% are citizens of another country and none were identified as landed immigrants.
- Most families in CKL with an SK child told us they own their own home, 87%, whereas 13% rent
- **Education:**
 - o 23% of the person most knowledgeable about the child (PMK), indicated they had completed highschool.
 - o 77% of PMKs had some further training after highschool (45% completed some postsecondary, a diploma or a certificate program, 22% completed an undergraduate degree or graduate degree).
 - o 34% of their spouses/partners had completed highschool
 - o 53% of PMKs' spouses/partners had some further training after highschool (41% completed some postsecondary, a diploma or a certificate program, 12% completed an undergraduate degree or graduate degree). 12% were neither married nor common law.
- **Household size:** almost 40% of families with an SK child in CKL had a household size of 6 or more. 46% had 4-5 people, and 14% had 2-3 people in the family household.

2. INCOME OF FAMILIES WITH A CHILD IN SK:

- **High income:** 31% of families with a five year old reported an annual family income of more than \$80,000
- **Low income:** 15% of families earn less than \$30,000 annually

3. CHILD CARE

- 63% use childcare of some sort, 37% use no childcare of any kind.
- Of those that use childcare, most use it for 16-24 hours a week.
- Care in someone else's home – 26.3% of families with five year olds use care at someone else's home by a **non-relative**, 20.8% have their child cared for by a **relative**.
- Care in their own home – 15% used care in their own home by a **relative** who was not a sibling, 9% of families reported using care by a **non-relative** in their own home.
- Licensed childcare – 17.8% of families of five year olds use regulated (licensed) childcare centres.
- Only 5% reported using before or after school programs.
- Most parents make changes to look after their child – 65% reported they had taken unpaid leave, arranged work schedules differently or quit a job to care for their child.
- Cost of childcare – 43% paid nothing, 35% paid less than \$100 a week, 0.3 % paid between \$100 - \$400 a week for childcare.

4. PARENTS TOLD US ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD AS A PLACE TO RAISE CHILDREN

- 46% of SK families reported they have lived in their house for more than five years and the child has never moved, 16% have moved 3 or more times.
- Playing in the neighbourhood – Parents reported that 23% of SK children do not know any other children within walking distance to their home, however 61% of CKL's SK children do play with other children from their neighbourhood once a week or more. 14% never visit with other children in their neighbourhood. These are interesting statistics regarding the isolation of parents or caregivers as well.

RURAL SAFETY ISSUES: BEARS, NOT CRIMINALS

Feedback from stakeholders who saw these results suggested that walking to another child's home has unique safety issues for our area just 1-2 hours north east of Toronto. It takes more parental organization than going out to play on the street in front of a house in a city suburb. The presence of coyotes and bears means it may not be safe for local SK children to walk even 10 minutes alone in rural areas, especially wooded ones. Area schools address this with a regular recess bell, as well as a bell with a different sound (the 'bear bell') which is rung when a bear is sighted near the school and children must go inside immediately. In the Fall (through some of October and all of November and December) it is moose or deer hunting season and gunshots can be heard outside of the towns. People don't even walk their dogs. Results of neighbourhood safety questions should not assume families feel unsafe because of crime. Stakeholders to whom we presented Uey Community Survey results suggested that some NLSCY questions seem written for families who live in suburbs. In fact parents may answer that they do not feel safe walking home alone at night but it's not because of crime. It's fear of being eaten, they quipped.

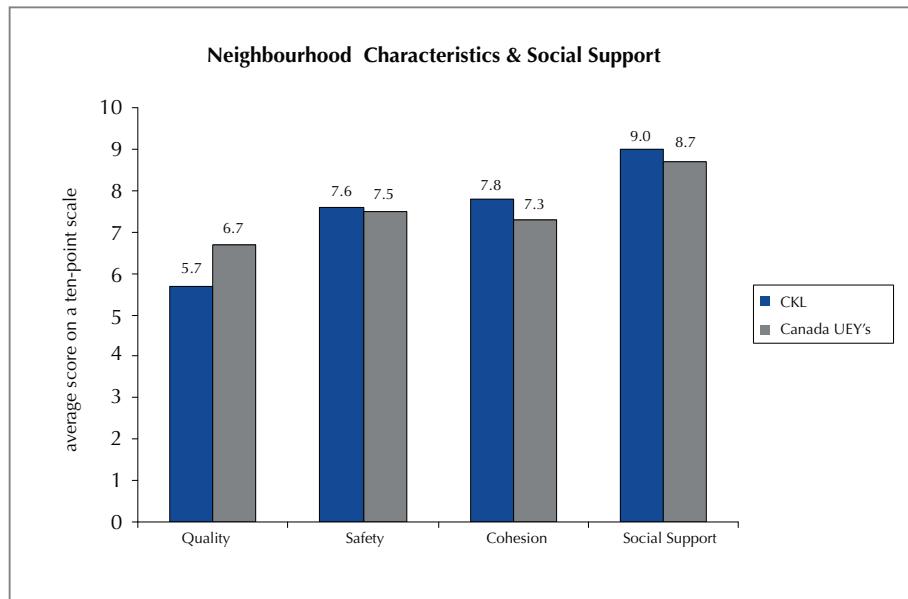
NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTERISTICS

The UEY interviewer asked CKL parents a number of questions pertaining to their perceptions of the quality of their neighbourhood, its safety and cohesion. There were also a number of questions designed to measure the sense of support that parents feel they receive from friends and family.

Neighbourhood Quality: Parents were asked whether the neighbourhood had lots of other families with children, good schools & nursery schools, adequate facilities for children such as playgrounds & pools, good health facilities, actively involved residents, and accessible public transportation. CKL parents rated the quality of their neighbourhood significantly lower than the Canadian average. Although they felt there were good schools & nursery schools and involved residents, their indication that there were not many children to play with within walking distance, and lower ratings of health facilities, accessible public transportation and facilities for children brought the neighbourhood quality score down so that at 5.7 it was significantly lower than the Canadian average of 6.7.

Neighbourhood Safety: CKL parents told us whether they felt it was safe for their children to play outside during the day; whether it was safe to walk in their neighbourhood after dark; whether there are safe parks, playgrounds & play spaces; and whether they could count on other adults to watch out that children were safe. On a ten-point scale, they rated CKL as 7.6, higher than the Canadian average of 7.5.

Neighbourhood Cohesion: Neighbours in CKL are closer than average. On questions regarding whether neighbours help each other; whether they get together to work things out when there are problems; whether there are adults in the neighbourhood that children can look up to, and being able to count on their neighbours to keep an eye on the house when they're away, CKL score was 7.8, significantly higher than the Canadian average of 7.3.



Social Support: Parents feel they have a network of support from family and friends that makes them feel safe, secure and happy. More than average, they feel there are people they can turn to for advice or to talk about problems, and that there are people who share their interests and have similar attitudes and concerns. CKL's level of social support, 9.0 on a scale of 10, is significantly higher than the national average of 8.7.

- Safe neighbourhoods: 87% of parents of young children do not worry about their child's safety due to their perception of the rate of crime in their neighbourhood.
- Health facilities: 43% of families reported that the presence of health facilities in their neighbourhood is excellent to very good, whereas 21% felt they are poor. This is less than the Canadian average.
- Facilities for children: 43% said they felt their neighbourhood has excellent or very good facilities for children (such as playgrounds, pools etc).
- Public transportation: 49% reported that accessibility to public transportation with regard to bringing up children in CKL is poor.

5. ACTIVITIES OF PARENTS IN CKL

- 17% attended parenting classes, courses or workshops (in the past 12 mo.)
- 14% are a member of a school association such as a Parent Teacher Association
- 53% volunteer in their child's SK classroom
- 49% of parents of SK children said they always vote in municipal, provincial and federal elections; 73% vote most of the time, and 12% never do.

6. WHAT DO CKL CHILDREN DO AT HOME ?

Screen Time

a. Watching TV or videos

- of the families interviewed, 98% of SK children watched some TV or video every day.
- SK children spent an average of 2.5 hours per day watching TV or videos. The Canadian UEY average was 1.6 hours per day.
- most watched between 1 and 2 hours a day (72%)
- 6% watched 3-5 hours a day on average, 1% watched more than 5 hours a day on average.

b. Computer time (outside of school hours)

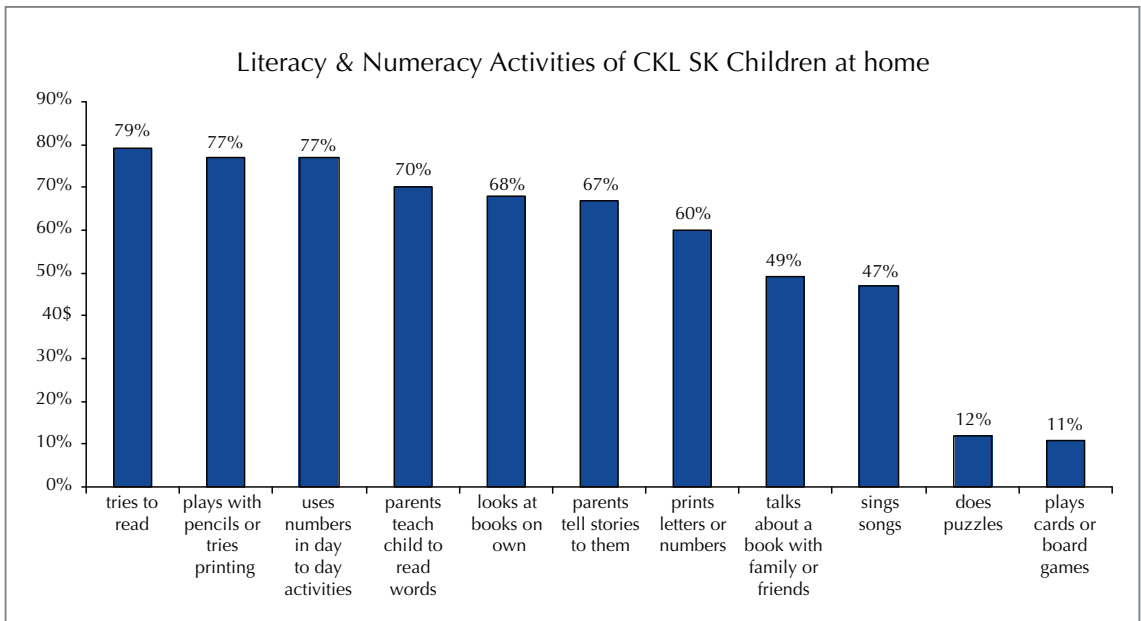
- 20% of local five year olds almost never go on the computer
- 22% are on the computer almost daily outside of school hours

There were 4,540 visits by children (under 18) to CKL food banks in the first 6 months of 2008 (Jan.-June) according to the Food Source.

An average of 8 new families with dependents apply each month for Social Housing in CKL. The waitlist had an average of 343 families with dependents each month Jan.-June 2008, according to CKL Social Housing. There is an average 4 year wait for a home.

Literacy & Numeracy

- 83% reported they read to their child every day.
 - o 14% of these are at least 2 or 3 times a day.
- 71% reported they first started reading to their child at less than one year old, 98 % before they were four years old.
- Literacy Activities - What percentage of SK children did these daily?
 - o Look at books, magazines, comics on own 68 %
 - o Try to read 79 %
 - o Teach child to read words 70 %
 - o Talk about a book with family or friends 49 %
 - o Sing songs 47 %
 - o Tell stories to him/her 67 %
 - o Play with pencils, markers or do real or pretend writing 77 %
 - o Print letters or numbers 60 %
- Numeracy Activities – What percentage of SK children did these daily?
 - o Use numbers in day to day activities (counting, simple addition) 77 %
 - o Do puzzles 12 %
 - o Play cards or board games 11 %



7. WHAT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES ARE CKL CHILDREN INVOLVED IN? (N=289)

Use of educational resources (percentage who reported their child attends at least once per month)

- Book clubs & reading programs 29.1 %
- Family resource centres 19.7 %
- Educational or science centres 5.9 %

Use of entertainment & cultural resources (percentage who reported their child attends at least once per month)

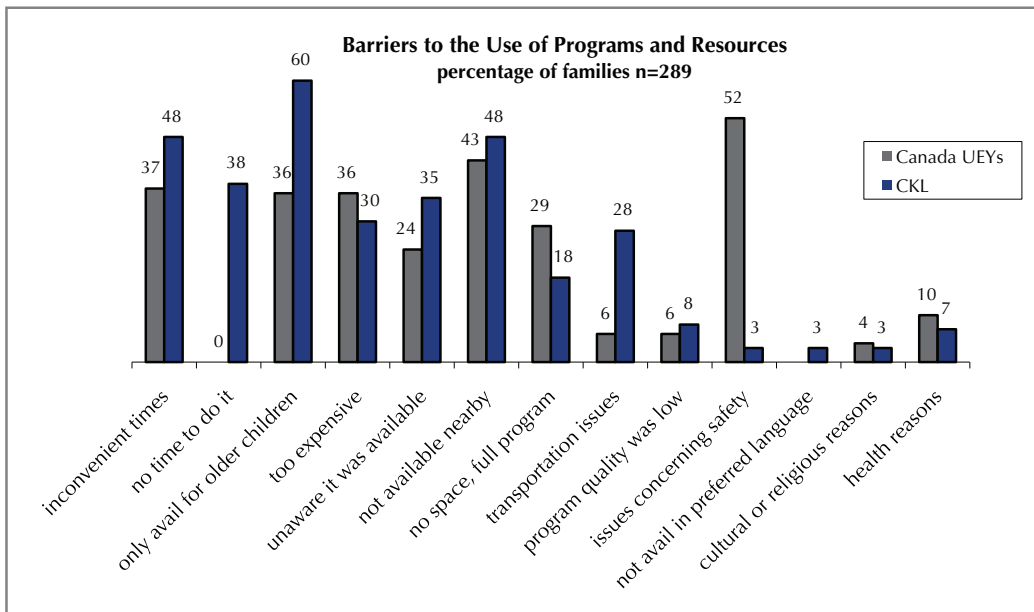
- Sports events (to watch) 28.4 %
- Movies 14.5 %
- Museums & art galleries 1.0 %
- Plays & musical performances 3.5 %

Use of Recreational resources (percentage who reported their child attends at least once per month)

- Parks & recreational trails 76.1 %
- Beaches & pools 69.5 %
- Ice rinks & skiing facilities 60.6 %
- Recreational & community centres 37.4 %

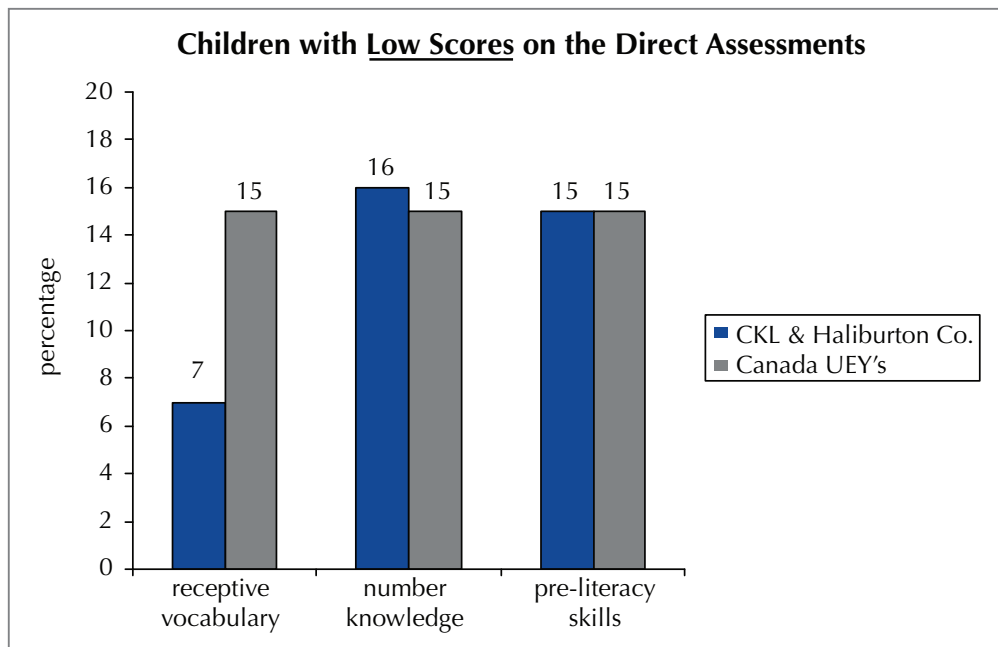
Sports & other activities (percentage who reported their child attends at least once per month)

- Organized sports 43.9 %
- Unorganized sports 88.2 %
- Music, art & other lessons 26.0 %
- Community groups & lessons 38.1 %



DIRECT ASSESSMENT OF THE SKILLS OF 5 YEAR OLDS IN THE CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES & HALIBURTON COUNTY

In addition to the EDI of almost 100% of local SK children, UEY Kawartha Lakes Haliburton also tested the skills of a sample of local SK children directly. In partnership with the Trillium Lakelands District School Board and PVNC Catholic District School Board, the UEY Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton initiative asked the parents of senior kindergarten children for their consent to directly assess their five year olds' early reading, language and early math skills. In the spring of 2007, Direct Assessments using the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, the Who Am I? and a numeracy measure with 429 SK children in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County were completed. More than 68% of the estimated number of five year olds in CKL participated (n=387), based on the school boards' SK enrolments. Scores for the combined area of CKL and Haliburton County were not significantly different from the Canadian mean on the measure for Number Knowledge as well as Pre-literacy skills. For Receptive Vocabulary skills, CKL children had a mean of 103.3 which was higher than the Canadian mean of 100.0. We also considered the number of children who scored particularly low (below 85) on each of the Direct Assessments (see chart). CKL & Haliburton County area children continued to have significantly fewer children scoring low in receptive vocabulary. Our area seems to be doing a good job of supporting receptive vocabulary – young children's ability to understand what they hear.



CHILD CARE

in the City of Kawartha Lakes

4,580

the number of children 0 to 6 years old in CKL.

592

the number of childcare spaces for CKL children birth to 6 yrs old.

8

number of childcare spaces for every 100 children in CKL birth to 6 years old.

15

number of childcare spaces for every 100 children in Ontario birth to 6 years old.

25

the international benchmark for the percentage of children under 3 who should have access to subsidized and regulated child care according to the United Nations Fund and UNICEF Canada, 2008

1/3

the proportion of licensed childcare centres in Ontario that are inside schools according to Ontario Coalition for Better Childcare, The Myth of Childcare.

583

number of infants under one year old in CKL at the end of 2006 according to Statistics Canada (Small Area Administrative Data).

12

number of licensed infant spaces for CKL babies up to 18 months old. All of them are in Lindsay.

1,190

number of children birth to 6 years old in Lindsay.

273

number of licensed CKL childcare spaces for families in Lindsay

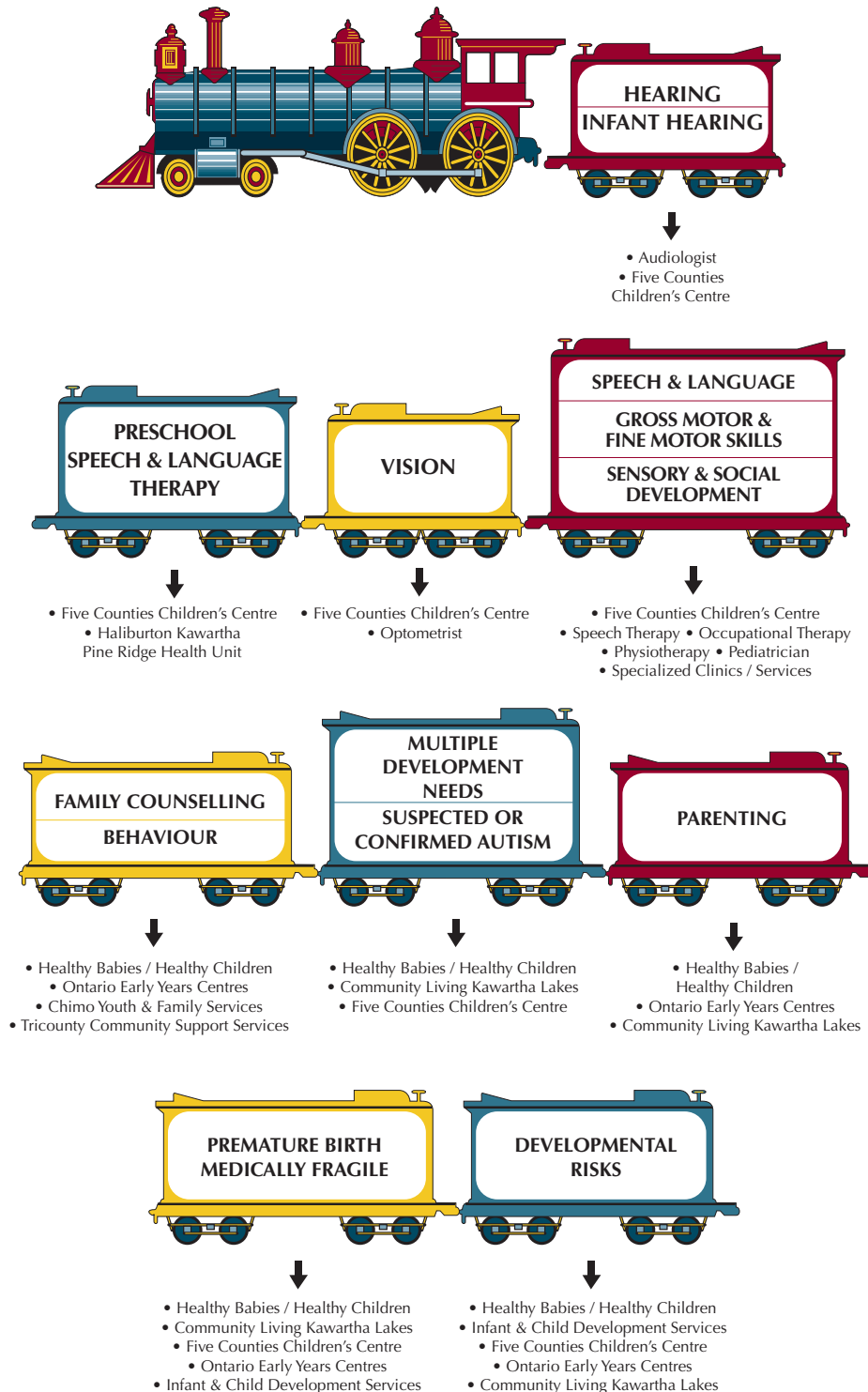
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number of childcare spaces in Lindsay for every 100 children in Lindsay

- 37% of Kindergarten children in CKL do not use child care of any kind. A parent is at home to care for them according to our UEY Community Survey.
- 65% of SK parents in CKL reported they had arranged their employment differently, took unpaid leave, or quit a job to look after their children.
- Of those parents who used childcare, the most common form of care for SK children was in someone else's home by a non-relative (26%).
- Finding childcare for an infant can be particularly challenging in our area. After maternity benefits end, when the baby is 12 months old, there are only 12 regulated childcare spaces for infants under 18 months old in CKL and they are all in Lindsay.
- Toddler spaces (18-20 months old) in CKL usually have a waiting list.
- For those who need care for their children, most childcare for children from birth to age 6 is provided by neighbours, relatives or home providers. Parents attempt to hear of childcare by word-of-mouth.
- The Ontario Early Years Centres in Lindsay and Fenelon Falls maintain a list of childcare providers (both licensed and unlicensed) that parents use to help find care for their young children.
- A centralized waitlist system is being developed, by Janine Mitchell, Children's Services manager CKL. By the end of 2009 this list will clearly record how many families are waiting for childcare without duplicates.

Data Sources: For 'childcare spaces per 100 children', CKL's September 2008 operating capacity for infant, toddler, preschool, JK, SK and nursery school spaces was divided by the number of children 0-6 years old (Statistics Canada, Small Area Administrative Data, 2006).

COMMUNITY SERVICES THAT HELP KEEP CHILDREN ON TRACK



Source: This train of Services was designed and developed by the CKL 0-6 Committee. Thanks to Darlene Callan and the committee for sharing it with us

HALIBURTON COUNTY



Understanding
the Early Years
Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton



HALIBURTON COUNTY

STUDY RESULTS

ABOUT THE GEOGRAPHY & RURALITY

- There are 16,147 people spread across The County's 4,025 sq km, with a population density of 4.0 people per sq km, according to the 2006 Census.
- Of the 21,257 private residences in the County of Haliburton, only 6,980 (33%) of these are occupied by 'usual residents' - which means 67% are cottages.

DEMOGRAPHICS ~ Just families with early years children (0-6 yrs old)

- There are 760 children 0-6 years old living in 560 families in Haliburton County (Neighbourhood Information Data, StatsCan 2006). This is down from 810 the previous year.
- **Family size:** Early years children (0-6 year olds) here have an average of 3.7 people in their family, the same as the average young family size for Ontario.
- **Lone parenting:** In the County 1 in 4 families with young children (25.0%) are in lone-parented families (they live with only one parent at a time). This is higher than the provincial incidence (19.5%) and national incidence (19.6%) for young families with at least one child 0-6 years old. Children – 22% of children 0-6 years old in Haliburton County live in lone-parented families, much higher than the provincial average of 18%.
- **Family income:** The median family income in the County in 2006 was \$43,900 just for families with early years children 0-6 years old, about 28% lower than the median income of \$61,100 for young families in Ontario.
- **Low income:** Almost one quarter of the young children in Haliburton County live in poverty. That is 180 local young children 0-6 years old living in families with low incomes.
 - o Of the 560 young families in the County, 140 are low income (23.7% Statistics Canada NID 2006).
 - o Low-income families with both parents in the home support an average of 4.2 people on \$20,800 a year.
- **Lone parented and low income:** Lone-parented families are much more likely to have a low income.
 - o More than 57% of lone-parented families with young children in the County who responded live in poverty. There are 80 families with young children that are both lone-parented and low income.
 - o Low-income lone-parented families support an average of 2.8 people on \$13,700 a year. The lone-parent income average is lower than the provincial (\$14,800) and national averages (\$25,000).

PARENT INTERVIEWS

- We talked with 40 parents of senior kindergarten children. They generously completed 1 ½ hour interviews based on the National Longitudinal Study of Children and Youth (NLSCY) telling us about their child's development, recreational activities, child care, their work & income, their neighbourhoods, community engagement and their family.

1. DEMOGRAPHICS OF FAMILIES WITH AN SK CHILD

- 4 of the 40 (5%) families identified their child as Aboriginal
- First Nations: 2 of the 40 families interviewed identified their child as Aboriginal (5%)
- Language: 95% speak only English at home (1 speaks both national languages, 3 speak neither).
- Nationality: 100% of SK children were born in Canada, none are citizens of another country and none are landed immigrants.
- Education:
 - o 30% of the person most knowledgeable about the child (PMK), indicated they had completed highschool.
 - o 70% of PMKs had some further training after highschool (42% completed some postsecondary, a diploma or a certificate program, 27% completed an undergraduate degree or graduate degree).
 - o 40% of their spouses/partners had completed highschool
- 52% of PMKs' spouses/partners had some further training after highschool (40% completed some post secondary, a diploma or a certificate program, 12% completed an undergraduate degree or graduate degree). 12% of PMKs were neither married nor common law.
- Household size: almost 42% of families with an SK child in CKL had a household size of 6 or more, 40% had 4-5 people, and 17% had 2-3 people in the family household.

2. INCOME OF FAMILIES WITH A CHILD IN SK:

- High income: 22.5% of families with a 5 year old reported an annual family income of more than \$80,000
- Low income: 17.5% of family incomes were below \$30,000

3. CHILD CARE

- 62.5% use childcare of some sort, 37.5% use no childcare of any kind.
- Care in someone else's home – 22.5% of families with five year olds use care at someone else's home by a non-relative, 27.5% have their child cared for by a relative.
- Care in their own home – 15.0% used care in their own home by a relative who was not a sibling, no families reported using care by a non-relative in their own home.
- Licensed childcare – 15.5% of families of five year olds use childcare centres.
- 15% reported using before or after school programs.
- Most parents make changes to look after their child – 75% reported they had taken unpaid leave, arranged work schedule differently or quit a job to care for their child.
- Cost of childcare – 55% paid nothing, 37.5% paid less than \$100 a week, 5 % paid between \$100 - \$400 a week for childcare.

4. PARENTS TOLD US ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD AS A PLACE TO RAISE CHILDREN

- 45% of SK families in Haliburton County who participated in the parent interviews reported they have lived in their house for more than five years and the child has never moved, 25% have moved 3 or more times
- Playing in the neighbourhood – Parents reported that 35% of SK children do not know any other children within walking distance to their home, however 85% of Haliburton's SK children do play with other children from their neighbourhood once a week or more. 5% never visit with other children in their neighbourhood. These are interesting statistics regarding isolation of parents or caregivers with children as well.

NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTERISTICS

The UEY interviewer asked participating Haliburton County parents a number of questions pertaining to their perceptions of the quality of their neighbourhood, its safety and cohesion. There were also a number of questions designed to measure the sense of support that parents feel they receive from friends and family.

Neighbourhood Quality: Parents were asked whether the neighbourhood had lots of other families with children, good schools & nursery schools, adequate facilities for children such as playgrounds & pools, good health facilities, actively involved residents, and accessible public transportation. Haliburton County parents rated the quality of their neighbourhood significantly lower than the Canadian average. Although they felt there were good schools & nursery schools and involved residents, they indicated that there were not many children to play with within walking distance, and lower ratings of health facilities, accessible public transportation and facilities for children brought the neighbourhood quality score down so that at 5.6 it was significantly lower than the Canadian average of 6.7.

RURAL SAFETY ISSUES: BEARS, NOT CRIMINALS

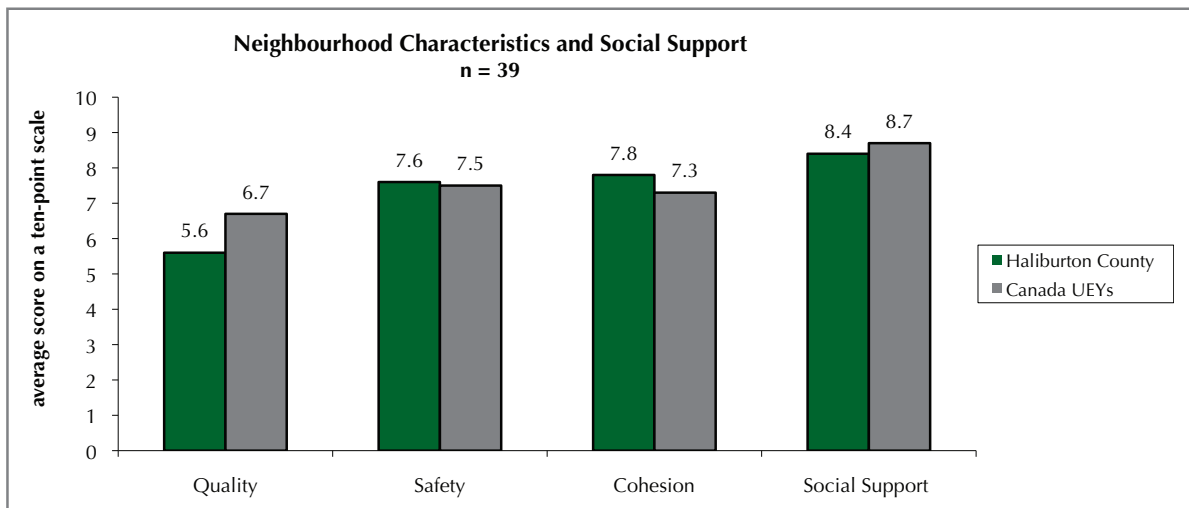
Feedback from stakeholders who we consulted about these results suggested that walking to another child's home in Haliburton County has unique safety issues. It takes more parental organization than going out to play on the street in front of a house in a city suburb. The presence of coyotes and bears means it may not be safe for local SK children to walk even 10 minutes alone in most of the County. All schools address this with a recess bell as well as a bell with a different sound (the 'bear bell') which is rung when a bear is sighted near the school and children must go inside immediately. In the Fall (through some of October and all of November and December) it is moose or deer hunting season and gunshots can be heard many mornings outside towns. People don't even walk their dogs without wearing orange clothing. Stakeholders suggested that some of the NLSCY questions on which the Parent Interview questions were based, seem written for parents in the suburbs. They may say they do not feel safe walking alone at night, but not because of crime. It's fear of being eaten, they quipped.

Neighbourhood Safety: Responding Haliburton County parents told us whether they felt it was safe for their children to play outside during the day; whether it was safe to walk in their neighbourhood after dark; whether there were safe parks, playgrounds & play spaces; and whether they could count on other adults to watch out that children were safe. On a ten-point scale, they rated Haliburton County as 7.6, higher than the Canadian average of 7.5.

Neighbourhood Cohesion: Neighbours in Haliburton County seem to feel closer than average. On questions regarding whether neighbours help each other; whether they get together to work things out when there are problems; whether there are adults in the neighbourhood that children can look up to, and being able to count on their neighbours to keep an eye on the house when they are away, Haliburton County's score with this small sample was 7.8, significantly higher than the Canadian average of 7.3.

Social Support: Parents seem to feel they have a network of support from family and friends that makes them feel safe, secure and happy. More than average, they seem to feel there are people they can turn to for advice or to talk about problems, and that there are people who share their interests and have similar attitudes and concerns. Haliburton's reported level of social support 8.4 on a scale of 10, is lower than the national average of 8.7.

- Safe neighbourhoods: 95% of this small sample of parents of young children do not worry about their child's safety due to their perception of the rate of crime in their neighbourhood.
- Health facilities: 50% of families reported that the presence of health facilities in their neighbourhood was excellent to very good, whereas 15% felt they are poor.
- Facilities for children: 30% said they felt their neighbourhood has excellent or very good facilities for children (such as playgrounds, pools etc.)
- Public transportation: 65% reported that accessibility to public transportation with regard to bringing up children in Haliburton County is poor.
- Voting is an indication of engagement with their community. 23% of this sample said they always vote at every municipal, provincial and federal election



5. WHAT DO COUNTY CHILDREN AT HOME ?

Screen Time

a. Watching TV or videos

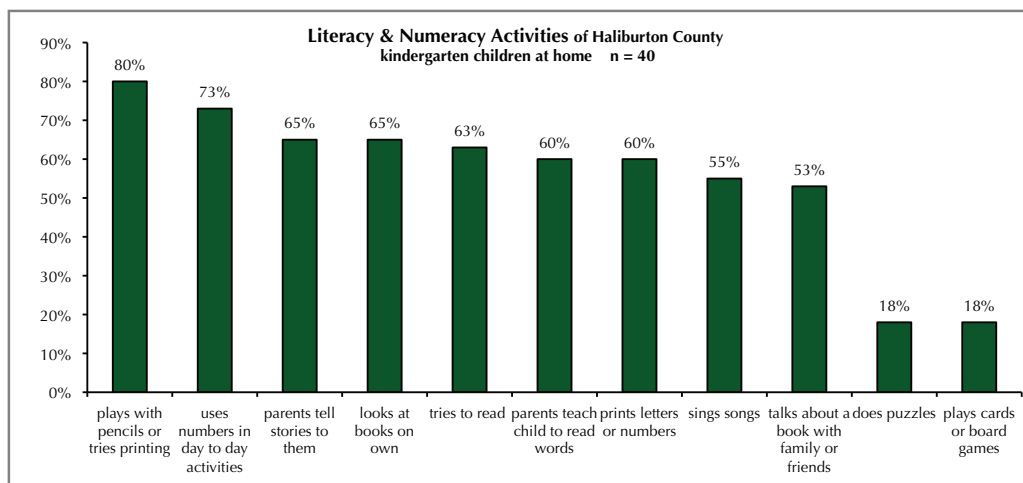
- Of the families interviewed, all SK children watched some TV or video every day.
- Haliburton County children spent an average of 2.2 hours per day watching TV or videos. The Canadian UEY average is 1.6 hours per day.
- most watched between 1 and 2 hours a day (62.5%)
- 5% watched 3-5 hours a day on average.

b. Computer time

- 20% of local five year olds almost never go on the computer
- 22.5% are on the computer almost daily

Literacy & Numeracy

- 95% reported they read to their child every day. This is considerably higher than the Canadian UEY average of 77% (Willms Report, p III-7) (7.5% of these are at least 2 or 3 times a day).
- 70% reported they first started reading to their child at less than one year old, 100% before they were four years old
- Literacy Activities - What percentage of SK children did these daily?
- Numeracy Activities - What percentage of SK children did these daily?
 - o Use numbers in day to day activities (counting, simple addition) 72.5%
 - o Do puzzles 17.5%
 - o Play cards or board games 17.5%



7. WHAT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES ARE HALIBURTON COUNTY CHILDREN INVOLVED IN?

Use of educational resources (percentage who reported their child attends at least once per month)

- Book clubs & reading programs 20.0%
- Family resource centres 35.0%
- Educational or science centres 5.0%
- Go to a library (incl school library) or bookmobile 45% said their child attends a few times a week

Use of entertainment & cultural resources (percentage who reported their child attends at least once per month)

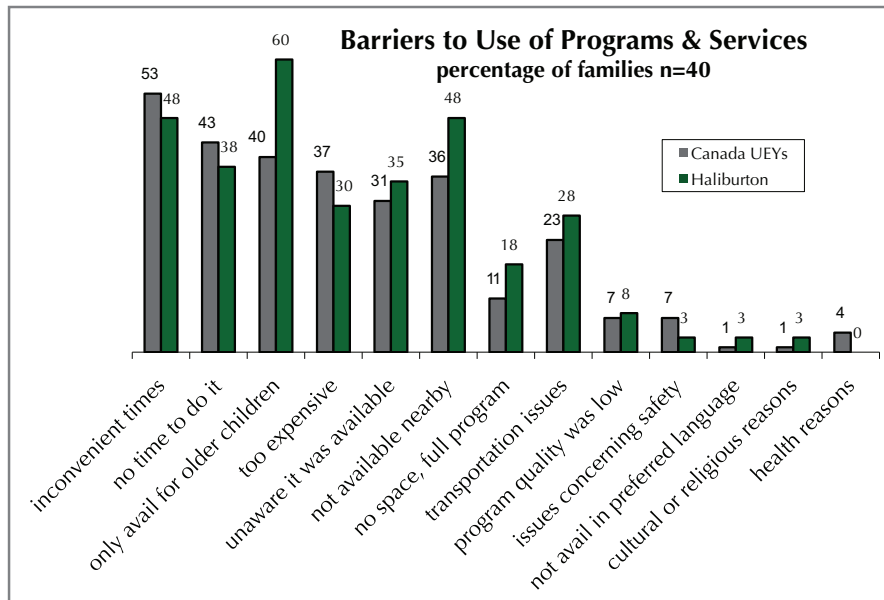
- Sports events 32.5%
- Movies 7.5%
- Museums & art galleries 2.5%
- Plays & musical performances 7.5%

Use of Recreational resources (percentage who reported their child attends at least once per month)

- Parks & recreational trails 85.0%
- Beaches & pools 87.5%
- Ice rinks & skiing facilities 70.0%
- Recreational & community centres 37.5%
- Provincial or national parks & campgrounds 10.0%

Sports & other activities (percentage who reported their child attends at least once per month)

- Organized sports 72.5 %
- Unorganized sports 90.0%
- Music, art & other lessons 37.5%



For Haliburton County direct assessment results, see page 58.

CHILD CARE

in Haliburton County

760

the number of children 0 to 6 yrs. in
Haliburton County

198

the number of regulated childcare spaces in
Haliburton County.

14

the number of regulated (licensed) childcare
spaces in Haliburton County per 100 children
between 0 to 6 years old.

15

the number of regulated (licensed) childcare
spaces in Ontario per 100 children between 0 to 6
years old.

25

the international benchmark for the percentage of
children under 3 who should have access to
subsidized, regulated child care according to the
United Nations Children's Fund and UNICEF
Canada, 2008.

1/3

the proportion of licensed childcare centres in
Ontario that are inside schools according to
Ontario Coalition for Better Childcare,
The Myth of Childcare.

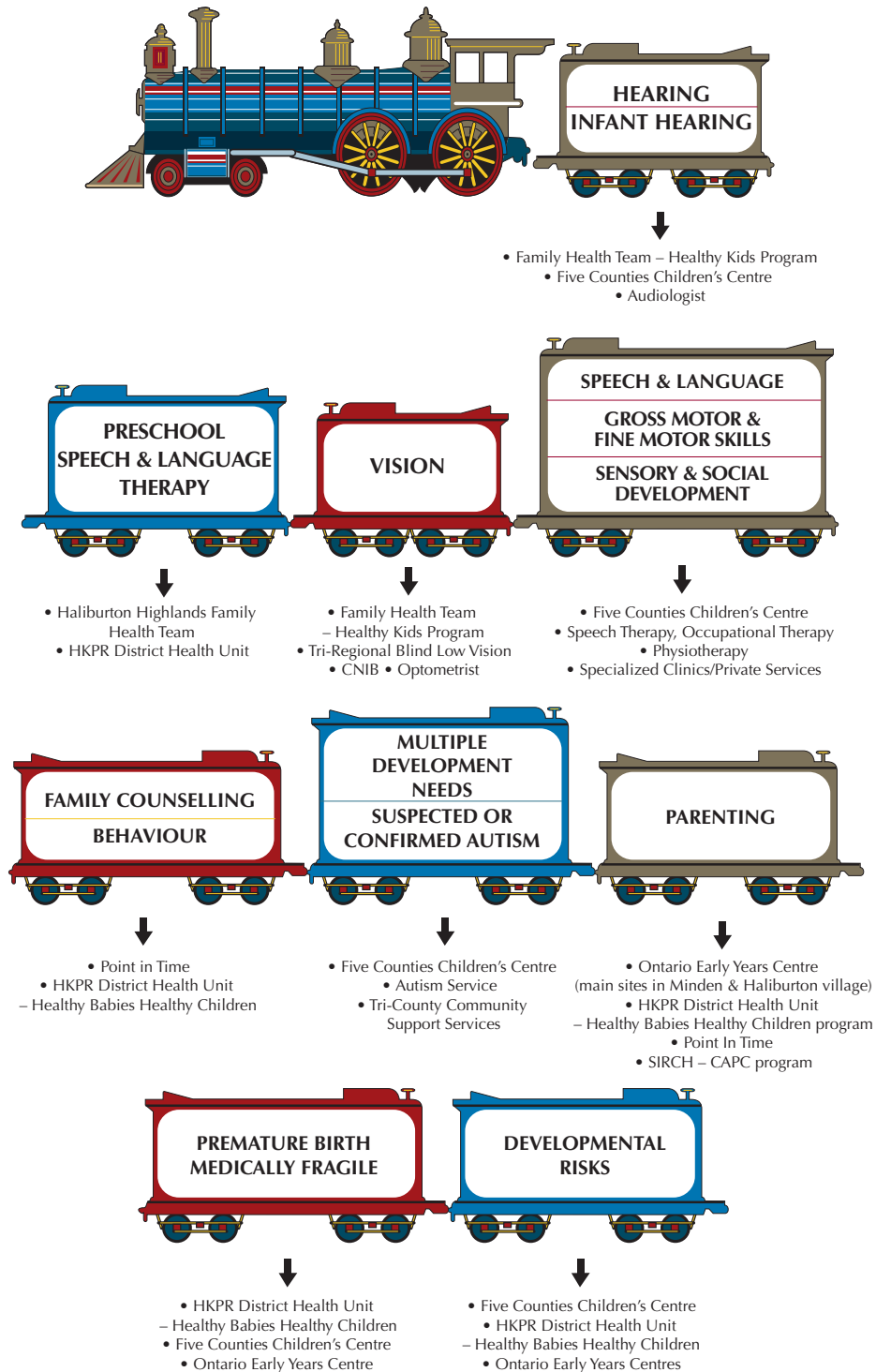
ZERO

The number of licensed infant spaces in
Haliburton County.

- According to our Community Survey parent interviews, 37 % of parents of senior kindergarten children (5 year olds) in Haliburton County do not use child care of any kind.
- The highest ratio of licensed childcare spaces in relation to the number of young children is eastern Haliburton County (encompassing Irondale to Highland Grove), where there are regulated childcare spaces in Cardiff for almost 58% of the children 0 to 6 years old who live in the east Haliburton planning neighbourhood.
- There are regulated childcare spaces for about 18% of 0-6 year olds in central Haliburton County (Haliburton village) and about 10% of the early years children in west Haliburton County (Minden).
- Toddler spaces (18-20 month olds) at licensed childcare centres in Haliburton County usually have a waiting list.
- The Ontario Early Years Centres in Minden and Haliburton village maintain a list of childcare providers (both licensed and unlicensed) that parents use to help find care for their children of all ages.
- Finding childcare for an infant can be particularly challenging in our area. After maternity benefits end (when the baby is 12 months old), there are zero regulated childcare spaces for infants under 18 months old in Haliburton County.
- There were 85 babies under one year old in Haliburton County in 2005, and another 102 under two years old, however there are no licensed spaces for infants in the County. All young families who need to find childcare must find someone offering care in their home or who will come to the baby's home.
- For those who need care for their children, most childcare is by neighbours, relatives or home providers heard of by word-of-mouth. There is a sense that you have to "ask around a lot" to find care for your child in Haliburton. This is a genuine challenge for families who have just moved to the County.
- There are no regulated private home childcare providers in Haliburton County, although discussions are taking place.
- A centralized waitlist is being put in place in 2009 by the Children's Services of CKL in order to track the number of children waiting for childcare space, without duplications.

Data Sources: For 'childcare spaces per 100 children', Haliburton County's September 2008 operating capacity for infant, toddler, preschool, JK, SK and nursery school spaces was divided by the number of children 0-6 years old in the County according to Statistics Canada, Small Area Administrative Data, 2006.

COMMUNITY SERVICES THAT HELP KEEP CHILDREN ON TRACK



Source: This train of Services was designed and developed by the CKL 0-6 Committee. Thanks to Darlene Callan and the committee for sharing it with us



Photo credit: Haliburton Echo



Photo credit: Haliburton Echo



PLANNINGHOOD REPORTS

PLANNINGHOODS

Planning by neighbourhood is the important step between bringing the mere gathering of numbers to actually achieving a real difference with action at the community level. 'Neighbourhood' is a variable term more readily applicable to the suburbs of big cities. It is more challenging to apply it in rural areas with small towns and villages surrounded by countryside.

We are coining the term "planninghood" to denote planning areas that 1) are recognized by local agencies who can use them to make implementation decisions, and 2) are also recognized as genuine neighbourhoods to people who live and work there.

To develop our planninghood boundaries, we first asked ourselves 'what constitutes a rural neighbourhood?' The local UEY Coalition (the advisory group comprised of most of the agencies that serve young children in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County) considered using existing township boundaries. They may have worked well in the northern area but not in CKL where townships were amalgamated into a regional government in 1998. Another option was the creative boundaries that Statistics Canada uses, such as 'dissemination areas'. These would have been useful for Census 2006 data, but they are randomly drawn with the main priority to create areas of equal population sizes, and they were not readily recognized neighbourhoods in the community. In the end, the UEY Coalition decided to use six-digit postal code boundaries as planninghoods. While an innovative choice, these have the following advantages:

- six-digit postal codes in rural communities cover areas from 1 sq km to 30 sq km in our area, unlike cities where one apartment building may share one postal code. They are therefore 'mappable' using GIS software.
- recognized by people who live there.
- easily used by agencies and the municipal level of government to make decisions.
- both EDI and Statistics Canada data are available by postal code.

There are some limitations to using postal codes as planninghoods:

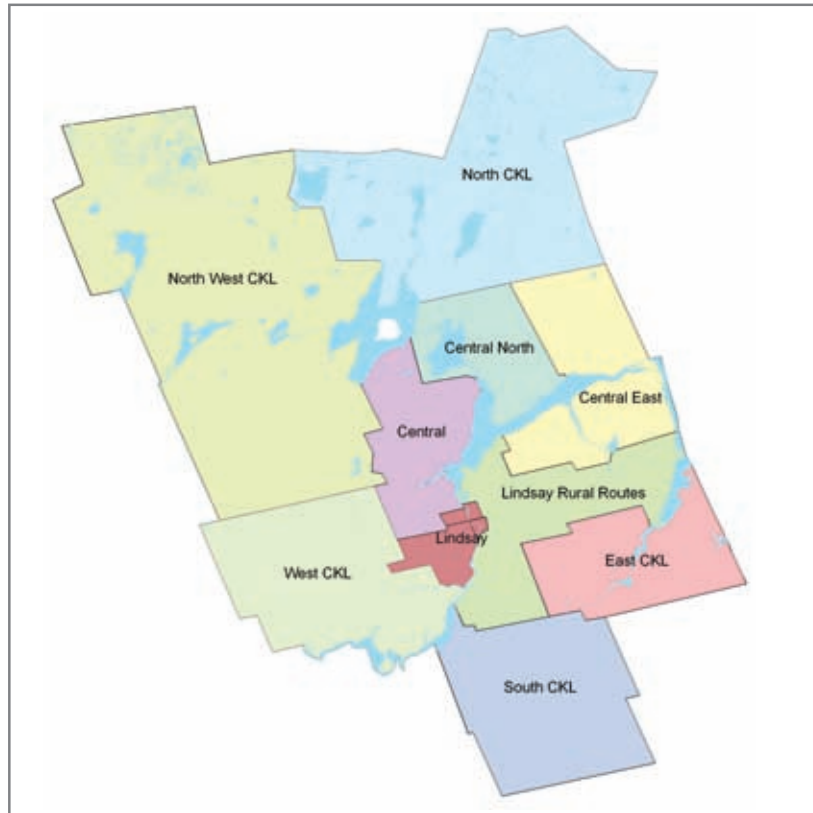
- after an extensive search, we were not able to find a map showing the exact peripheral boundaries of each six-digit postal codes for Ontario; only the centre-point latitude and longitude were available. We solved this by contacting the postmaster at each village post office who knew exactly which concessions serve each postal code, thus ensuring excellent quality as we drew the boundaries using ArcView GIS software. Postal codes in our area do not change frequently as the population is stable.
- although Statistics Canada data such as Census and taxfile data are available by full postal code, they are not free and have to be custom tabulated.
- like many early years mapping projects, our planninghoods do not have equal numbers of young children 0 to 6 years old.

CKL PLANNINGHOODS

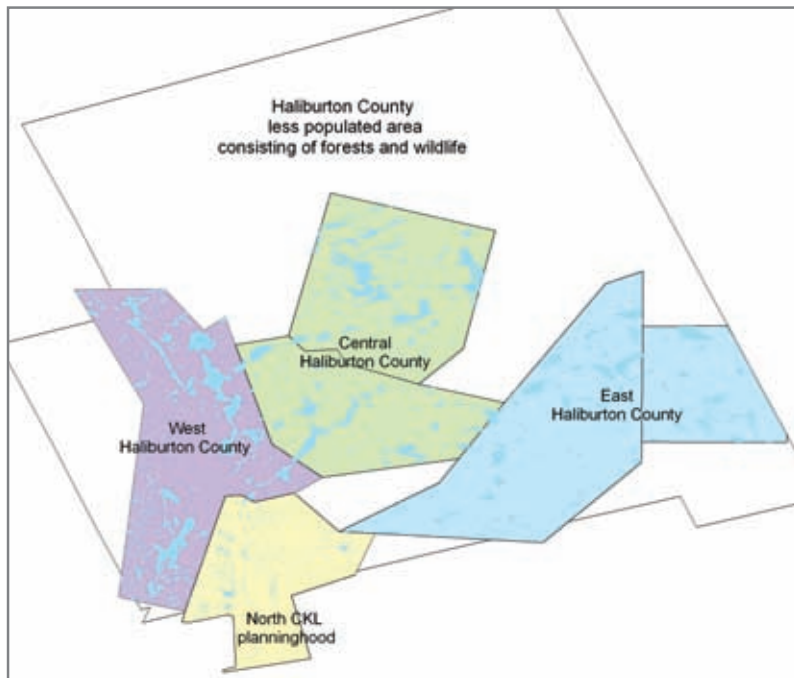
the number of young children in each planninghood is not equal

CKL	# CHILDREN 0 TO 6 IN 2006
Lindsay	1,190
Lindsay Rural Routes	380
East	470
South	400
West	680
Central	180
Central East	420
North West	440
Central North	260
North	180

Data Source: Statistics Canada Small Area Administrative Data, NID, 2006, custom tabulation.



HALIBURTON PLANNINGHOODS



the number of young children in each planninghood is not equal

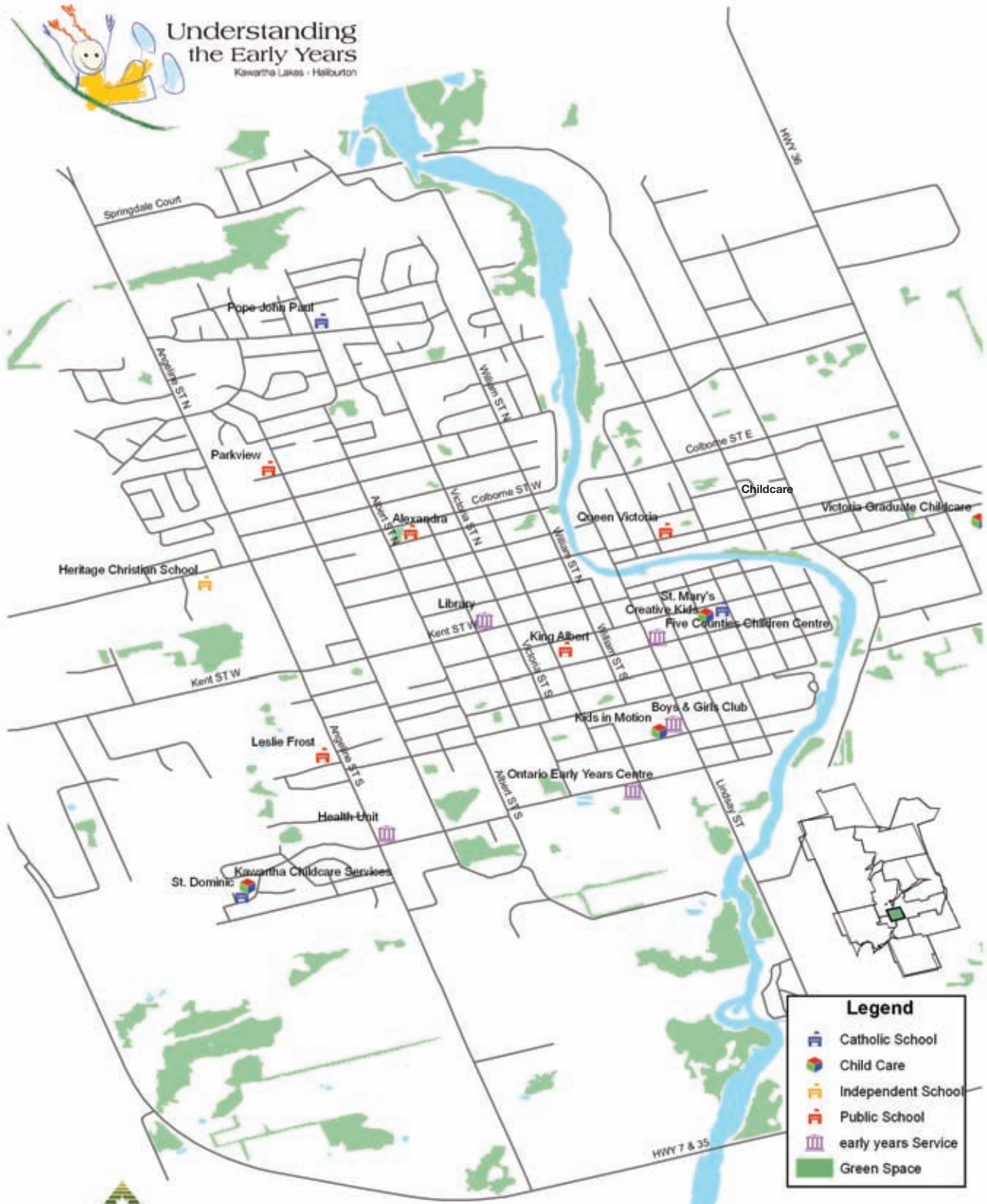
HALIBURTON COUNTY	# CHILDREN 0 TO 6 IN 2006
West Haliburton County	270
Central Haliburton County	330
East Haliburton County	120

Data Source: Statistics Canada Small Area Administrative Data, NID, 2006, custom tabulation.

LINDSAY



**Understanding
the Early Years**
Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton



Legend	
	Catholic School
	Child Care
	Independent School
	Public School
	early years Service
	Green Space

LINDSAY

Indicator	K9V (without the rural routes) Lindsay	CKL	Ontario	
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	1190	4,580		
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here	26.0%			
About this <i>neighbourhood</i> where local children live source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality				
Library holdings (junior section, incl videos & books on CD) 1 library, open 55h/week	17,526			
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.	22.1	12.9		
About the <i>families</i> young children live in source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation				
Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old				
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$61,100	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	29.2	20.1	19.5
Low income families	% of total young families	26.9	20.4	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families		18.0	11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %	26.9	19.9	21.0
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old	320	910	

Lindsay is the only ‘urban’ area in the City of Kawartha Lakes, and it has by far the largest number of 0 to 6 year olds - 890 young families with almost **1,190** children in their early years. Lone parents continue to migrate to live in town – over one quarter of families with babies to 6 year olds are single parented. In Lindsay the percentage of young families headed by only one parent in the home is 29%, topped only by the postal code around Kirkfield. Lone parents families in Lindsay are usually also poor – 160 of the 260, and the lone parent family median family income is \$20,200 a year, up \$600 from the previous year (2005). Programs for single parent families will be important for Lindsay. It is consistent with a provincial trend towards young lone parents to gravitate to more urban areas. The 2006 census data indicates a large number of these parents are single fathers, who can be harder to reach for Early Years programs.

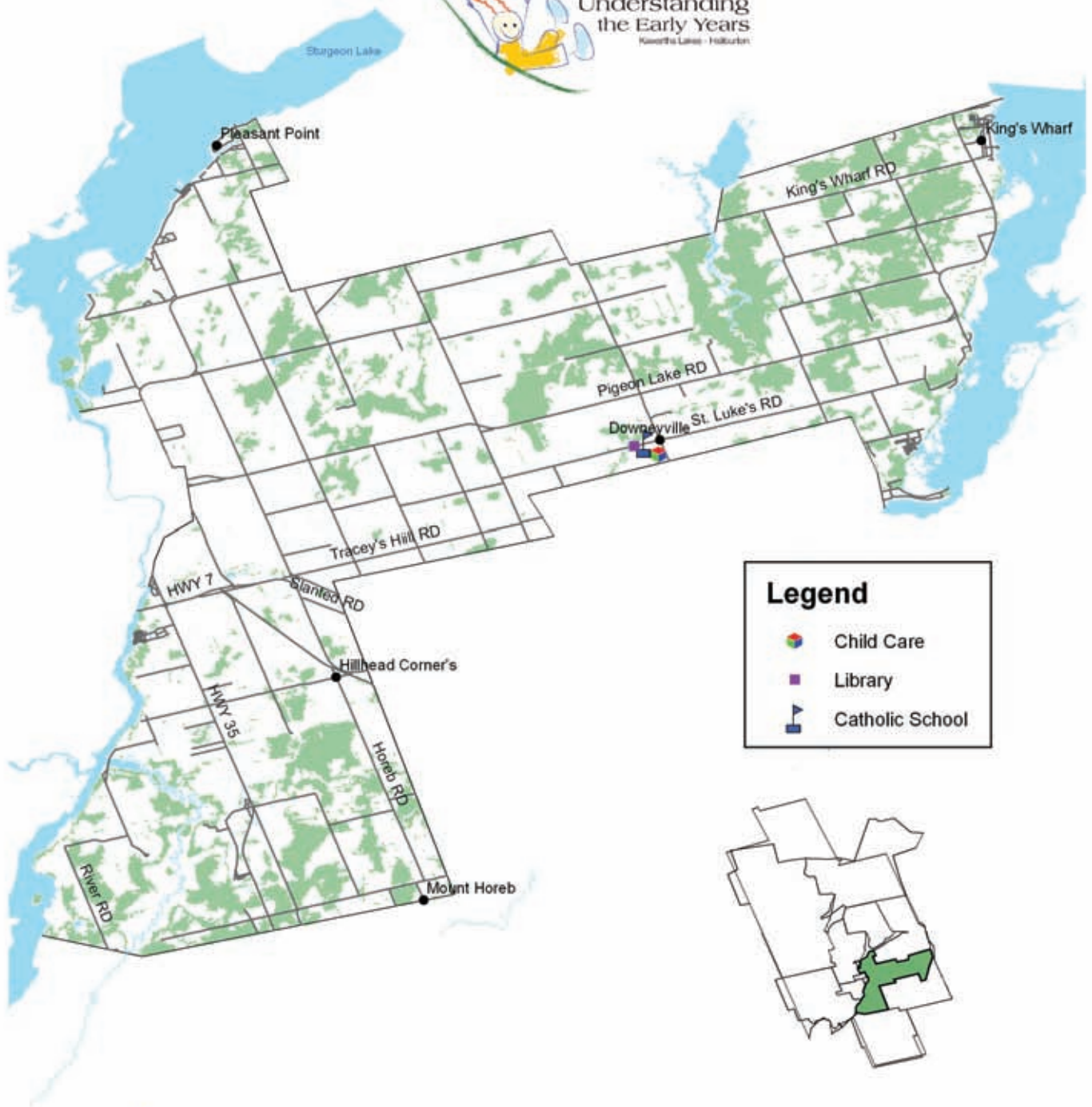
The median income for young families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old is \$61,100, exactly the same as the Ontario median. Lindsay town’s average is below the CKL reported median of \$ 57,700 which is down 10% for families with young children.

Including both couple-families and lone-parent families, there are 240 families with young children living in poverty in Lindsay, fewer than there were in 2005 (360 young families). There are 320 children from birth to 6 years old living in poverty in the Lindsay K9V area (not including rural routes). They live in 240 families. 27% of all young families living in Lindsay in 2006 were low income, the highest percentage in the City of Kawartha Lakes or Haliburton County planninghoods, according to Statistics Canada 2006 Small Area Neighbourhood Data.

There is significant opportunity for development of Early Years programs given the more than 1,570 children who live in the greater Lindsay area (including the rural route addresses around Lindsay) in 1,160 young families.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Emotional Maturity and Social Competence are the lowest domains at this time and they need to be monitored over time using the EDI. Lindsay’s library is open for 52 hours per week and it has 17,526 holdings for juniors. There are 263 licensed childcare spaces including 12 for infants (the only licensed infant spaces in CKL), 30 for toddlers, 221 for preschoolers. That is 22 licensed spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old in Lindsay.

LINDSAY RURAL ROUTES



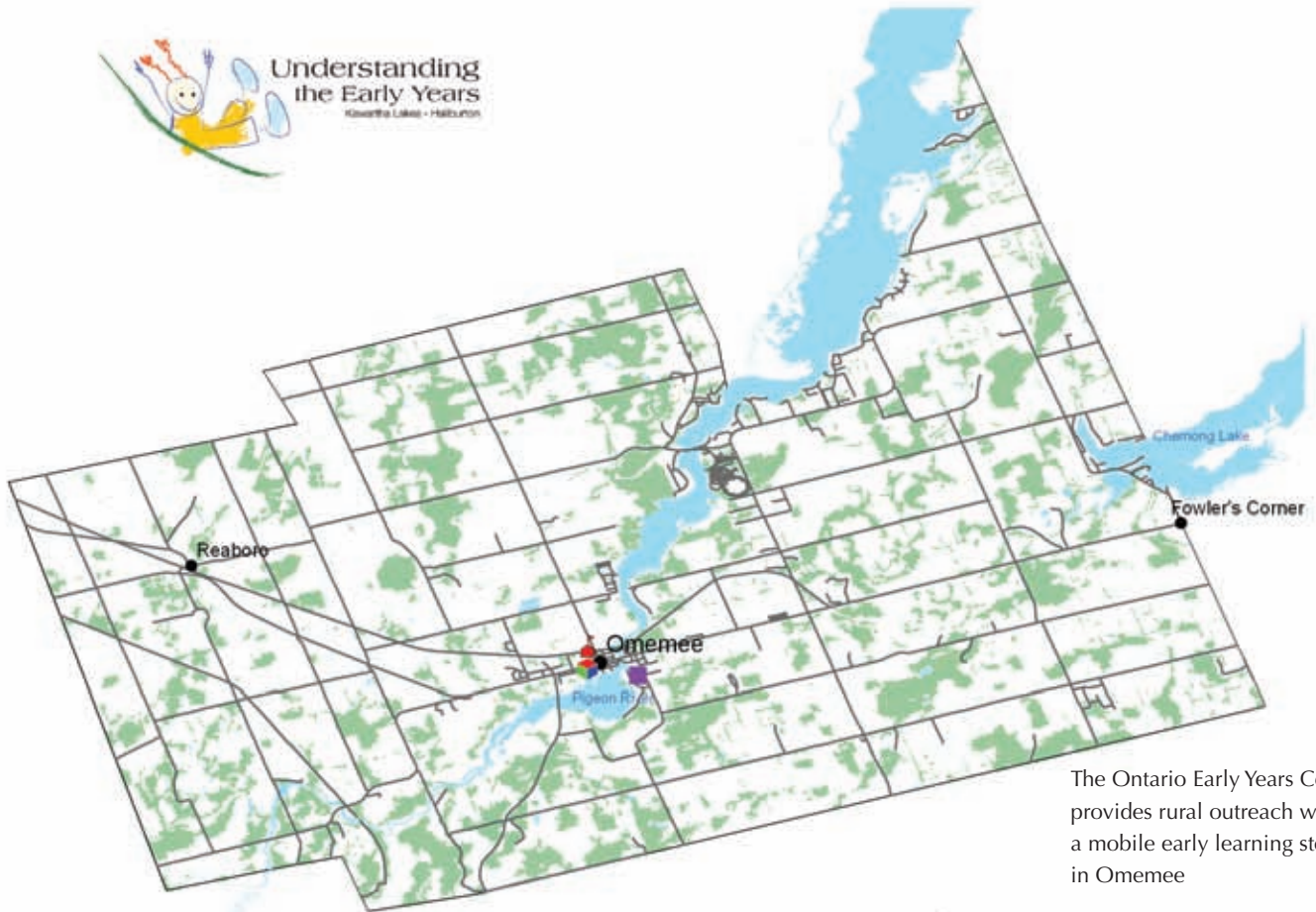
LINDSAY RURAL ROUTES

area with postal codes K9V 4R?, outside of Lindsay				
Indicator		K9V 4R? outside of Lindsay	CKL	Ontario
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood		380	4,580	
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here		8.3%		
About this <i>neighbourhood</i> where local children live		source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality		
Library holdings (children's titles only)		0		
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.		4.2		
About the <i>families</i> young children live in		source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation		
Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old				
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$48,700 to \$83,800	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	18.5	20.1	19.5
Low income families	% of total young families	22.2	20.4	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families		11.1	11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %	18.4	19.9	21.0
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old	70	910	

The postal codes of K9V 4R1 to K9V 4R6 have **380** children in 270 families. These rural routes ring the former town of Lindsay. Median incomes range from \$48,700 in RR4, which is the lowest median income for young families in all of CKL (33% lower than the CKL median), to \$83,800 in RR1 which is the highest median income for families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old in CKL (16% higher than the CKL median). About 50 of the 270 families are lone-parented, and there are 60 families living in poverty with 70 children from 0 to 6 years old.

The childcare in Downeyville has 16 spaces (0 for infants, 0 for toddlers and 16 preschoolers) which means there are 4 licensed childcare spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old in the Lindsay rural route planninghood.

EAST CKL



The Ontario Early Years Centre provides rural outreach with a mobile early learning stop in Omeme

Legend

- Child Care
- Library
- School



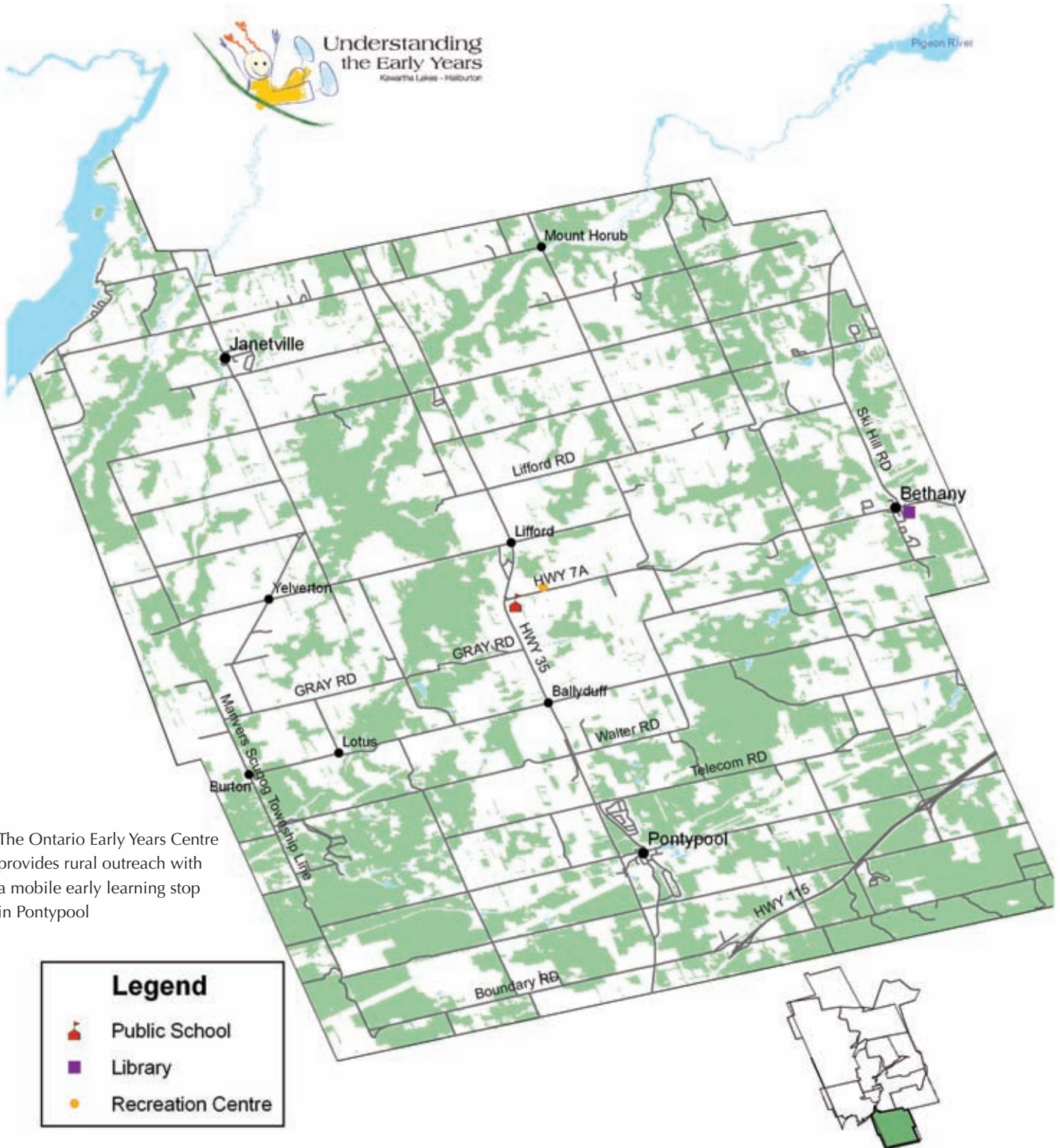
EAST CKL

the area around Omemee, Reaboro.					
Indicator	KOL 2W0 Omemee area	KOL 2X0 Reaboro area	KOL 2W0 & KOL 2X0	CKL	Ontario
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	420	50	470	4,580	
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here	9.2%	1.1%	10.3%		
About this <i>neighbourhood</i> where local children live			source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality		
Library holdings (children's titles only)			1,141		
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.			6.4		
About the <i>families</i> young children live in Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old			source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation		
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$74,800		\$74,800	\$67,900 \$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	7.4		11.8	20.1 19.5
Low income families	% of total young families	12.9		11.8	20.4 20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families		6.5		5.9	11.4 10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %	11.9		10.6	19.9 21.0
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old	50		50	910

In the wide area around Omemee and Reaboro, in the KOL 2W0 and KOL 2X0 postal code area, there continues to be a significant concentration of young children, next to Lindsay and West CKL. There are **470** young children (0 to 6 years old) living in 340 families in this area, an increase of 6% from 2005. The median family income for families with a young child is \$69,400 which is higher than the CKL median (\$57,700) and the Ontario median (\$61,100) for all young families, whether couple-led or lone-parented. The area has the highest percentage of couple-led young families, as opposed to lone-parented (40 or 12%). Half of lone-parented young families are impoverished. Despite the higher median income, there are 40 families with 50 children 0 to 6 years old living in poverty in KOL 2W0 and KOL 2X0.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Emotional Maturity and Social Competence are the lowest domains at this time and they need to be monitored over time using the EDI. The library in Omemee is open 13 hours per week and has 1,141 junior holdings. There is one licensed childcare centre with 30 spaces - 0 infant spaces, 15 toddler and 15 preschooler. There are 6 spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old in East CKL.

SOUTH CKL



The Ontario Early Years Centre provides rural outreach with a mobile early learning stop in Pontypool

Legend	
	Public School
	Library
	Recreation Centre



SOUTH CKL

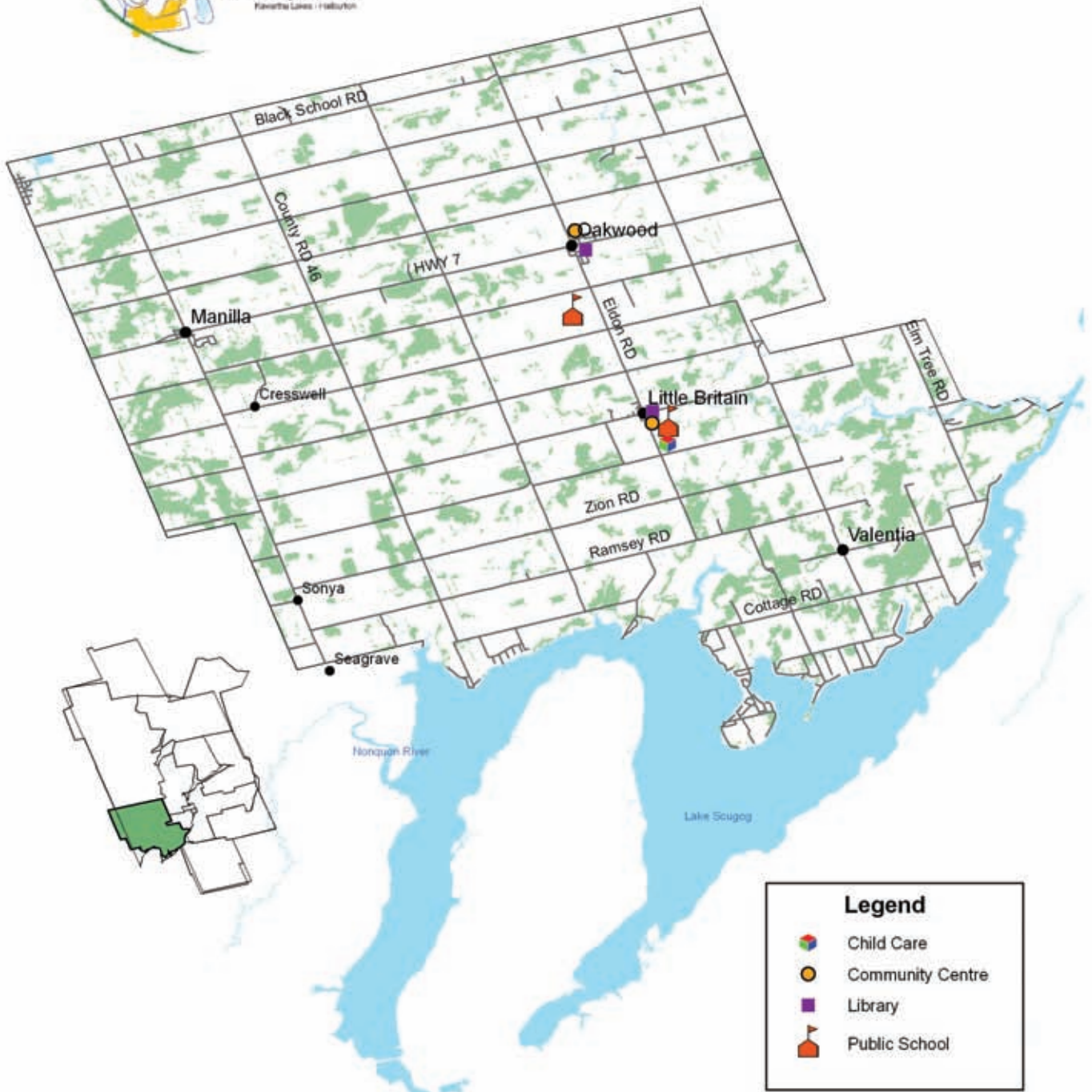
the area around Janetville, Pontypool & Bethany						
Indicator	LOB 1K0 Janetville area	LOA 1K0 Pontypool area	LOA 1A0 Bethany area	CKL	Ontario	
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	120+	150+	130	4,580		
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here			2.8%			
<i>About this neighbourhood where local children live</i> source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality						
Library holdings (children's titles only)			2,169			
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.			11.5			
<i>About the families young children live in</i> source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation						
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$79,500	\$88,500	\$83,100	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %			22.2	20.1	19.5
Low income families	% of total young families				20.4	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families					11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %				19.9	21.0
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old				910	

In the LOB 1K0, LOA 1K0 and LOA 1A0 postal codes there are more than **400** children 0 to 6 years old in more than 290 families. About 9% of CKL's early years population lives in this area which includes Janetville, Pontypool and Bethany, each with a similar number of early years children. The Pontypool postal code LOA 1K0 has the highest couple-led median family income reported in CKL at \$88,500 (up from \$70,700 the previous year) which is 23% higher than the CKL average and 18% higher than Ontario median. Bethany's postal code median young-family income is \$83,100 and Janetville's is \$79,500. This planninghood has easy access to Highway 35/115 which leads to Highway 401, and the perception is that parents here may be more likely to commute to Toronto to work. There were too few low income and/or lone-parented families to report for the Pontypool and Janetville postal codes, but Bethany's lone-parented families were about 12%, the second lowest in CKL.

It is important to remember that the school readiness skills of a group of children are not determined by the median family income.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Communication & General Knowledge is the lowest domain at this time and this needs to be monitored over time using the EDI. The library in Bethany has 2,169 junior holdings open 9 hours per week. The childcare has 46 licensed childcare spaces (0 infant spaces, 15 toddler and 31 preschool) which is about 12 spaces per 100 children 0 to 6 years old who in South CKL.

WEST CKL



Legend

-  Child Care
-  Community Centre
-  Library
-  Public School

WEST CKL

the area around Little Britain, Oakwood & Manilla					
Indicator	K0M 2C0 Little Britain area	K0M 2M0 Oakwood area	K0M 2M0 & K0M 2J0 Oakwood & Manilla	CKL	Ontario
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	370	120	190	4,580	
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here	8.1%	2.6%	4.1%		
About this neighbourhood where local children live sources: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality					
Library holdings (children's titles only)	2,060	1,775			
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs. (32 preschool spaces)	5.8			12.9	
About the families young children live in source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation					
Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old					
Family income - median families with young children only, led by couples	\$83,200	\$71,300	\$76,600	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	16.0	25.0	14.3	20.1	19.5
Low income families % of total young families			14.3	20.4	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families			0.0	11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty 0-6 yrs old, %			20.0	19.9	21.0
Children living in poor families # who are 0-6 years old			20	910	

The west end of the City of Kawartha Lakes with the postal codes of K0M 2C0, K0M 2M0 and K0M 2J0 includes Little Britain, Oakwood and Manilla and has **550** children 0 to 6 years old in 390 young families. About 12% of CKL children live in West CKL.

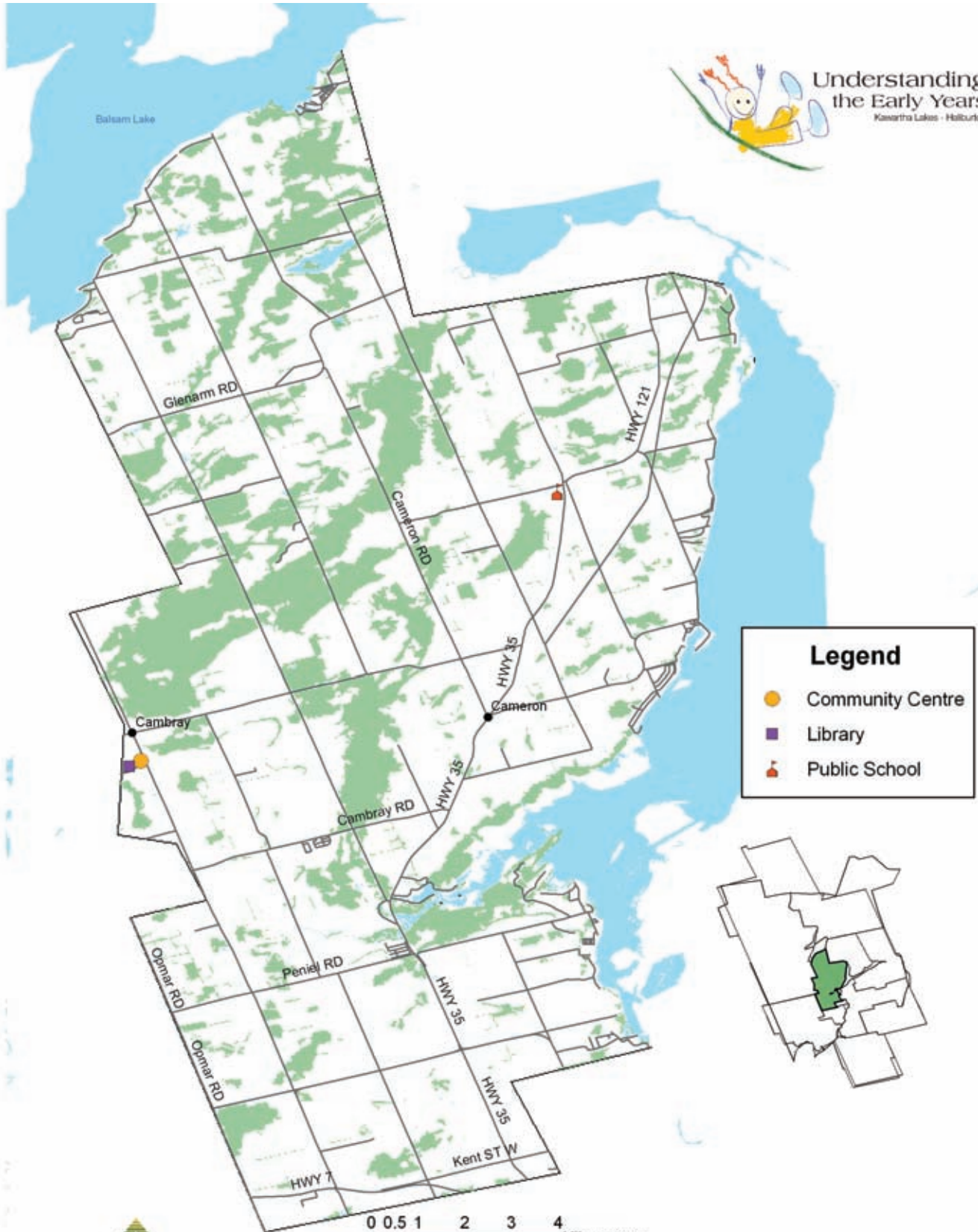
About 8 % of CKL early years population live in the Little Britain postal code of K0M 2C0 alone which has 360 children 0-6 year olds living in 250 young families. The median income for young families with a child 0 to 6 years old in K0M 2C0, the Little Britain area, is \$83,200, the third largest median income for young families, next to the Pontypool area and K9V 4R1 Lindsay. For K0M 2J0 Manilla area and K0M 2M0 Oakwood area together, the median income for young families is \$76,600, which is also above average. There are 190 young children in 140 families, in this part of the planninghood, about the same as 2005.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that both of the language domains (Language & Cognitive Skills, and Communication & General Knowledge) are the lowest domains at this time and these need to be monitored over time using the EDI. The two libraries have junior holdings of 3,835. The childcare in Little Britain has 32 spaces (0 for infants, 0 for toddlers, 32 for preschoolers) which means there are almost 6 licensed childcare spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old living in the West CKL planninghood.

CENTRAL CKL



Understanding
the Early Years
Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton



Legend

- Community Centre
- Library
- 🏠 Public School

CENTRAL CKL

the area around Cameron & Cambray postal codes				
Indicator	KOM 1G0 Cameron area	KOM 1G0 and KOM 1E0	CKL	Ontario
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	160	180	4,580	
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here	3.5%	3.9%		
About this neighbourhood where local children live source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality				
Library holdings (children's titles only)		1,715		
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.		0.0		
About the families young children live in source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation				
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$65,000	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	18.2	7	20.1
Low income families	% of total young families	18.2	16.7	20.4
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families			11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %	18.8	30	19.9
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old	30	910	

The KOM 1G0 and KOM 1E0 postal code areas are home to **180** children 0 to 6 years old in 120 families. The villages of Cameron and Cambray are part of this area where about 4% of CKL's early years population lives. Central CKL has the largest average family size in the City of Kawartha Lakes, tied with Oakwood, of 4.0. (CKL is 3.8). The median couple-family income was \$61,000 for families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old in 2006, up from \$52,800 in 2005.

There are 30 children from birth to 6 years old living in poverty in the Cameron and Cambray postal codes. They live in 30 families.

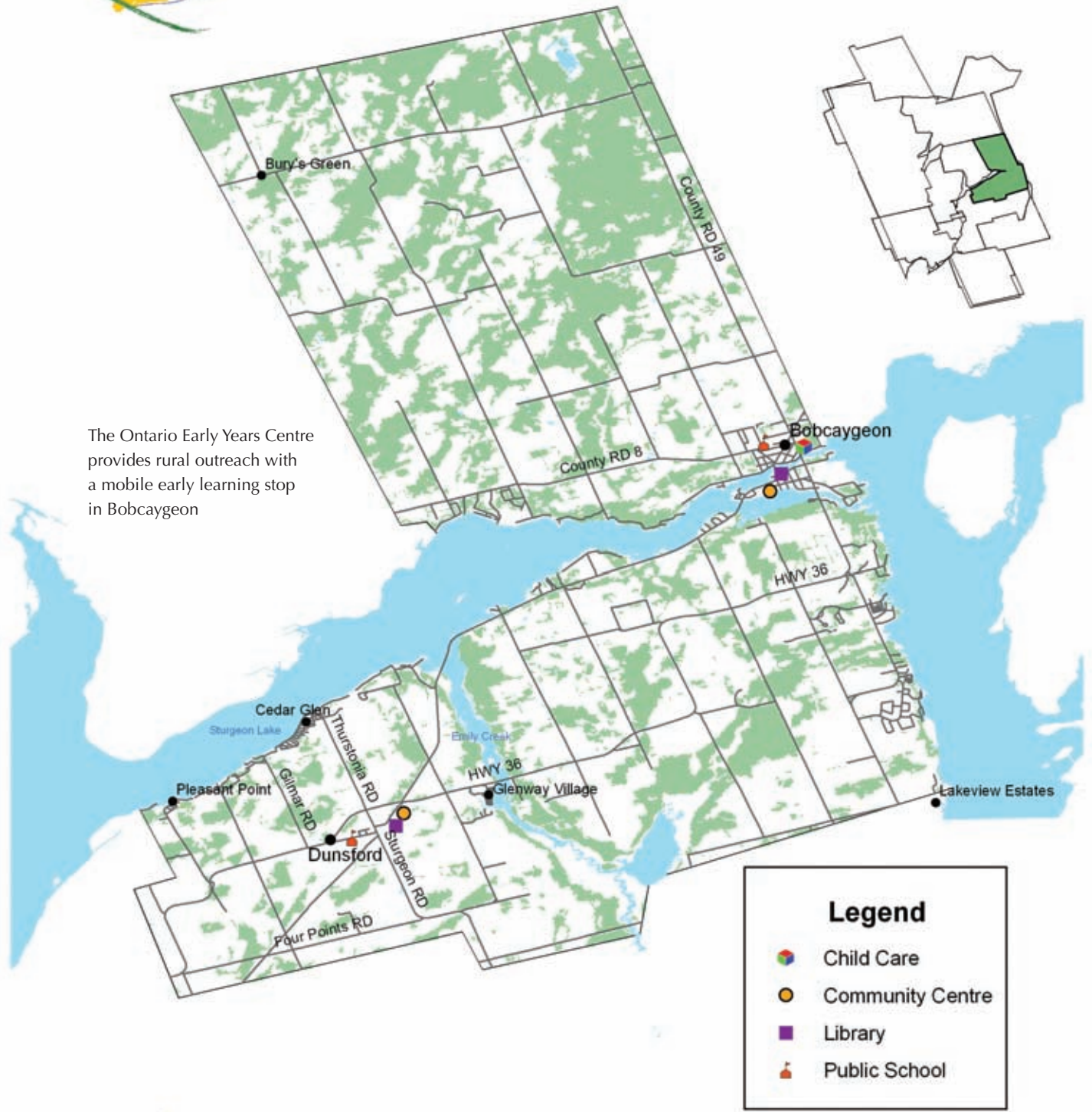
School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Emotional Maturity and Social Competence are the lowest domains at this time and they need to be monitored over time using the EDI. The library in Cambray is open 12 hours per week with 1,715 junior holdings. There are no licensed childcare spaces in Central CKL.

CENTRAL EAST CKL



Understanding
the Early Years
Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton

The Ontario Early Years Centre provides rural outreach with a mobile early learning stop in Bobcaygeon



CENTRAL EAST CKL

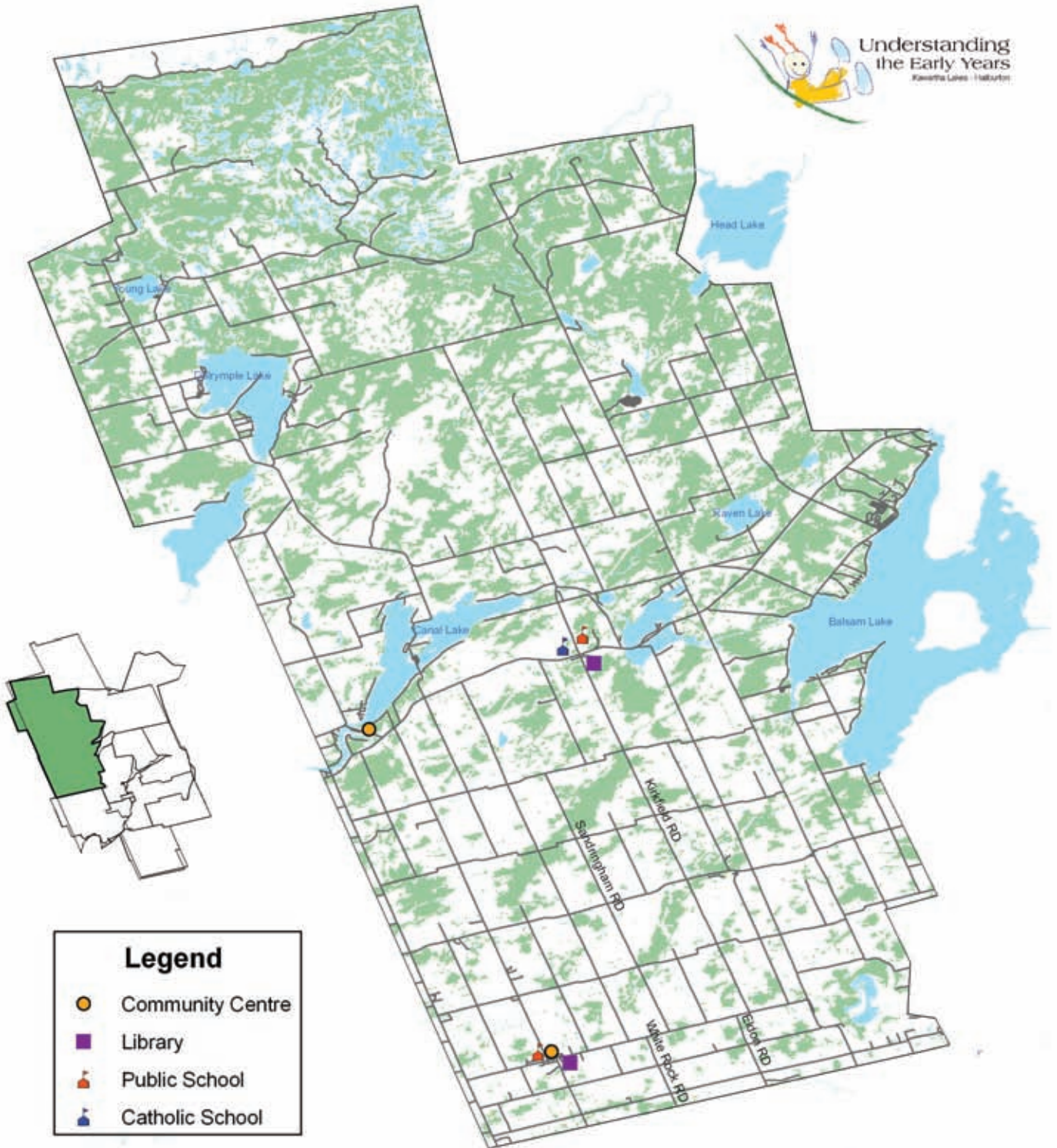
the area around Bobcaygeon & Dunsford					
Indicator	KOM 1A0 Bobcaygeon area	KOM 1L0 Dunsford area	CKL	Ontario	
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	300	120	4,580		
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here	6.6%	2.6%			
About this neighbourhood where local children live		source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality			
Library holdings (children's titles only)		2,169			
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.		11.5			
About the families young children live in Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old		source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation			
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$59,700	\$62,700	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	18.2		20.1	19.5
Low income families	% of total young families	22.7		20.4	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families		13.7		11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %	22.7		19.9	21.0
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old	80		910	

KOM 1A0 and KOM 1L0 includes Bobcaygeon and Dunsford where **420** children 0 to 6 years old live in 310 families, about 9 % of the early years population of CKL. The median couple-family income is \$59,700 in Bobcaygeon and \$62,700 in Dunsford.

Bobcaygeon has attracted retired people for a number of years and it is recognized locally for its high percentage of people over 65 years old. The demographic statistics of this area would be misleading regarding the demographics of the young family who live within this planninghood. Including both couple-families and lone-parent families, there are 50 children under 7 years old living in poverty in 80 young families in Bobcaygeon's postal code area, the second highest concentration of impoverished young children after Lindsay. 23% of families in the Bobcaygeon area are low income, and 14% are both lone parented and low income. The number of impoverished young children living in the Dunsford postal code area was suppressed by Statistics Canada.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Social Competence, Communication & General Knowledge and Physical Health & Well-being are the lowest domains at this time and these need to be monitored over time using the EDI. The libraries in Bobcaygeon and Dunsford are open a total of 49 hours per week with a combined 5,023 junior holdings. There is one licensed childcare with 42 spaces (0 infant spaces, 10 toddler and 32 preschoolers) which means there are 10 licensed childcare spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old in Central East CKL.

NORTH WEST CKL



Legend

- Community Centre
- Library
- Public School
- Catholic School

NORTH WEST CKL

the area around Kirkfield, Woodville & Bolsover					
Indicator	KOM 1B0 & KOM 2T0 Woodville & Bolsover areas	KOM 2B0 Kirkfield area	CKL	Ontario	
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	290	150	4,580		
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here	6.3%	3.3%			
About this <i>neighbourhood</i> where local children live			source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality		
Library holdings (children's titles only)	2,408				
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.	0				
About the <i>families</i> young children live in Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old			source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation		
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$65,400	\$54,000	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	19.0	30.0	20.1	19.5
Low income families	% of total young families	19.0	20.0	20.4	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families		9.5	20.0	11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %	17.2	20.0	19.9	21.0
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old	50	30	910	

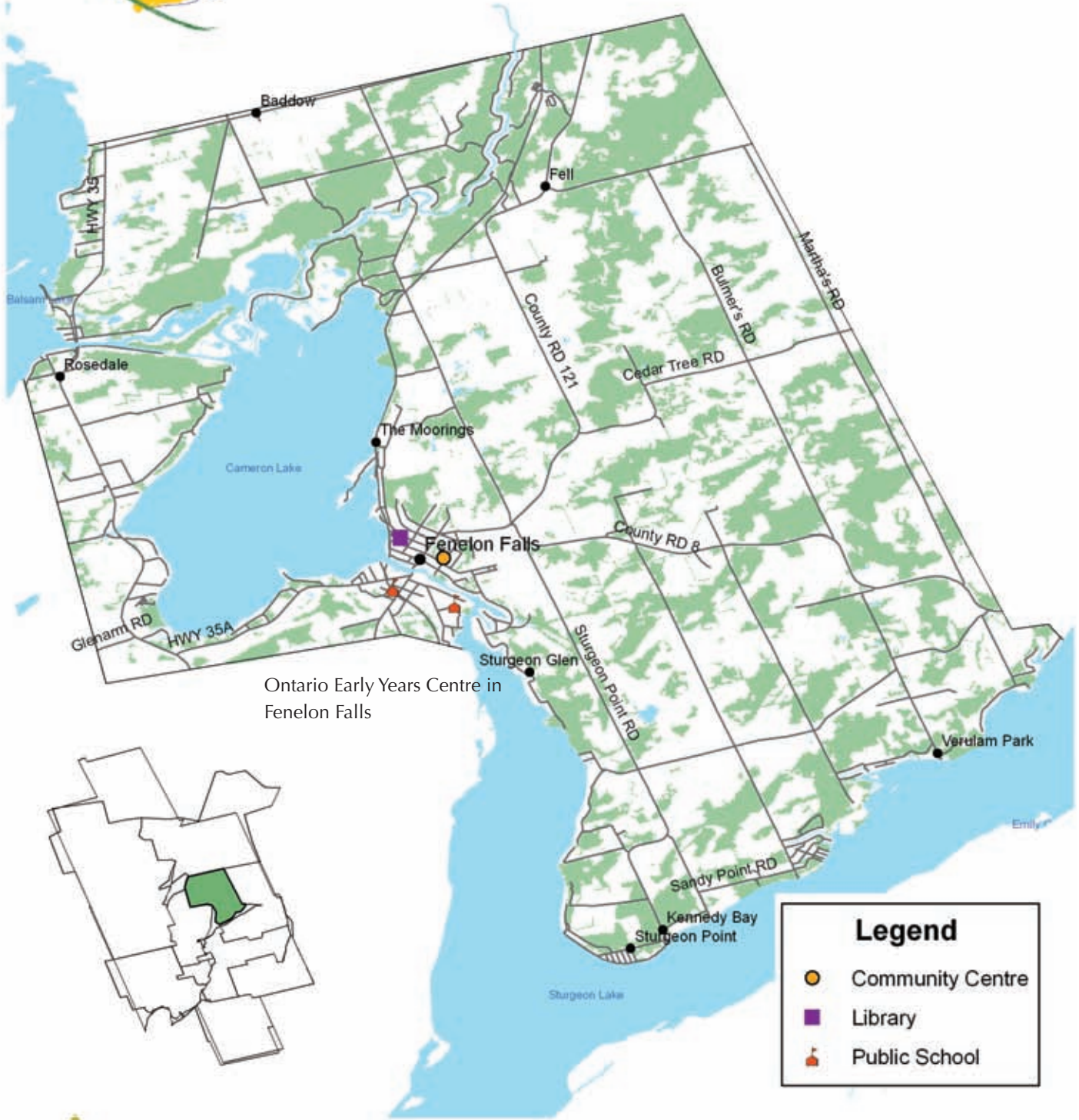
The KOM 1B0, KOM 2T0 and KOM 2B0 postal code areas include Woodville, Bolsover and Kirkfield where **440** children 0 to 6 years olds live in 310 families. This is about 9% of CKL's early years population. There are 80 young children under 7 living in poverty in 60 families in North West CKL; 19% to 20% of young families here are low income. The Woodville and Bolsover postal code areas (together) have a median income of \$65,400 for all young families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old. Kirkfield has \$54,000. The Kirkfield postal code of KOM 2B0 has the highest percentage of lone parent families at 30% in all of CKL, closely followed by Lindsay at 29%.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Language & Cognitive Skills is the lowest domain at this time and this needs to be monitored over time using the EDI. The libraries at the Carden Recreation Centre and Dalton Community Centre have a combined 2,408 junior holdings open 18 hours per week in total. There are zero licensed childcare spaces in North West CKL for 440 young children.

CENTRAL NORTH CKL



Understanding
the Early Years
Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton



Ontario Early Years Centre in
Fenelon Falls

Legend	
	Community Centre
	Library
	Public School

CENTRAL NORTH CKL

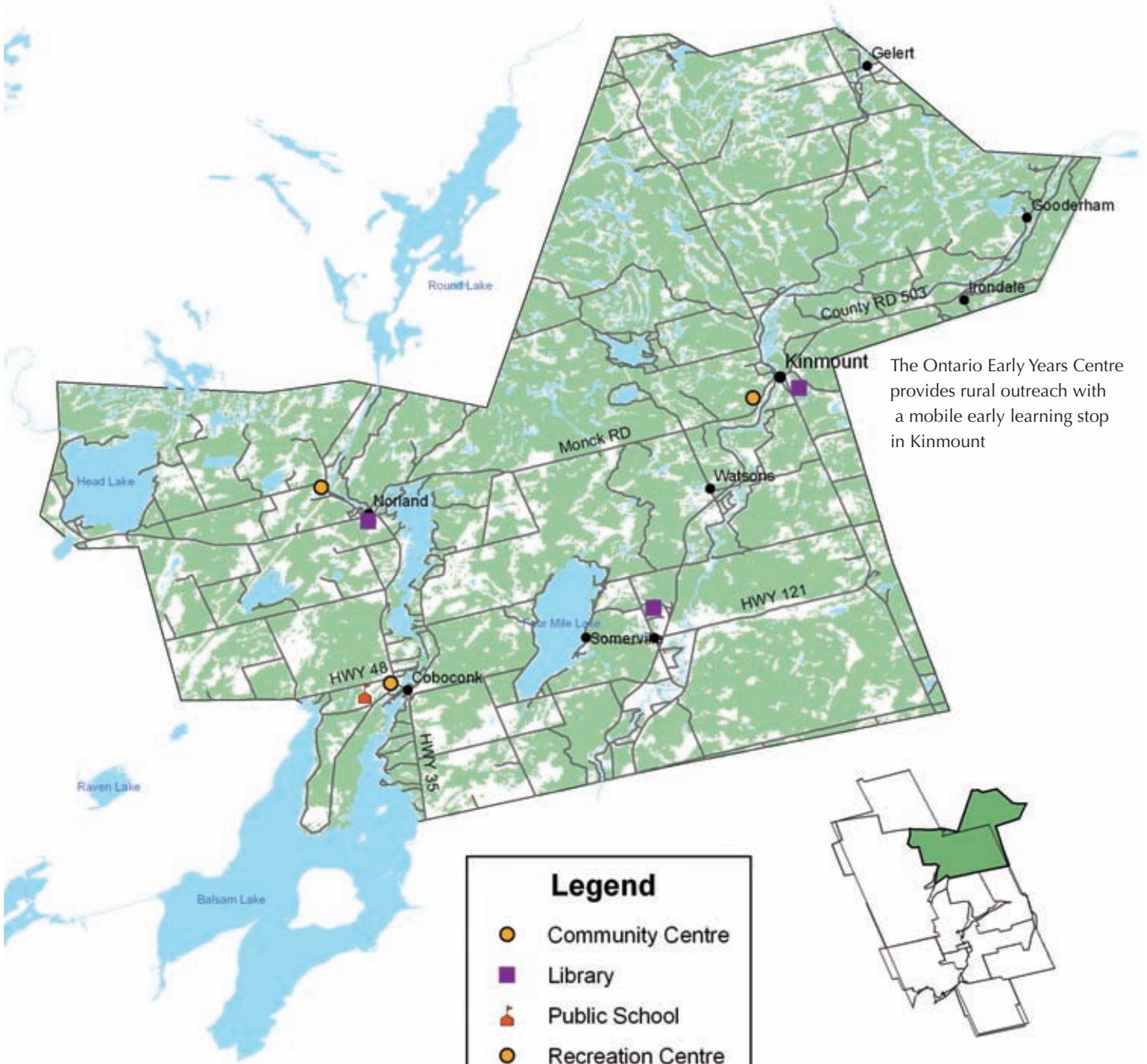
the area around Fenelon Falls postal code				
Indicator		KOM 1N0 Fenelon Falls area	CKL	Ontario
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood		260	4,580	
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here		5.7%		
About this <i>neighbourhood</i> where local children live		source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality		
Library holdings (children's titles only)			3,227	
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.			12.3	
About the <i>families</i> young children live in		source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation		
Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old				
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$59,200	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	21.1	20.1	19.5
Low income families	% of total young families	26.3	20.4	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families		10.5	11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %	26.9	19.9	21.0
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old	70	910	

The KOM 1N0 postal code includes Fenelon Falls, but most of the postal code is outside of town and it is mostly rural. **260** children 0 to 6 years old in 190 families, about 6% of CKL's early years population. The median income for couple-led families is \$59,200, about 13% lower than the CKL average for families with at least one child under 7.

Over 26% of young families here are low income with 70 children from birth to 6 years old living in poverty in 50 families (both couple-families and lone-parent families) in this planninghood. This is the third highest concentration in CKL after Lindsay and Bobcaygeon. Fully 50% of lone parented families (20) are also poor, bringing home a median of \$15,400 supporting a family of 2.6 people.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Communication & General Knowledge is the lowest domain at this time and this needs to be monitored over time using the EDI. The library in Fenelon Falls is open 36 hours per week and it has 3,227 junior holdings. The licensed childcare has 32 spaces (0 infant spaces, 0 toddler and 32 preschooler). There are 12 licensed childcare spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old in Central North CKL.

NORTH CKL



The Ontario Early Years Centre provides rural outreach with a mobile early learning stop in Kinmount

NORTH CKL

the area around Coboconk, Norland, Burnt River & Kinmount				
Indicator	KOM 1K0 and KOM 2L0	KOM 1C0 and KOM 2A0	CKL	Ontario
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	100	80+	4,580	
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of CKL that live here	2.2%			
<i>About this neighbourhood where local children live</i>		source: local libraries and the children's services dept. of the municipality		
Library holdings (children's titles only)	6,083			
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.	0			
<i>About the families young children live in Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old</i>		source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation		
Family income - median families with young children only, led by couples	\$41,400	\$53,500	\$67,900	\$72,500
Lone parent families with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	25.0		20.1	19.5
Low income families % of total young families			20.4	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families			11.4	10.2
Young children living in poverty 0-6 yrs old, %			19.9	21.0
Children living in poor families # who are 0-6 years old			910	

The four postal code areas of KOM 1K0, KOM 2L0, KOM 2A0 and KOM 1C0 including Coboconk, Norland, Kinmount and Burnt River have about 4% of CKL's 0 to 6 years old children, **180**, and 140 young families. This planninghood includes the south part of Haliburton County because the Kinmount postal code is in both CKL and the County's southern end, including Gelert but not Irondale or Gooderham. North CKL has the lowest median income in all of CKL for young families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old. In the Norland and Coboconk postal codes it is \$52,000 and \$53,500 in the Burnt River and Kinmount postal code areas. One quarter or 25.0% of young families in Coboconk & Norland postal code areas are lone-parented, behind Kirkfield and Lindsay.

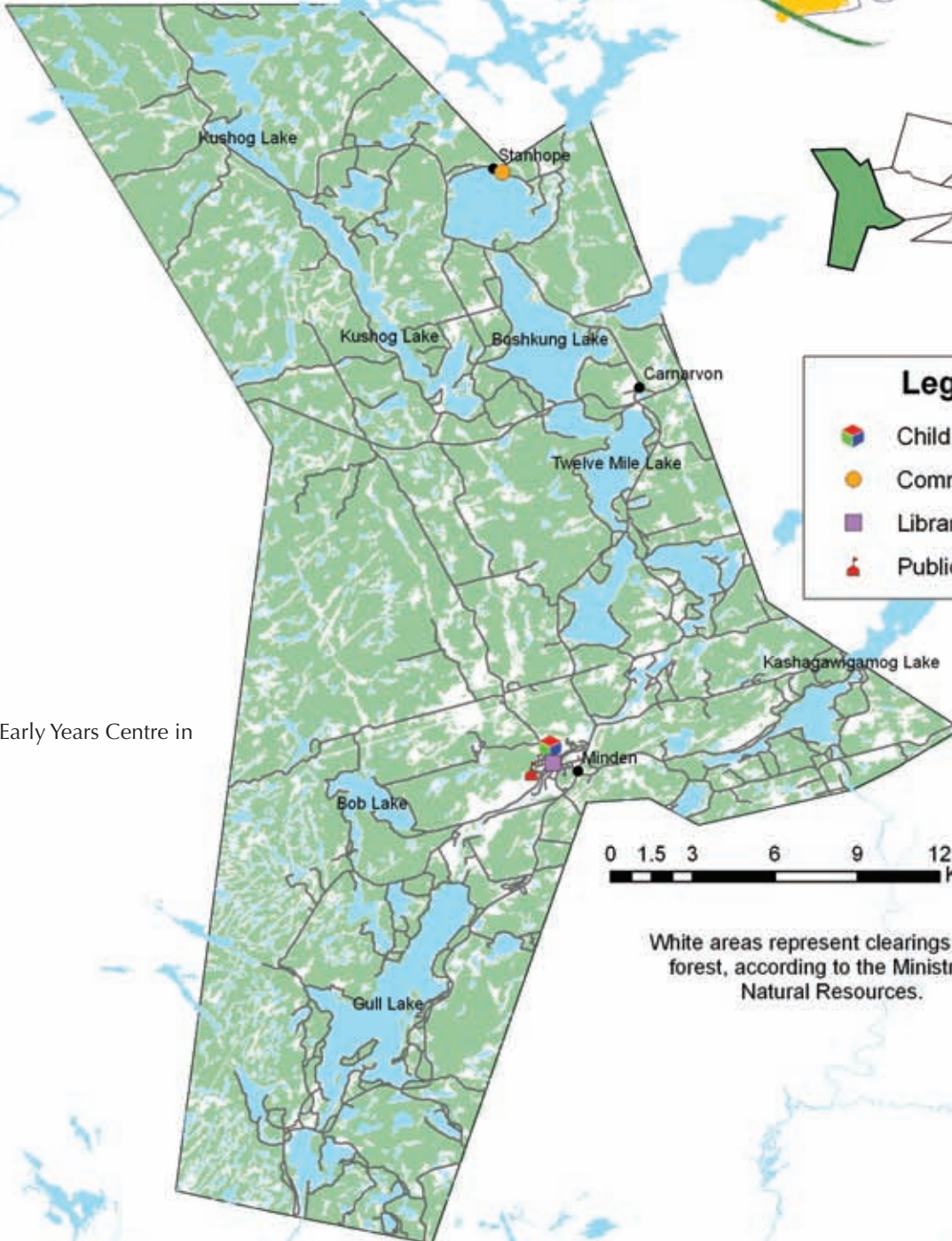
School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Emotional Maturity and Social Competence are the lowest domains at this time and they need to be monitored over time using the EDI. There are a surprising number of libraries in this rural area – four of them, in this very rural area. They are open a combined total of 52 hours per week and they have 6,083 junior holdings. There are no licensed childcare spaces in North CKL.

WEST HALIBURTON COUNTY

Dorset



Understanding
the Early Years
Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton



Legend

- Child Care Centre
- Community Centre
- Library
- Public School

Ontario Early Years Centre in
Minden

0 1.5 3 6 9 12
Kilometers

White areas represent clearings in the
forest, according to the Ministry of
Natural Resources.

WEST HALIBURTON COUNTY

the postal codes of the area around Minden & Carnarvon			
indicator	West Haliburton	Haliburton County	Ontario
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	270	760	
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of Haliburton County that live here	35.5%		
About this neighbourhood where local children live sources: local libraries and the children's services department of the municipality			
Library holdings (children's titles only)	1,940	9,710	
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs. (8 toddler, 19 preschool)	10.0	14.2	12.9
About the families young children live in Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation			
Family income - median families with young children only, led by couples	\$57,000	\$55,500	\$72,500
Lone parent families with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	25.0	25.0	19.5
Low income families % of total young families	25.0	25.0	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families	15.0	14.3	10.2
Young children living in poverty 0-6 yrs old, %	25.9	23.7	21.0
Children living in poor families # who are 0-6 years old	70	180	

The postal codes of KOM 2J0 and KOM 1J0 include Minden and Carnarvon where there are 270 children 0 to 6 years old living in 200 families. This is about 36% of the early years population of Haliburton County. Almost 35% of the County's 0 to 6 year olds live in Minden alone. There are a higher percentage of lone parents here with 1 out of every 4 children living in single-parented families and 75% in couple families. The median income is \$57,700 for young families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old, which is about 3% higher than the County median. Lone parent families are at very high risk to also have a very low income. 60% of lone parent families (30) bring home a median of only \$10,800 each year to support their families averaging 2.5 people. One quarter of families with a child under 7 years old are living in poverty (25%), totalling 70 young children living in poverty, almost all of them in Minden. Food security is likely to be an important issue to some young families in both Minden and Haliburton village. Minden is the only town in Haliburton County to have town water supplied by the municipality. All the rest of the County is on well water.

Statistics Canada was not able to provide data on families with young children under 7 years old in the postal code P0A 1E0, around Dorset, as there were too few. Dorset's library has 676 children's books. There is no licensed childcare.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Emotional Maturity is the lowest domain at this time and needs to be monitored over time. Both of the language domains (Language & Cognitive Skills, and Communication & General Knowledge) are also of a concern. The libraries in Minden and Stanhope have 2,616 children's books. There is a childcare centre licensed for 27 children, not including school-aged children (0 infant spaces, 8 toddler, 19 preschool). This provides 10 licensed childcare spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old in the planninghood of West Haliburton County.

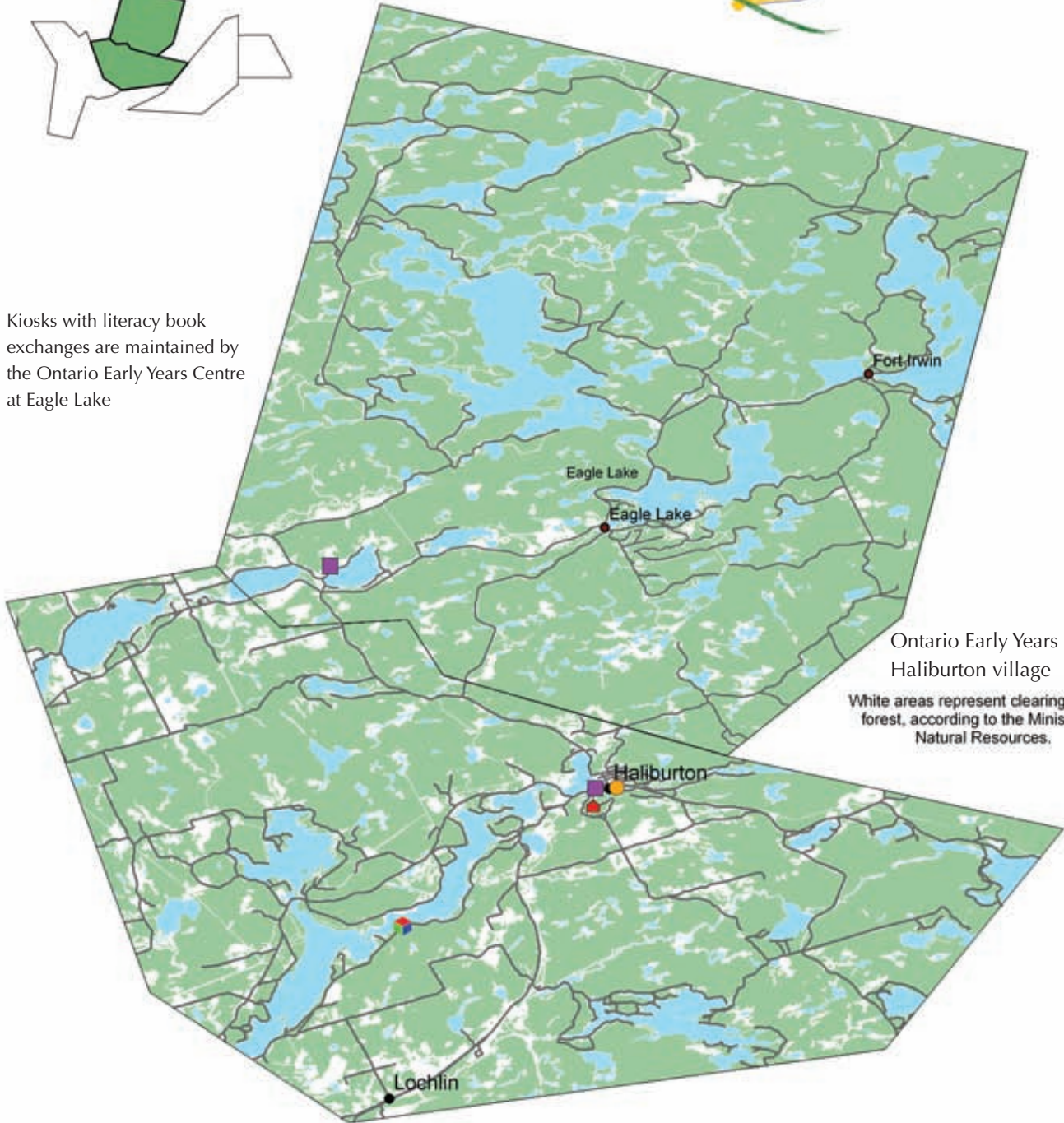
CENTRAL HALIBURTON COUNTY



Understanding
the Early Years
Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton



Kiosks with literacy book exchanges are maintained by the Ontario Early Years Centre at Eagle Lake



Ontario Early Years Centre in Haliburton village

White areas represent clearings in the forest, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

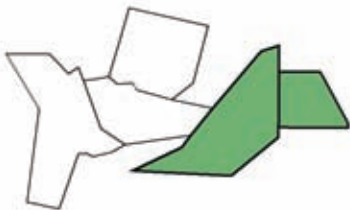
CENTRAL HALIBURTON COUNTY

the postal codes of the area around Haliburton village, Lochlin, Eagle Lake, West Guilford & Fort Irwin					
indicator	Central Haliburton	Haliburton village postal code area	Haliburton County	Ontario	
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	330	290	760		
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of Haliburton County that live here	43.4%	38.2%			
About this <i>neighbourhood</i> where local children live		sources: local libraries and the children's services department of the municipality			
Library holdings (children's titles only)		1,119	9710		
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.(10 toddler, 48 preschool)	17.6	17.6	14.2	12.9	
About the <i>families</i> young children live in Just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old		source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation			
Family income - median	families with young children only, led by couples	\$61,700	\$62,300	\$55,500	\$72,500
Lone parent families	with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	25	23.8	25.0	19.5
Low income families	% of total young families	20.8	23.8	25.0	20.9
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented, % of total young families		12.5	14.3	14.3	10.2
Young children living in poverty	0-6 yrs old, %	18.2	17.2	23.7	21.0
Children living in poor families	# who are 0-6 years old	60	50	180	

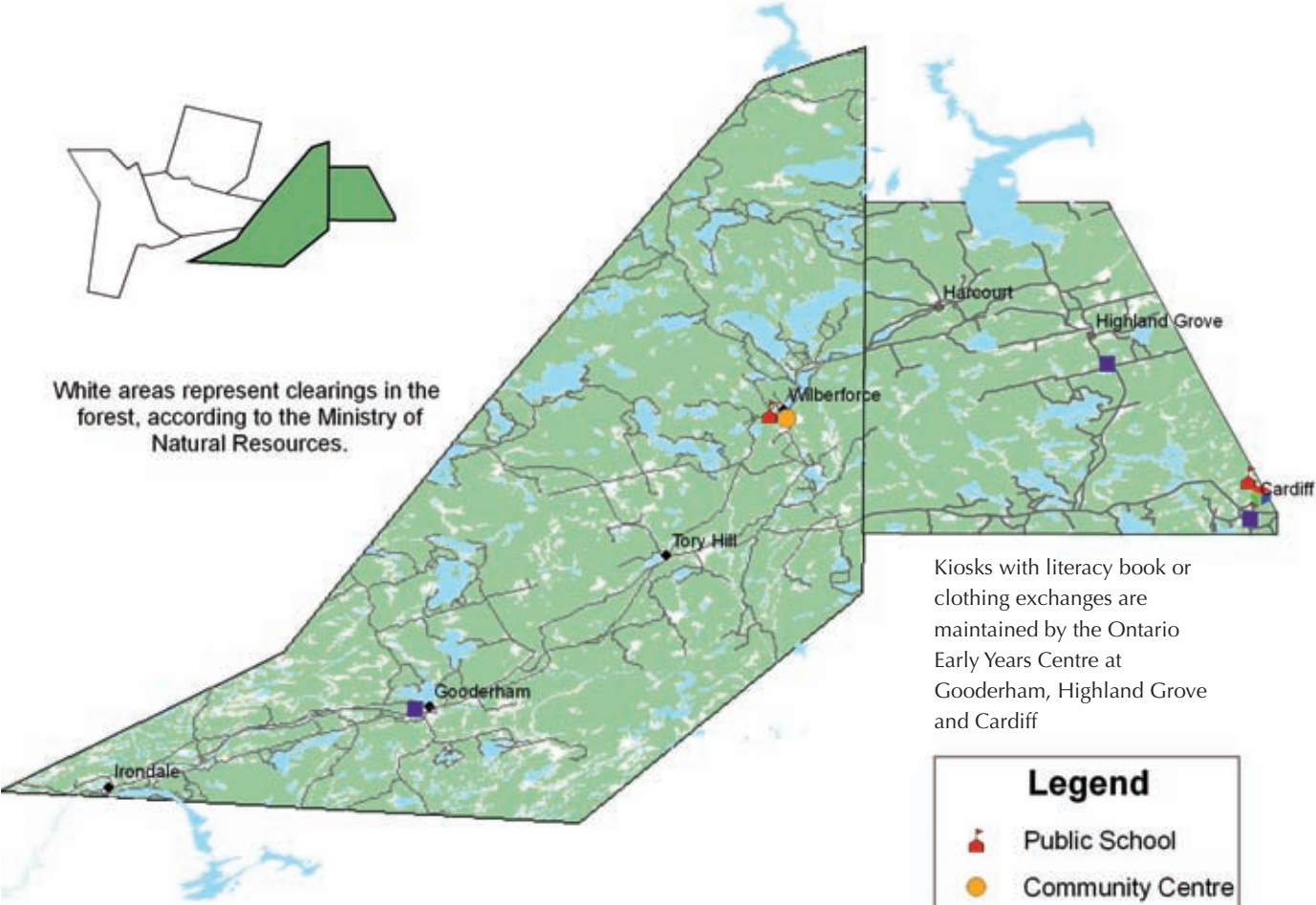
The four postal codes of Central Haliburton County (K0M 1S0, K0M 2G0, K0M 1M0 and K0M 2S0) include Haliburton village west almost to Carnarvon, south to Lochlin, and north including Eagle Lake, West Guilford, Fort Irwin. Gelert is included in the North CKL planninghood.

There are 240 families with **330** children 0-6 years old here; about 43% of the early years population. 38% of the County's 0 to 6 year olds live in Haliburton village. The median income is \$61,700 for young families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old, which is about 11% higher than the County median. One quarter of families with a child under 7 years old are living in poverty (25%), with 60 young children living in poverty (50 of them in Haliburton village). 60% of lone parent families (30) bring home a median of only \$14,000 each year to support their families averaging 2.9 people. School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that Emotional Maturity is the lowest domain at this time and needs to be monitored over time. The library in Haliburton village has 1,119 children's books. The childcare has 27 licenced spaces (0 for infants, 8 toddlers, 19 preschool) which means there are almost 18 licenced childcare spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old in the planninghood of Central Haliburton County.

EAST HALIBURTON COUNTY



White areas represent clearings in the forest, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources.



Kiosks with literacy book or clothing exchanges are maintained by the Ontario Early Years Centre at Gooderham, Highland Grove and Cardiff

Legend	
	Public School
	Community Centre
	Child Care Centre
	Library



EAST HALIBURTON COUNTY

the postal codes of the areas around Cardiff, Highland Grove, Harcourt, Wilberforce, Tory Hill, Gooderham & Irondale						
indicator	east Haliburton	Irondale, Gooderham Tory Hill & Wilberforce postal codes	Cardiff, Highland Grove & Harcourt postal codes	Haliburton County	Ontario	
number of children 0-6 years living in this neighbourhood	120 +	80	40 - 54	760		
percentage of the 0-6 yr old population of Haliburton County that live here	15.8 + %	10.5	5.3			
About this <i>neighbourhood</i> where local children live			sources: local libraries and the children's services department of the municipality			
Library holdings (children's titles only)	2,980	2,152	828	9,710		
Child Care - # licenced spaces per 100 children 0-6 yrs.	57.5		57.5	14.2	12.9	
About the <i>families</i> young children live in just young families with at least one child 0 to 6 yrs old			source: Statistics Canada, Small Neighbourhood Data, 2006, custom tabulation			
Family income - median families with young children only, led by couples	n/a	\$42,200	\$37,800	\$55,500	\$72,500	
Lone parent families with at least one child 0-6 yrs, %	n/a	33.3	n/a	25.0	19.5	
Low income families % of total young families	n/a	n/a	n/a	25.0	20.9	
Families that are both low-income & lone-parented,% of total young families	n/a	n/a	n/a	14.3	10.2	
Young children living in poverty 0-6 yrs old, %	n/a	n/a	n/a	23.7	21.0	
Children living in poor families # who are 0-6 years old	n/a	< 30	< 30	180		

The six postal codes in this planninghood are Cardiff area K0L 1M0, Wilberforce area K0M 3C0, Tory Hill area K0M 2Y0, Gooderham area K0M 1R0, Highland Grove K0L 2A0 and Harcourt area K0L 1X0). Irondale also falls in this planninghood. At the end of 2006 (the most current data available from Statistics Canada’s Small Neighbourhood Data), there were about 120 children 0 to 6 years old living in about 70 families in East Haliburton County, which is about 16% of the County’s early years population. The median income for couple-families with young children is \$42,200. for the aggregated area of Irondale, Gooderham, Tory Hill and Wilberforce, which is 24% below the Haliburton County median young-family income. For Highland Grove, Cardiff and Harcourt the median income of \$37,800 for families with at least one child 0 to 6 years old is 32% below the County median in the extreme east end of the County. Data regarding lone parenting in this planninghood area have been suppressed by Statistics Canada because the numbers are too low, however in 2005 evidence of further stress was clear where fully 50% of families with at least one young child under 7 were lone-parented. Food security and food banks are likely to be an important issue to some young families in this area.

School readiness measures using the EDI in 2006 indicate that both of the language domains (Language & Cognitive Skills, and Communication & General Knowledge) are the lowest developmental skills at this time and these need to be monitored over time through the EDI. The community has provided supports to East Haliburton County, generously providing 23 licensed childcare spaces available in Cardiff (0 infant spaces, 0 toddler and 23 preschool) through the Best Start initiative. That is almost 58 licensed childcare spaces for every 100 children 0 to 6 years old in the East Haliburton County planninghood. There are libraries in Cardiff, Highland Grove, Gooderham and Wilberforce with a total of 2,980 children’s books.





NEXT STEPS

NEXT STEPS

HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

PARENTS AND FAMILIES CAN

- find a mentor - another mother or father whose style you admire. Stay-at-home parents and those who work outside the home all need to have another parent to consult.
- laugh, smile and cuddle with your child.
- keep a specific bedtime routine and for kindergarten-aged children especially, ensure they go to sleep at about the same time every night.
- attend parent-teacher meetings at your child's kindergarten and open-houses at your child's childcare. Talk every day with your child's provider if they receive care in someone else's home.

THE GENERAL PUBLIC CAN

- shovel your sidewalk if you live in-town – it's stroller-friendly.
- volunteer, coach or tutor children in your community.
- become aware of early childhood policies and issues.
- volunteer to serve on the board of directors of a local agency that serves young children such as childcare centres, Five Counties Children's Centre, the Ontario Early Years Centre, the Boys & Girl's Club, Community Living, Point In Time etc.

EMPLOYERS CAN

- review policies and practices and consider how to become a more family-friendly workplace.
- consider a childcare centre right inside your large business.
- encourage your Chamber of Commerce to take an active interest in the demographics of young families in your area
- borrow ideas like Victoria, BC's award program that asked parents to name their: favourite park or place to take children, family-friendly workplace and business. Family-friendly businesses proudly posted their award in their windows.

"START BY DOING WHAT'S NECESSARY ... THEN WHAT'S POSSIBLE ...
AND SUDDENLY YOU ARE DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE."

- SAINT FRANCIS

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS CAN

- brag about the great news in this report indicating both CKL and Haliburton County are great places to raise a child.
- municipal websites can prominently post pages just for families to encourage young families to relocate to CKL and Haliburton County and continue reinforce those who live here.
- politicians need to be regular visitors to places where local young families go, such as childcare centres, Health Unit programs, and the Ontario Early Years Centre in their ward or township, for instance. They need to know all about great local initiatives such as the Health Unit's Healthy Babies, Healthy Children programs.
- start a Mayor's Roundtable on Children and a Warden's Roundtable on Children, like they have in Sudbury. They could meet once or twice a year to liaise with agencies serving young families and with parents of young children to better understand their needs and measure progress.
- continue to support cost-effective initiatives that celebrate the sense of community in all towns and villages that is so important to families raising children. Community in Bloom, Fall Fairs, the Family Gala in Lindsay, and others, all make it fun to live here.
- consider formally approving a Charter for Children, like they have in Niagara Region, that recognizes the community's values about its children.
- continue to focus on physical activities for young children to keep them active and outside in our beautiful area.

Thanks to Success By Six Ottawa Community Report 2005 for this format.

ISSUES TO CONSIDER

A number of issues have arisen in this Community Mapping Report, such as the need for more child care, especially in the City of Kawartha Lakes, poverty issues for young children, more midwives, more physical activities for young children (with less TV), and transportation issues. Moving services together under one roof would provide a single point of access to reduce transportation issues.

Cavities in young children is a clear concern in our area. The City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County have a significantly higher than average incidence of cavities in preschool children. Dental caries are the most common chronic childhood disease according to the Ontario Dental Association.

"Early childhood tooth decay (ECTD) affects 6 to 10% of all preschoolers. It is a rapidly progressing disease, often rotting front teeth completely to the gum line within a year... Dental decay is the most frequent condition suffered by children other than the common cold and is one of the leading causes of absences from school." (Toronto's Health Status: A Profile of Public Health in 2001) "

In CKL 17% of JK and SK children in 2005-2006 had tooth decay, with over half still untreated by kindergarten, while in Haliburton County 14% of JK and SK children had ECTD with over half still untreated (see page 20). There is more we can do to reduce this serious health risk for our children. It is now recognized that early childhood cavities are infectious and that they can be transmitted from parent to child on soothers or shared cutlery, for example. The ODA says only 9% of Ontarians know that tooth decay is infectious. Parent education programs can incorporate this knowledge into their curricula to support the work done by local dentists and the Health Unit. Local municipally-supplied water is not fluoridated. In the City of Kawartha Lakes water ('town water') is supplied by the municipality in Lindsay, Oakwood, Fenelon Falls and Bobcaygeon, however it is not fluoridated. The remainder of the City of Kawartha Lakes residences and businesses use water from wells exclusively. It may have some natural fluoridation however it needs to be regularly tested. In Haliburton County only Minden has town water, and the rest of the County including Haliburton village use well water. At kindergarten (and some childcare centres), the health unit provides the opportunity for a regular fluoride rinse at school. After 6 months old, children in CKL and Haliburton County need to take fluoride supplements if their parents choose. This is a further consideration regarding the high levels of early childhood tooth decay in our area and deserves further discussion.

MEASURE MORE

The mere act of measuring what we are doing, tends to improve outcomes. Measuring more, and more frequently, will benefit where we're going. As Alice in Wonderland said, "If you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there." In gathering data for this report we found it challenging to find information on crime statistics involving children, and food bank use, for instance, usually because the agencies that house them are not staffed to collect or distribute their statistics.

An example of one way to measure our progress towards our community goals is the 'Vital Signs' report. "Vital Signs is an annual community check-up conducted by community foundations across Canada that measures the vitality of our cities, identifies significant trends, and assigns grades in at least ten areas critical to quality of life." <http://www.vitalsignscanada.ca>. The indicators they use are of interest to everyone in the community: the gap between rich & poor, safety, health & wellness, learning, housing, getting started in our community, arts & culture, environment, work and belonging & leadership. Vital Signs reports are produced by the Community Foundations of fifteen cities across Canada, and there is also one for all of the country. There are currently no rural Vital Signs communities, and perhaps it's about time this idea was explored further.

A Charter for Children, developed by agencies, the community and municipal government, would help each of Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes to establish clear goals and increase community engagement in the early years of children. Niagara Region and Sudbury have great examples of what our Charter could look like.

The early years DO last a lifetime, and working together to ensure we keep our community vibrant for young families is the best way to 'work upstream'.

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40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD

SUPPORT

FAMILY SUPPORT

Primary caregivers, with at least one who is a member of the child's immediate family, consistently and predictably provide high levels of love, physical care, attention and nurturing in a way responsive to the child's individuality.

POSITIVE FAMILY COMMUNICATION

Primary caregivers communicate positively, openly and respectfully, expressing themselves in a language and style appropriate to children's age, developmental level, and individuality.

OTHER ADULT RELATIONSHIPS

With the support of their family, children experience interactions and relationships with non-familial adults, including caregivers, relatives, older people, and community figures. These interactions are characterized by investment, enrichment, consistency, and caring.

CARING NEIGHBORS

Young children know neighbors that extend both the child's network of relationships and sense of safety and protection.

CARING ALTERNATIVE CARE AND SCHOOL CLIMATE

Alternative caregivers and teachers, whether within or outside of the home, are nurturing and accepting, and provide stability and security.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

Parents, teachers, and caregivers communicate with each other in order to attain a consistent and understanding approach to young children. Parents play various roles in the child care and educational setting.

EMPOWERMENT

COMMUNITY CHERISHES AND VALUES YOUNG CHILDREN

Communities are responsive to issues relevant to the wellbeing of young children, offering an array of activities and quality resources, including those that promote physical health, appropriate to their developmental characteristics and needs.

YOUNG CHILDREN RECEIVE AND ARE SEEN AS RESOURCES

Communities show their caring and investment in young children's futures through community system building and by providing families what they need to function as a "child rearing system" and alternative caregivers and child care programs with adequate financial subsidy.

YOUNG CHILDREN ARE ABLE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION

Young children are provided opportunities to offer assistance and help with simple chores that bring pleasure and order to their environment, and enable them to feel valued.

YOUNG CHILDREN FEEL AND ARE SAFE

Adults, including parents, caregivers, and neighbors are able to reassure young children that their safety and well-being are a high priority, and that they are protected. The community provides physical safety, opportunity for physical development, and access to adequate health care.

BOUNDARIES & EXPECTATIONS

FAMILY BOUNDARIES

The family makes reasonable, developmentally appropriate guidelines for acceptable behavior by young children in ways that are understandable and attainable by young children.

ALTERNATIVE CARE OR OUT-OF-HOME BOUNDARIES

Alternative care and early education programs use positive ways of implicitly and explicitly teaching young children acceptable behavior; they avoid inappropriate and punitive methods that confuse, shame and isolate.

NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARIES

Neighbors encourage positive and acceptable behavior in young children in a supportive, non-threatening way.

ADULT ROLE MODELS

Adults serve as role models by showing the same kind of self-regulation, empathy, acceptance of others and engagement with learning that they would expect and value in young children.

POSITIVE PEER RELATIONSHIPS

Young children's peers offer inclusion and acceptance, opportunity for having fun in constructive play, and opportunity for developing and practicing pro-social skills.

POSITIVE EXPECTATIONS

Adults expect young children to behave appropriately, undertake challenging tasks with their assistance, and to do well at an activity within the child's capacity to perform by giving encouragement; and avoid negative labeling if the child does not succeed.

CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF TIME

PLAY AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Young children have daily opportunities to play with a variety of developmentally appropriate materials both structured and unstructured, that allow self-expression, physical activity, and interaction with others.

OUT OF HOME AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Young children are exposed to developmentally appropriate, out of home programs staffed with competent adults that offer a variety of well-maintained, suitable materials. Children are periodically taken to community settings such as parks, museums, and theatres that offer stimulating experiences.

RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCES

Young children participate in age appropriate spiritual activities that reflect the family's faith and beliefs such as the role of faith in building feelings of security, optimism, and caring for others; and that address their own emerging interest in religious issues.

TIME AT HOME

Young children spend a major portion of their time at home where they receive individual attention from primary caregivers, participate in family activities, play with a variety of materials, interact with non-family visitors of all ages, and view TV minimally.

COMMITMENT TO LEARNING

MOTIVATION TO MASTERY

Young children respond to novelty and new experiences with interest, curiosity and energy reflective of physical wellbeing, leading to successful and pleasurable experiences.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Young children are engaged and invested in developmentally appropriate materials and experiences.

BONDING TO ALTERNATIVE CARE PROGRAMS

Young children feel positive about their ongoing attendance in and out-of-home care and educational programs, and after an initial period of adjustment, attend willingly.

HOME--SCHOOL CONNECTION

Young children experience security, connection and consistency between home and school or other out-of-home program as a result of mutual concern by adults at each site, and through sharing information about concerns, interests, and activities.

EARLY LITERACY

Young children increasingly show interest in print material and representational symbols (pictures, letters, numbers) as a result of being involved in language rich activities, particularly being read to frequently and being exposed to print materials.

POSITIVE VALUES

CARING

Young children begin showing empathy, understanding and awareness of others' feelings, and make comforting and accepting gestures to peers and others in distress.

EQUALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Young children show concern for people who are at a disadvantage or who are excluded from activities because they are different.

INTEGRITY

Young children express their worldviews in various ways, which include asking questions, making comments, and enacting play episodes. They are also increasingly able to stand up for their own sense of justice.

HONESTY

Young children come to understand the pro-social value of honesty and are truthful to the extent their construction of and perception of reality permits it.

RESPONSIBILITY

Young children can carry out or follow through on simple tasks that help or benefit others.

SOCIAL COMPETENCIES

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Young children have "friendship skills". They can play harmoniously with their peers through cooperation, give & take of ideas, increasing ability to share, and by showing interest in and awareness of the feelings of others.

SELF-REGULATION

Young children increasingly can identify the emotions they are feeling, are able to regulate their emotions in situations with conflict or stress, and can focus their attention when needed on a matter at hand.

PLANNING & PROBLEM SOLVING

Young children can intentionally plan for the immediate future, make a choice among several options, and attempt to solve problems or surmount frustrations.

CULTURAL AWARENESS & SENSITIVITY

Young children show positive and accepting attitudes toward people who are racially, physically, culturally or ethnically different from them.

RESISTANCE SKILLS

Young children have an increasingly accurate sense of danger appropriate to their expanding sense of self and environmental knowledge, seek protective help from trusted adults and resist pressure from peers to participate in unacceptable behavior.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Young children are increasingly able to mediate harmonious responses to conflicts by being helped to see the other person's perspective and learning how to compromise in a mutually respectful way.

POSITIVE IDENTITY

PERSONAL POWER

Young children have a sense of being able to make something happen that matters to them and to others.

POSITIVE SELF-ESTEEM

Young children have a growing sense that they are valued and that their presence and activities gain positive responses from others.

POSITIVE VIEW OF PERSONAL FUTURE

Young children feel a sense of optimism--that life is exciting and enjoyable, and that they have a positive place within it.

SENSE OF PURPOSE

Young children look forward to appropriate milestones that will energize and confirm their growth such as upcoming birthdays, holidays, starting school, and kindergarten days.

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