

QELN Membership Application

The Quality Early Learning Network (QELN) is a group of not-for-profit, multi-service, multi-site child care organizations from across Ontario. QELN member organizations operate over 500 licensed child care centres across the province with almost 87,000 spaces for children aged birth to 12 years of age.

MISSION – The Quality Early Learning Network will work collaboratively with public policy decision makers and funders to develop deliver and sustain a community based, not-for-profit system of early learning and child care services for all children and families which is accessible, affordable, accountable, inclusive and effective.

VISION – Children, families, educators and communities thrive supported by comprehensive, high quality and inclusive early learning and child care services provided by not-for-profit and/or charitable community agencies and the public sector collaborating to deliver excellence.

Organization Contact Details:

Name of organization:		
Contact person:		
Position:		
Telephone:		
Address:		
Agreements	Circle Yes or No	
Multi-Site ELCC (5 sites and/or 3 sites and licensed home child care)	YES	NO
Non-Profit and/or Charitable	YES	NO
Membership Fee \$5,000	YES	NO
Values	YES	NO
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement	YES	NO
Terms	YES	NO

Organization Service Details:

1. What type of multi-site and/or multi-service non-profit organization are you? (Child care, community services, youth services, clinical, etc.)

Note: Your organization must provide licensed early learning and child care for children under the age of 12 in multiple sites as one component of its services to be eligible for membership in the QELN.

2. *How long as your organization been in existence?*

3. *Briefly describe the aims and objectives of your organization.*

VAUES – PRINCIPLES

1. Quality

Well-educated and well compensated early childhood professionals are essential to the provision of evidence-based, quality programs for children and reliable, responsive support for families.

2. Accessibility

Thoughtful, long term, collaborative community planning is required to ensure access to quality programs and services that meet the needs of diverse communities across Ontario.

3. Affordability

A publicly funded child care system is necessary to ensure low cost to families, quality program environments for children and well compensated educators.

4. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

QELN believes that the delivery of high quality child care is dependent on creating learning environments that allow children to have rich, positive experiences with their peers and with the educators who care for them. We value the differences that make each of us unique including age, ancestry, race, religion, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation. These differences are the identities that enrich our families and communities, making them stronger. Research and literature identify the disparities/inequities that impact racialized communities and disproportionately put both Black and Indigenous families at increased risk of racism and discrimination. This commitment will evolve over time. Going forward, we will engage QELN members in frank discussions about equity, systemic racism, privilege and power that will lead to action and social change. We will collaborate with partners and stakeholders to challenge systemic oppression in all its forms to create a better future for our children. We can and must do better.

TERMS

Members must:

- Publicly support QELN principles, positions and advocacy;
- Be a not-for-profit, community - based multi-site, multi-service agency or be an individual sector expert;
- Provide licensed child care (may include either/both group or home child care) at multiple sites OR be a multi-service agency that provides early years services including at least three licensed child care programs;
- Contribute membership fees to the QELN;
- Contribute actively to the work of the QELN- play a role in the development of the position taken by the QELN;
- Appoint a maximum of two senior management staff person who are authorized to commit the agency to a public position; and
- Attend meetings on a regular basis.

Members Rights and Responsibilities:

• Play an active role in the development of QELN principles and positions
• Play an active role in establishing and maintaining relationships with local school boards and all levels of governments
• Eligible to vote on those occasions when a consensus is not reached – 1 vote per agency
• Eligible to call for a vote at a QELN meeting
• May attend external meetings on behalf of the QELN if designated to do so by the membership
• May speak on behalf of the QELN if designated to do so by the membership
• Play a role in the hiring/contracting of staff/consultants who support the work of the QELN
• Will serve as a member of the Executive/Ad-Hoc and or Regional Committees
• May nominate and/or vote for Executive Committee members