

# Peel Region Special Needs Strategy – Integrated Rehabilitation



## Vision

**In our Peel communities, all children and youth will play, learn and develop to the fullest extent possible, with family-centred services that respond to their unique strengths, needs, goals and pathways.”**

**Children with special needs and their families will start their journey easily in Peel Region.** They will be able to access information about children's rehabilitation services with one phone call. A cross sector consent form will facilitate sharing of information across service providers so that families are not required to tell their story many times. For children with complex needs, intake and assessments will be determined by a community intake team, in conjunction with the family.

**Services will be family centred, cohesive, and responsive.** Youth and parents will be recognized as core members of the rehabilitation team and will participate actively in shaping goals and services to optimize participation and well-being. For all children, a lead clinician or service coordinator will support the development of the single plan of care, in partnership with the family. Services and coordination will be sensitive to the linguistic and cultural contexts of each family.

**Families will experience an integrated approach to services in their home, school and community** through a comprehensive range of high quality services which will be determined by child and family needs, and will be based on a common frame of reference for the region that is transparent and evidence-informed. From birth until school entry, children and families will receive rehabilitation services from one partner organization, minimizing transitions. From school entry until end of school, children, youth and families will receive rehabilitation services that are functionally integrated into the school setting.

**Transitions between providers and services will be as seamless as possible.** Planning will begin early so that services will be seamless and gaps will be eliminated across transitions and agencies. Service providers from different organizations will work together prior to transition, in collaboration with families. Transition protocols are layered; one service provider will not end service until the next provider agency starts service.

## Work to Date – September 2015

- ❖ Vision
- ❖ Community Engagement
- ❖ Work in Progress
- ❖ Processes Ahead
- ❖ Membership

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## Community Engagement

Five steps to ensure that a variety of parents' and youths' and service providers' voices were heard were outlined in the previous newsletter. These were:

- ❖ Literature Scan
- ❖ Scenario Review
- ❖ Parent and Youth Focus Groups
- ❖ Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) consultations
- ❖ Consultation with Peel Service Providers

## Work In Progress

Checkpoint #6 was delivered to the Ministries on September 3, 2015. In this document, which incorporated feedback from the community engagement processes, the Peel IR table shared the Vision (above), and their proposal for:

- ❖ How a continuum of speech-language (SLP), physiotherapy (PT) and occupational therapy (OT) services from birth to end of school will be implemented in Peel
- ❖ The range of services from birth to school exit that will be provided, with the speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist and physiotherapist, as integrated members of the team around the child
- ❖ Service locations
- ❖ Seamless transitions
- ❖ Waitlist management

## Processes Ahead

Moving ahead the Peel IR table will continue dialogue with family, youth and community partners about the developing model, including the Ministries' feedback from Checkpoint #6. Events planned include:

- ❖ Connecting to the Peel Aboriginal Network,
- ❖ Information provided to Parent Focus Group,
- ❖ Updating the Special Education Advisory Committees in the Dufferin-Peel and Peel District School Boards,
- ❖ Meetings by each partner agency with the direct service providers within their agencies, and
- ❖ Collecting letters of support from non-signatory members of the table.

**The final proposal is to be submitted on October 30, 2015**



## Membership

### Mandatory Signatories:

- ❖ Central West Community Care Access Centre
- ❖ Conseil Scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud
- ❖ Conseil Scolaire Viamonde
- ❖ Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
- ❖ ErinoakKids Centre for Treatment and Development
- ❖ Mississauga Halton Community Care Access Centre
- ❖ Peel District School Board

### Community Partners:

- ❖ Central West Local Health Integrated Network
- ❖ Child Development Resource Connection Peel
- ❖ Infant and Child Development Services Peel-Trillium Health Partners
- ❖ Mississauga Halton Local Health Integrated Network
- ❖ William Osler Health Centre



For more information on the Special Needs Strategy please visit [www.children.gov.on.ca](http://www.children.gov.on.ca) or contact one of our Chairs:  
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