Early Years Study 3:
An integrated ECE system for Manitoba

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Manitoba Child Care Association
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Relative poverty rates for three social risk categories

Mothers’ labour is essential

Employment rate of women with children by age of youngest child, 1976 to 2009

- Women under 55 with no children at home
- Child aged 6 to 15
- Child aged 3 to 5
- Child younger than 3

Source: Statistics Canada (2013).

Experienced-based brain development

- genes
- epigenetics
- experience
- physical environment
- nurturing
- nutrition
- brain
- learning
- health
- behaviour

Factors affecting academic achievement – Age 11

Effect size

- SES
- Mother ed.
- Father ed.
- Family Income
- Health
- Preschool
- Primary school

Quality and duration matter (months of developmental age)

- **Low-quality**
- **Average**
- **High-quality**

ECE program attendance


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Quality linked to better outcomes

*Preschool quality and self-regulation and pro-social behaviour (age 11)*

- **Preschool quality**
  - Low
  - Medium
  - High

Effect size

Self-regulation | Pro-social behaviour

Universal access promotes equity - *Vocabulary skills in children ages 4 and 5 years by family income*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family income</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Delayed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-Moderate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Affluent</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Vocabulary skills in children ages 4 and 5 years by family income

Number of children with ‘delayed’ vocabulary

- Affluent
- Moderate
- Low-Moderate
- Poor


Universality is *more* equitable

Cost of early school leavers

Public costs of high school non-completion in Canada by cohort (2008 dollars)

- Social assistance: $969
- Crime: $350
- Tax revenue loss: $378
- Revenue lost in Employment Insurance premiums: $201
- Employment Insurance cost: $1,100

Cost per million


Literacy and civic engagement

Civic engagement by literacy levels, Canada, population aged 16 and over, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proficiency Level</th>
<th>Percent Engaged</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High 4/5</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Higher literacy levels are associated with increased civic engagement.

What has low cost early education and care done for Quebec?

- 70,000 more mothers are working
- They pay $1.5-billion annually in taxes
- And draw $340-million less in social transfers
- Boosting the GDP by $5-billion

Quebec mothers have:

- Moved Quebec from the bottom to the top in female labour force participation in Canada
- Halved child poverty rates
- Halved social assistance rates for lone parents
- Boosted fertility
- Meanwhile, Quebec student test scores have moved from below to above the national average


Done right early education and care pays for itself

For every dollar Quebec spends on ECE, it collects $1.05 in increased taxes and reduced family payments, while the federal government gets $0.44

More money isn’t the only answer

- Better Beginnings; Better Futures – began in 1991; 25-year longitudinal demonstration project to provide information on the effectiveness of prevention
- 5,000 children – eight sites – 4–8 yrs (3); 0–4 (5)
- By Grade 12, $5,000 per child savings in special education alone 4–8 yr sites, less use of health, social & justice services
- No long term savings in the under 4s
- Why? Too few resources, too broad mandate, no universal platform to operate from

ECEC Across Canada
ECE budget as a percentage of provincial/territorial budgets 2011-12

Across Canada, 50% of children between ages 2 and 4 years attend an early childhood education programs - up from 35% just 10 ago (McCain, Mustard & McCuaig, 2011)
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More attention to monitoring

EDI use across Canada

Source: Provincial/territorial profiles www.earlyyearsstudy.ca
Discussion questions

- Would an integrated approach to early education and care benefit children, families and educators in Manitoba?
- How?
- What are the barriers?
- What could you do to address them?