



EARLY LEARNING

Quality Initiative



What is the Early Learning Quality Initiative (ELQI)?

- ELQI promotes professional development and high-quality early learning programs within Kawartha Lakes and the County of Haliburton
- It offers a variety of professional development (PD) and professional learning opportunities to our early learning and child care community. In addition to community PD opportunities, I am also available to facilitate PD that relates directly to individual centre/program goals and interests. I'm also available to meet and support any goals related to the quality of the early learning program.
- ELQI also has two libraries available for educators and staff in our local early learning and childcare community to access.

Educators and staff working in these programs within the City of Kawartha Lakes and County of Haliburton can access ELQI PD and support:

Authorized
Recreation

EarlyON

Licensed
childcare
centres

Licensed home
childcare
providers

Special Needs
Resourcing

Did you know?

- ELQI has many community partnerships locally and with agencies in neighbouring communities.
- If all positions are filled in the early learning and childcare programs in CKL and Haliburton area, ELQI supports 250-300 educators and staff!
- While ELQI supports educators and staff in early learning and childcare programs in both the City of Kawartha Lakes and County of Haliburton; in Peterborough, this support is through Investing In Quality through Five Counties.
- The Early Learning Resource Program (ELRP) at CLTH (Special Need Resourcing) supports children in the City of Kawartha Lakes only. In Peterborough, this support is through Five Counties and in the County of Haliburton this support is through Point In Time.
- While ELQI supports the community wide professional development (PD), the ELRP Coordinators are making connections to the PD learning through their coaching and mentoring in the programs they support.

Types of PD ELQI can offer to the community as well as individual centres/programs:



Facilitated discussions



Communities of practice



Book studies



Article studies



Guest facilitators and speakers



Hands on opportunities to explore materials and resources



Specific trainings

How Does Learning Happen?

Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years

- *HDLH?* is a framework created by the Ministry of Education in 2014 for Child & Family Programs, Child Care, Kindergarten and Elementary.
- The four foundations within *HDLH?* are all connected to children, families and educators.
- *HDLH?* incorporates the Guiding Principles from 'ELECT' (2007) and the values, thinking and reflection from 'Think, Feel, Act' (2013). Both of these documents are also from the Ministry of Education.
- ELQI continually ensures all PD opportunities and support offered align with the *HDLH?* pedagogy.



Libraries

There are 2 libraries available for educators and staff in our local early learning and childcare community to access for free: the ELQI Library and the Travelling Tales Library.

Both libraries have resources and materials available to support the inclusion of children, support their own learning and interests, and to use with children and families in their centre/program.



EARLY LEARNING *Quality Initiative*

The ELQI Library has resources and materials available for educators and staff to access for free. These resources could support not only their work, but also their personal interests as well.

In addition to books and written material, there are also other materials available to borrow such as sensory items and some toys/materials.

The Travelling Tales Library is our collection of inclusive children's literature. The hope with this library is for educators, staff, children and families to see not only themselves reflected in the books, but to also see beyond what we have exposure to in our local community.

While these books are children's books, they can also be used for educators to not only continue their own learning, but to look at ways to introduce or include these topics within their centres and programs.



Travelling Tales categories within *HDLH*?

BELONGING

- 2SLGBTQIA+
(Gender & Orientation)
- Friendship
- Family
- Refugee & Immigrant
- Indigenous
- Multi-Cultural

WELL-BEING

- Emotions
- Diagnosis
(Mental & Physical Health)
- Resilience
- Grief
- Poverty

Expression

- Chapter Books
- Art & Music
- Poetry
- Silent Books
- Blind
- Deaf
- Sign Language

• **ENGAGEMENT**

- Imagination
- Environment
(Nature, Animals)
- Activism

**Stay
connected
with us:**

- **ELQI blog:** www.elqi.ca
- **ELQI FB page:** Early Learning Quality Initiative – City of Kawartha Lakes and County of Haliburton
- **ELQI Instagram:** @earlylearning_qi
- **Travelling Tales FB page:** Travelling Tales





If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

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A special thank you to Mel McGrory for all the work to get Travelling Tales started and to Tanya Benincasa for the continued work and support with organizing and building resources for Travelling Tales.