

Waterloo Region Special Needs Strategy Planning Table

Update – Issue #10



June 2017

Integrated Rehabilitation Moving Forward

On March 9, 2017, the Ministries of Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care, Education and Community and Social Services communicated with partner agencies, organizations and local planning tables regarding the next steps for the integrated delivery of rehabilitation services.

This communication was in response to the proposal submitted by our Planning Table in October 2015. Our task as a table was to propose changes to service delivery that would allow for:

- A seamless service experience from birth to school exit with no gaps in service as children transition to school or between service providers;
- Child, youth and family centred service as parents and children/youth work together with service providers and educators to set goals based on their individual needs and strengths;
- Access to a broad range of high quality interventions (classroom, parent training, educator consultation) in settings that are most appropriate to their needs and as convenient as possible to families;

- Continuous and consistent services throughout the calendar year regardless of who delivers them in the community.

The Ministries have asked us to form a Steering Committee to (1) finalize the proposal, (2) consult with stakeholders, and (3) develop implementation plans.

In Waterloo Region, the Steering Committee is comprised of:

- Carizon (representing Special Needs Strategy [SNS] Governance)
- Conseil scolaire Mon Avenir (French Catholic)
- Conseil Scolaire Viamonde (French Public)
- Developmental Services Resource Centre
- KidsAbility Centre for Child Development
- KidsAbility School Authority
- Waterloo Catholic District School Board
- Waterloo Region District School Board
- Waterloo Region Family Network
- Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network

Special Needs Strategy

Vision:

A Waterloo Region where children and youth with special needs get the timely and effective services they need to participate fully at home, at school, in the community, and as they prepare to achieve their goals for adulthood.



Looking for More Information?

For the most up-to-date information, you can also visit our dedicated webpage at <http://waterlooregionsspecialneedsstrategy.weebly.com/> or the Provincial webpage at <http://specialneedsstrategy.children.gov.on.ca>

It is expected that the proposal will be finalized and submitted to the Ministries for approval in early summer.

We will be using the time over the summer to plan for communication and meaningful consultation with families, staff, partners and stakeholders.

Beginning in the Fall, each member of the Steering Committee will be speaking with staff groups, current service providers, labour unions, families and other stakeholders to complete the implementation plans for submission to the Ministries. We will be seeking input, feedback and advice on how to make the proposed changes as seamless as possible for children and youth who will benefit from integrated rehabilitation services.

The final implementation plan is due to the Ministries by December 2017.

In order to ensure that there is no disruption in services for families, phased in implementation will begin in September 2018.

Over the past two years, partners have worked very closely with the input of families to design this exciting new model of service delivery. We are very excited to be advancing our work so that the impact of these changes will be positively experienced by families.

Please continue to watch our website for up to date information. We will be communicating new information as soon as possible.

Planning Table Members

- Carizon/Lutherwood
- Children's Planning Table
- Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud (CSDCCS)
- Conseil scolaire Viamonde
- Erinoakkids
- Family and Children's Services
- First Nation, Metis and Inuit of Waterloo Region
- Kerry's Place
- KidsAbility Centre for Child Development
- KidsAbility School Authority
- KW Habilitation
- Region of Waterloo
- Sunbeam
- Waterloo Catholic District School Board
- Waterloo Region District School Board
- Waterloo Region Family Network
- Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre (CCAC)
- Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)



For more information on the Waterloo Region Special Needs Strategy please contact one of our Chairs or visit <http://waterlooregionspecialneedsstrategy.weebly.com/>. This document is available in alternative formats upon request and questions in French can be answered via our Chairs.

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