MEMORANDUM TO: Early Years Partners

FROM: Jim Grieve
Assistant Deputy Minister
Early Years Division
Ministry of Education

DATE: November 5, 2014

SUBJECT: How Does Learning Happen? Ontario’s Pedagogy for the Early Years

As you may know, on April 25, 2014 the government released How Does Learning Happen? Ontario’s Pedagogy for the Early Years to promote quality in early years programs across the province.

This professional learning resource is designed to provoke deeper thinking about the delivery of high-quality programs and services for children and families in early years settings across Ontario.

How Does Learning Happen? was developed to support Ontario’s renewed vision for the early years. It will help challenge the status quo, inspire critical reflection and transform practices in early years settings. It supports a continuum of learning from early years programs to full-day kindergarten and beyond.

How Does Learning Happen? also describes program expectations, goals for children and questions for reflection to promote learning through collaborative relationships with children, parents, colleagues, and the community. This document will be a catalyst for program integration and supports a common approach to pedagogy across early years settings, and with strong connections to the Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program document.

How Does Learning Happen? and related resources including Think Feel Act: Lessons From Research About Young Children and Excerpts from ELECT are available online at:

In addition, new resources titled “An Introduction to How Does Learning Happen?” will also be available on the Ministry’s website shortly. They are tailored to the unique experiences of early childhood educators, leaders, and home child care providers and provide information about how you can reflect on key ideas in How Does Learning Happen? and begin to put them into practice in your early years setting.

Please see attached a summary sheet of How Does Learning Happen? and related resources for your reference.
Hard copies of these resources will be sent to you at a later date. In the meantime, however, you may order hard copies of these resources free of charge, through the Service Ontario website at: www.serviceontario.ca/publications by using your existing information or creating a username and password.

The resources can be ordered using the publication numbers listed below:

- **232994** – How Does Learning Happen? Ontario’s Pedagogy for the Early Years
- **232995** – Comment apprend-on? Pédagogie de l’Ontario pour la petite enfance
- **232996** – Excerpts from "ELECT"
- **232997** – Extraits de l’AJEPTA
- **232998** – Think, Feel, Act - Lessons from Research about Young Children
- **233055** – Penser, Sentir, Agir – Leçons tirées de la recherche sur la petite enfance.
- **233080** – An Introduction to How Does Learning Happen? for Educators
- **233081** – Une introduction à Comment apprend-on? Pédagogie de l’Ontario pour la petite enfance - Guide pour les éducatrices et éducateurs
- **233082** – An Introduction to How Does Learning Happen? for Home Child Care Providers
- **233083** – Une introduction à Comment apprend-on? Pédagogie de l’Ontario pour la petite enfance - Guide pour les fournisseurs de services de garde d’enfants en milieu familial
- **233084** – An Introduction to How Does Learning Happen? for Leaders
- **233085** – Une introduction à Comment apprend-on? Pédagogie de l’Ontario pour la petite enfance - Guide pour les leaders 2014

We encourage you to read How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years along with the supporting resources, reflect on them, and then collaborate with colleagues as you consider ways in which you can incorporate the key elements and approaches of this document into your practice and programs.

Thank you for your ongoing work and shared commitment to creating quality experiences and environments for children and families in early years programs across Ontario.

Sincerely,

Jim Grieve  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Early Years Division