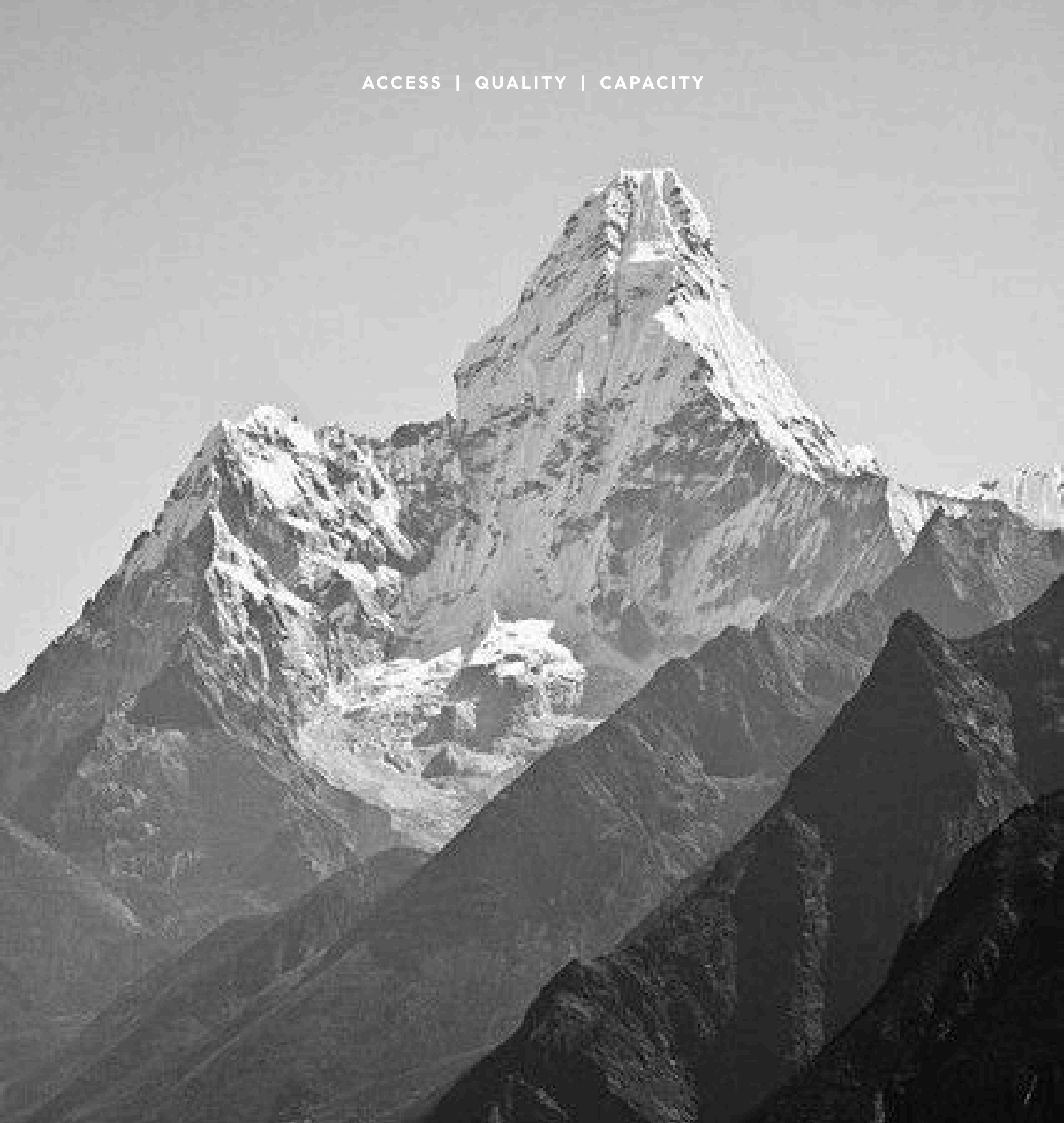


ACCESS | QUALITY | CAPACITY



Conference Materials Support | Event Package
BC Aboriginal Child Care Society

Project Overview

Access

Increasing access of ELCC for First Nations families

The BCACCS Conference Materials Support project aimed to assist BCACCS with key messaging and design materials for their 2024 Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Leadership Forum. Deliverables comprised key messaging, a fact sheet, an info-gathering workshop, communications materials, day-of support, event photography, a media release, and a "What We Heard" report. Major accomplishments included flexibility in accommodating client needs, effective communication, constructive feedback integration, and successful day-of support. Advanced preparation and access to design resources were particularly useful.

Quality

Increasing the quality of ELCC services and supports

Challenges arose from shifting deadlines, changing scope, and multiple feedback rounds from various reviewers. Improvement opportunities involve clarifying roles within the client team, streamlining the feedback process, and establishing clear communication expectations. Future recommendations include defining design roles early, incorporating budget management practices, and providing specific deliverable expectations. Key problem areas included budget overruns, internal communication regarding finances, and lack of clear branding at the project's outset, leading to extensive revisions.

Capacity

Increasing the capacity of First Nations communities, organizations, ELCC programs, and professionals

BC Aboriginal Child Care Society Purpose

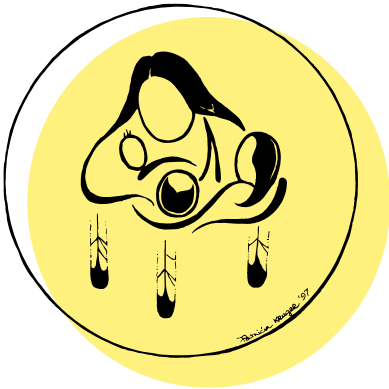
Since 1995, BCACCS has focused on enhancing First Nations early learning and child care (ELCC) programs in British Columbia and exploring opportunities for First Nations to regain jurisdiction over ELCC. This document summarizes the distinct nature of ELCC and engages First Nations leadership in discussions about creating a thriving system.

ELCC significantly impacts long-term health, education, and employment outcomes, emphasizing a holistic approach that integrates cultural practices and community involvement. Indigenous ELCC recognizes children as central to families and communities by prioritizing culture and language.

Current Landscape of ELCC

The First Nations Early Learning and Child Care Framework (2019) envisions a diverse, high-quality system designed by and for First Nations, promoting cultural continuity. However, the governance and funding landscape remains fragmented, resulting in challenges for program delivery and capacity, especially in remote areas.

Quality Statement



Aboriginal Child Care

Our child care programs embody the Laws of the Creator, reflecting our traditions, beliefs, and values. The key elements of quality in these programs include:

Aboriginal World View

Programs convey a shared perspective that values the sacredness of life, family, nature, and spiritual well-being.

Relationship with the Environment

Children learn to respect and care for the earth, emphasizing knowledge of the environment as central to our culture.

Cooperative Relationships

Programs promote non-competitive approaches, modelling cooperation, respect, and sharing among children.

Elder Involvement

Elders are integral to the curriculum, guiding children and sharing their knowledge.

Holistic Development

Curriculum supports a holistic view of child development, intertwining physical, emotional, cognitive, and spiritual growth.

Aboriginal Languages

Programs honour children's rights to their traditional languages, promoting bilingual communication whenever possible.

Relationships with Families

Building positive partnerships with families is essential for supporting children's care.

Preparation for Future Responsibilities

Programs foster confidence and self-esteem, preparing children to contribute positively to their communities.

Inclusion

Programs are inclusive, supporting children with diverse needs and abilities.

Multi-Age Grouping

Multi-age settings reflect Aboriginal values and encourage family-like environments.

Respect for Personnel

Programs value and support their staff through training and recognition.

Research

Participation in research enhances understanding of community needs and issues.

Delivery Models

Quality standards apply across various settings, including centers, preschools, and after-school programs.

Collaboration and Networking

Opportunities for connection among Aboriginal child care providers are prioritized.

Accountability

Programs are governed by and accountable to Aboriginal parents and communities, ensuring cultural knowledge and local priorities guide their governance.

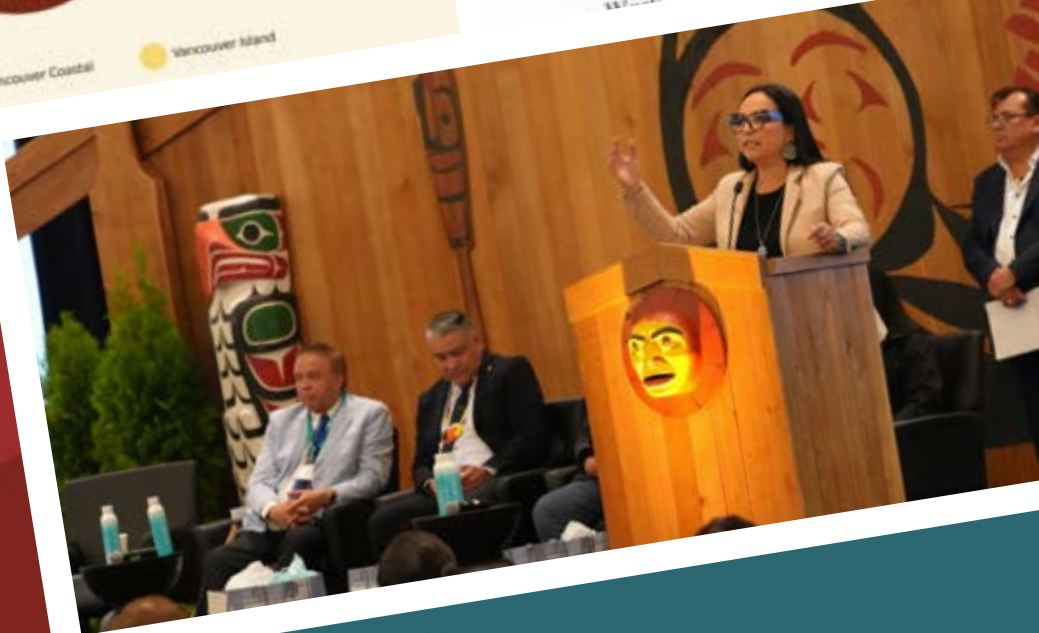
Local Authority

Compliance with regulations set by Aboriginal administrative bodies is maintained.

These elements collectively define the quality of Aboriginal child care, ensuring it meets the needs of children and communities effectively.



– Elder Lekeyten during the 2019 IELCC Leadership Forum



230 Unique Funding Recipients

7

21

Urban

