What is a Learning Community?

Creates synergy of collaborative action

Creates a culture of collaborative inquiry

Four Critical Pillars of Professional Learning Communities:
1. Collaborative Teamwork
2. Staff capacity for evaluating effective practice and outcomes
3. Leadership capacity to support organizational inquiry
4. Professional development

[Ontario Principals’ Council, 2008]
Overarching purpose

Evaluation capacity building in partnership with our providers
“... is the process of improving an organization’s ability to use evaluation to learn from its work and improve results. Organizations that are adept at learning from mistakes and adapting new challenges are more likely to be successful...”

Evaluation

• Utilization Focused Evaluation

• Guided by actual intended use and needs of intended users

• Focused on helping primary intended users select the most appropriate content, model, methods, and theory

Learning Communities

- School Support
- Quality Early Learning
- Out-of-School Time
- Home Visiting
- Mental Health
What are our insights so far through our Learning Communities?

- Sharing of promising practices in our community
- High engagement by funded providers
- Commitment to value of process moving forward
- Using data to provide information
- Learning from each other to improve
Next Steps

• Provider team to identify topics of interest for discussion quarterly
• Sharing of best practices among providers
• Identify core measurements
• Summaries of each session are documented and available.