

SEED in Northern British Columbia

Building community partnerships to promote positive early childhood experiences



Regional Advisory Table

The **Regional Advisory Table** aims to provide a forum for discussion and collaborative action across sectors for healthy early childhood development, early intervention, and early care and learning in Northern British Columbia.

Through quarterly meetings, the Table will:

- Provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas
- Identify existing and new trends or novel topics affecting early childhood development in our region
- Inform and support collaborative early childhood projects within our region
- Outline potential opportunities to coordinate improvements and changes across services
- Support knowledge mobilization through avenues such as the newsletter and SEED BC website

Mission

Our fundamental purpose as a SEED network which communicates internally and to the public what we are trying to achieve

Vision

A picture of how the work of SEED will be. What do people see, hear, and feel when they think SEED?

Our Values

What we feel is important / the beliefs that we use to guide our work

Key Action Areas

Key areas of action (priority areas) that need to be addressed for our vision to be actualized. May just be a starting place and can evolve over time.

Descriptions of the key areas for actions

Each of these key action areas will also require objectives and milestones

Objectives: Who specifically will do what specifically, by when specifically

Milestones – Specific dates by which specific achievements and results will be delivered

Mission

Support positive early childhood experiences and healthy development for all children in the early years (0 to 8) and their families in Northern British Columbia

Relationship Building

We aim to strengthen the relationships and partnerships across sectors that work with families during the perinatal period and early childhood.

Knowledge Mobilization

We share knowledge, valuable resources and celebrate work happening to support children and families during the perinatal period and early childhood.

Research & Innovation

We identify early childhood research opportunities and support individuals, communities, and the region more broadly to engage in innovative research.

Collaborative Partnership

Child & Family Centered

Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion

Cultural Humility

Northern Voice

Sustainability

Key action areas

Easy-to-access systems

Examine how we orient our systems from hard-to-reach for families to equitably accessible

Mental Health in the Early Years

Prioritize work on mental health and well-being for parents and infants (promoting positive childhood experiences, preventing ACEs, social-emotional development)

Early Childhood Development Measures

Promote understanding and awareness of infant and early childhood development measures in Northern BC (i.e. how the Early Development Instrument data can be used to guide local community initiatives)

Learning Opportunities

Identify, share and/or create learning and networking opportunities in the north

Knowledge Hub

Showcase northern champions, examples of excellence in the early years and celebrate practices in the North

Collaborative Partnership

We are committed to collaborative partnerships. Collaborative means we identify and work on initiatives with a shared purpose together. The addition of partnership acknowledges that we cannot do this alone and need meaningful relationships with families, caregivers, service providers, staff and leaders. Collaborative partnership requires meaningful relationships developed with time, presence, listening, compassion, communication and transparency. Applying compassionate leadership principles, including careful listening, understanding, empathizing with and supporting others, will help us achieve this.

Child and Family Centered

We are committed to coming alongside and building reciprocal relationships with the infants, children, families, and communities we have the honour of working with. Families must be included in meaningful, engaging ways, informed about how their knowledge is being used, acknowledged for their contributions, and compensated for their roles as experts appropriately. We recognize that engagement can be difficult for families, and building an engagement strategy to move this work forward is an important part of what SEED can bring to the north.

Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (JEDI)

We are committed to a network where justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion thrive. We see the path to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion as an ongoing journey requiring reflective practices (checking in) to enhance equitable processes and outcomes, reduce bias and create equitable and inclusive opportunities for participation.

Cultural Humility

We are committed to cultural humility and commit to self-evaluation and self-critique, as well as evaluation as a group knowing our learning is never finished. We create space for self-reflection and personal critique to practice being aware of our own values and biases, and how these continue to influence beliefs, assumptions, policies and practices.

Northern Voice

We value providing a voice for northern, rural and remote contexts in wider early years work happening across the province. We commit to communicating outwards in the province the work SEED is engaged with and to share across the northern region of BC opportunities for individuals, communities, and municipalities to engage in wider provincial work.

Sustainability

We commit to taking steps toward sustainability. Sustainability assumes that work can be maintained and built on long term.

Sustainability requires a clear purpose and shared value (reciprocity) to maintain motivation and facilitate continued engagement, forward motion, and funding.