

**In Response to Consultations on the *Full-Day Early Learning-Kindergarten Program***

The *Full*

The Ministry has proposed that literacy and numeracy be embedded in all aspects of the program, and recommends a number of document revisions to communicate how FDELK teams may do this. While supporting the proposed integration of literacy and numeracy throughout the program, the Atkinson Centre wishes to ensure that a holistic approach to children's learning is emphasized throughout the document. For example, the importance of children's learning through play; the value of an inquiry-based approach; the significance of participatory and experiential learning; and the benefits of building on children's interests all support literacy and numeracy rather than a focus on following educator-led themes.

Finally, while the *Full-Day Early Learning-Kindergarten Program* promotes a universal approach to program implementation, it needs to emphasize that programs and pedagogical practice should reflect the diversity and individuality of the children, community, and FDELK team members. Images, illustrations and exemplars that portray effective practice are helpful tools to demonstrate ho0 Tm /F 0 0 t0 Tm /Fpol t1 (t) (e) 4b