



early childhood community development centre

November 3, 2006

MEDIA ADVISORY

The latest results of a federally funded research study involving children in Niagara Falls will be released on Friday, November 24 at 12:30 pm at the Mary Ward Catholic School in Niagara Falls. The event is being hosted by the Ontario Early Years Centre - Niagara Falls. The *Understanding the Early Years--Niagara Falls* study, which is based in part on data contributed by kindergarten teachers across the city, assesses children's readiness to learn upon school entry and the community factors that support healthy early childhood development.

In a lively, interactive presentation entitled **A Community Fit For Children**, *Understanding the Early Years* project coordinator Glory Ressler and researcher Marion Trent-Kratz will share mapped research that illustrates how, despite multiple stressors, children in Niagara Falls are doing better than many of their peers across the country. They will also provide insights into associated factors, such as whether children attended preschool and junior kindergarten and socioeconomic conditions in the community, which may be influencing development and readiness to learn in school. Examples of how the local data has already been used to improve planning and decision-making will also be presented and attendees will have the opportunity to strategize additional applications.

Event details: **A Community Fit For Children**
Friday, November 24, 2006
12:30 pm to 1:30 pm
Ontario Early Years Centre
2999 Dorchester Road, Niagara Falls

Media are invited to attend. Please contact Glory Ressler at 905-646-7311 ext 319 or email gressler@eccdc.org about registering or to learn more information about the presentation.

