

A woman with a child on her back is seen from behind, standing in a field of tall grass. She is holding a string attached to a colorful kite flying in a clear blue sky. The kite has a rainbow pattern. The woman is wearing a white t-shirt and pink pants. The child is wearing a white t-shirt and pink pants. The background is a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The overall mood is bright and hopeful.

Early Years Study 3

Making decisions
Taking action

HON. MARGARET NORRIE MCCAIN

J. FRASER MUSTARD

KERRY MCCUAIG

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Prince Edward Island

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Biographies

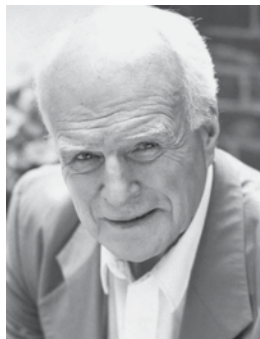
The Hon. Margaret Norrie McCain

is the founder and chairperson of the Margaret & Wallace McCain Family Foundation. The former Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick is a determined champion of young children and their families. She is working closely with communities and governments in Atlantic Canada to establish seamless early childhood programs. Margaret has co-authored *Early Years Study* (1999) with Dr. Fraser Mustard and *Early Years Study 2: Putting Science into Action* (2007) with Dr. Stuart Shanker.



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Terms used in this report

Early childhood education (ECE) refers to programs for young children based on an explicit curriculum delivered by qualified staff and designed to support children's development and learning. Settings may include child care centres, nursery schools, preschools, pre- or junior kindergarten and kindergarten. Attendance is regular and children may participate on their own or with a parent or caregiver.

Family daycare and home-visiting in Canada are not included in early childhood education programs. Some may provide intentional curriculum, but early childhood learning is not the primary mandate of these services.

Early childhood educators refers to the adults who work directly with children in early childhood education settings, have ECE post-secondary education credentials and are recognized by provincial/territorial legislation as qualified to teach in licensed child care, nursery schools, preschool or kindergarten programs.

Curriculum is a way of structuring learning experiences as an organized program of activities. In early childhood education, learning experiences include everything that happens to a child from arrival to departure.

The following abbreviations of provincial/territorial names are used in this report:

NL	Newfoundland and Labrador
PE	Prince Edward Island
NS	Nova Scotia
NB	New Brunswick
QC	Quebec
ON	Ontario
MB	Manitoba
SK	Saskatchewan
AB	Alberta
BC	British Columbia
YK	Yukon
NT	Northwest Territories
NU	Nunavut