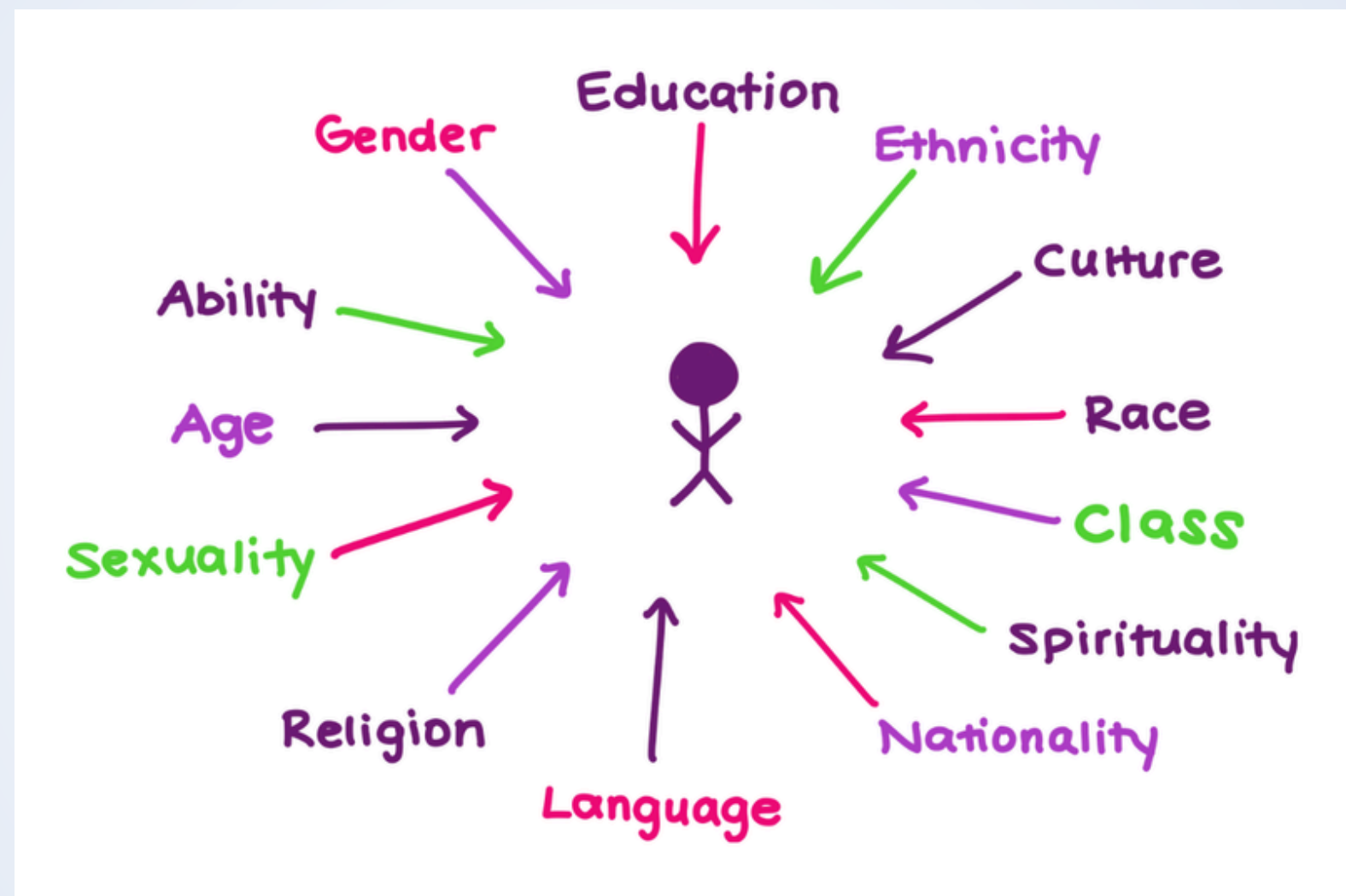


The Power of Advocacy in Early Childhood Education

"Building Stronger Voices: Workforce Development and Advocacy for Change in ECE"



INTERSECTIONALITY



WHAT DOES AECEO STAND FOR?



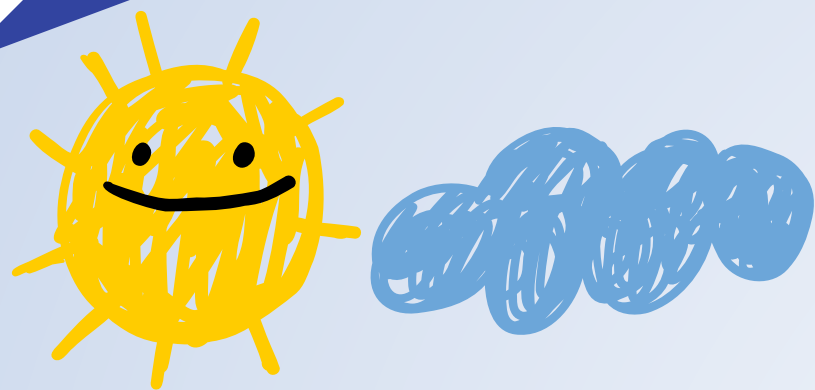
The AECEO acronyms stand for
Association of Early Childhood Educators in Ontario



- Professional association for ECEs in Ontario since 1950
- Build the collective voice of ECEs through community building and policy work
- Advocate for decent work, professional pay, and recognition of ECE as a vital profession

Why is advocacy important?





- Ensures children's rights and needs are met.
- Improves working conditions for educators.
- Builds public awareness and respect.
- Influences policy and funding decisions.
- Promotes equity and inclusion.
- Empowers educators as change-makers.



Think about an educator who changed your life



AECEO's Visions & Values

Belonging – **Equity** – **Inclusion** – **Decent Work**

Roadmap to Universal Child Care in Ontario

2nd Edition | September 2025



What's been achieved

- Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) agreement.
- More licensed child-care spaces: over 516,000 spaces in Ontario as of 2024 (up from 505,000 in 2023).
- More child-care centres: a 13% increase since 2014–15; total spaces up nearly 47%.
- Public awareness & advocacy: AECEO and partners released the Roadmap to Universal Child Care in Ontario (2nd Edition, 2025) and a proposed provincial wage grid.

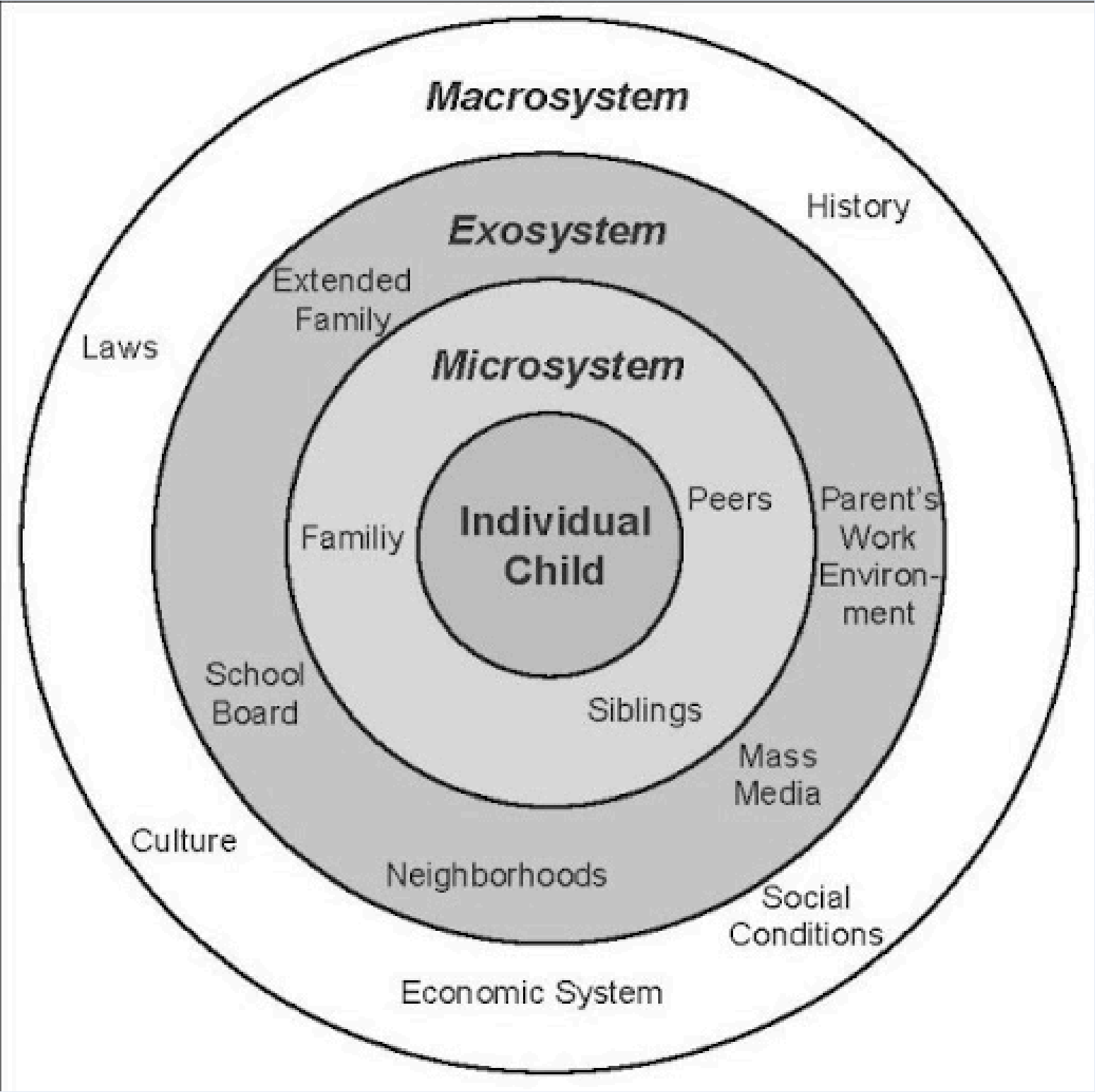
What's still needed

- Workforce crisis and Fair pay and Decent work standards.
- Access gaps: families still face long waitlists; spaces remain limited in rural, Indigenous, and low-income communities.
- Affordability
- System stability: Ontario must renew its federal-provincial agreement by March 2026 to secure funding and expansion.
- Inclusive services: need better supports for children with disabilities, racialized families, and Indigenous communities.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- Join AECEO as a member or supporter.
- Share their Roadmap with your networks.
- Advocate to your local representatives.
- Speak up about decent pay and inclusion in your own workplace or community.

Small actions add up. AECEO's strength comes from people who care.



aeceo

Association of Early Childhood Educators Ontario

RESOURCES