

DO YOUR INTERNSHIP WITH US!


Join us to gain experience and understanding of childcare advocacy through collaboration with staff members, partners, allies, and students

We are excited to be a part of your professional journey,
Welcome to the OCBCC!



FOR MORE INFO VISIT:

 @OCBCC81

 Ontario Coalition for Better
Child Care

 @ChildCareON

ABOUT US

We are Ontario's central advocacy group for a universal, affordable, high quality, public and non-profit system of early childhood education and care. Formed in 1981, the OCBCC is a member organization comprising child care centres, national and provincial groups and individuals from all across Ontario. Our members are ECEs, child care workers, parents, grandparents, centre directors and trade unionists - most importantly we are people who care about child care.

The objectives of the Coalition are as follows:

- 1.To promote the creation and implementation of a public child care system in which services are universal, public or non-profit, high quality, affordable, accessible, inclusive, licensed and regulated, and reflect the varied cultural and linguistic backgrounds of Canadian families;
- 2.To promote more and better child care in Ontario;
- 3.To increase public awareness of child care needs in Ontario;
- 4.To prepare and present briefs and policy reports for presentation to government;
- 5.To coordinate and support the activities of local advocates;
- 6.To lobby elected representatives in government;
- 7.To collaborate with provincial counterparts across Canada to advocate for a national child care strategy.

Staff you will work with-



Carolyn Ferns is our Public Policy and Government Relations Coordinator.

Kim Mantulak, RECE is our Membership and Administration Coordinator.

Adebola Adefioye, RECE is our Project Officer leading our project, “Centering the voices of racialized mothers and educators in shaping child care response and recovery”, funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada’s Feminist Response and Recovery Fund.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We rely on the support of our placement students and interns. We recognize that students have many rich experiences and knowledge to share. They are an integral part of the OCBCC team and our work!

We work remotely and rely on virtual meeting spaces to interact. Learning is self-directed and students work independently on projects while also collaborating with other students and staff on joint tasks.

Here are some learning opportunities our interns may participate in:

- Support OCBCC staff with daily administrative and membership tasks
- Contribute to ongoing OCBCC projects and campaigns
- Draft project and campaign materials
- Social media engagement
- Research, data collection and analysis
- Prepare written reports
- Prepare and deliver OCBCC presentations



Please contact us at info@childcareontario.org to learn more about this exciting opportunity.

STUDENT EXPERIENCES



Michaela

(summer intern 2022)

Thanks to the OCBCC I have understood the importance of advocacy for the betterment of the ECEC sector. Throughout my experience I have encountered many inspiring people and took part in working on different important campaigns.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my voice

Sumayya Bobat (She/Her)

(Spring/Summer Intern 2022)

I decided to do my internship with the OCBCC because I am captivated by the organization's partnership with various individuals, programs, organizations, and trade unions to advocate for universal, affordable, and high-quality childcare.

Thank you to the OCBCC, AECEO, and TCBCC staff for an opportunity to be part of the team, for welcoming me with open arms and making me feel belonged!





Rachel Neville
(Spring Intern 2022)

"I completed my internship with the OCBCC amidst the signing of the Federal/Provincial child care agreement and the COVID-19 pandemic. This was an exciting time to be shadowing sector advocates and learning more about how the child care sector was evolving. I also had the opportunity to co-author and edit The Student Advocacy Toolkit, a resource for students about child care advocacy. This experience was a collaborative opportunity to give back to students and support new advocates. During all of my experiences, I felt holistically supported by my mentors at the OCBCC. Kim and Carolyn answered all of my questions, guided my learning, and helped me make the most of my time as a student intern. I learned so much, including how to use my voice to effect change. I gained knowledge and perspectives that I carry with me today. This experience has helped clarify my path forward as I approach entering into the workforce. Whether you are an experienced advocate or are curious about advocacy, I would absolutely recommend completing an internship with the OCBCC."



Luma Chaves

(Intern 2020)

Going into my second last year in the Early Childhood Leadership Degree program I didn't exactly have a lot of experience related to advocacy in the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) field. To be totally honest, this isn't something that was highlighted very much in school or throughout the several placements I had completed in ECEC settings. However, when the time came for me to begin thinking about the sort of organization that I wanted to do my 3rd year internship with, my research led me to a whole new world of advocacy and resilience that I wish I had known about sooner. I began to learn just how much work was being done to fight for the ECEC sector and ensure that Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) get the recognition, compensation, and rights they deserve. My search led me to the OCBCC which stood out based on their commitment to bettering the field as well as the employment and experiences of ECEs on so many levels. Once I began my internship, I was nervous that I wouldn't be able to make significant contributions or really help the fight for a better ECEC sector simply because I truly didn't know where to start. However, both Kim and Carolyn as well as all the amazing groups and individuals I got to collaborate with not only showed me the ropes, but they made sure that I felt empowered and heard as an Early Childhood Education student who would soon fill the shoes of those the OCBCC were fighting so hard to support. I got to be a part of so many amazing learning experiences that gave me the advocacy skills that I have continued to use long after I finished my time with the OCBCC. Some of these experiences included workshops that highlighted the injustices that ECEs face every single day, the creation of advocacy toolkits that are meant to educate, inspire, and empower others to engage in advocacy, and several meetings that really delved into the ways in which we as advocates could fight to have these issues addressed on a political level. This internship provided me with knowledge, tools, confidence, and the support I needed to go out into the ECEC field and speak up as well as advocate for myself as an ECE and for the sector. Overall, the advocates I got to work alongside were so knowledgeable, powerful, and determined that I completed my internship with a much more in depth understanding of just how important it is to advocate for the ECEC sector and stand up to the people and systems that have invalidated ECEs for far too long.

