



Grande Prairie Family  
Centered Coalition

# newsletter

*November 2019*

This month we focus on:

## THE EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT

*How is Grande  
Prairie doing  
when it comes to  
healthy child  
development?*



## What is the EDI?

The EDI (Early Development Instrument) is a short questionnaire completed by kindergarten teachers across Canada and internationally which measures children's ability to meet age appropriate developmental expectations. It is comprised of 5 domains:

- 1) Physical Health & Well-being
- 2) Social Competence
- 3) Emotional Maturity
- 4) Language and Cognitive Development
- 5) Communication Skills & General Knowledge

*Since January 2019, the Grande Prairie Family Centered Coalition has produced a newsletter every two months that focuses on one of these domains to provide information and ideas to support healthy child development in that area.*

For more information on the EDI visit: <https://edi.offordcentre.com/>

For a copy of the Grande Prairie report for 2016 visit: <https://ecdcoalitions.org/ecca-101/the-edi-program/current-edi-reports/>

For previous newsletters visit our website: <https://www.gpfamilycenteredcoalition.ca> or our Facebook page.

# Why is the EDI so important?

The Alberta EDI Program was established to help provide comprehensive data on the development of young children in Alberta, and to inform planning, policy and programming decisions at a provincial and community level. The data collected through the EDI helps communities, organizations, and government understand what is working well and what services are needed for children and families to support healthy development, learning and care both locally and provincially.

What makes the EDI so unique is that results are broken down not only by community but also by neighborhood or sub-communities. The EDI also takes into account, socio-economic factors as well as resources in each community.

To find out more on why the EDI is so important visit: <https://edi.offordcentre.com/parents/importance-of-the-edi/>

## Scoring

### On Track:

Children who score in this area have scores that are as expected or higher than expected for their age.

### At Risk:

Children who score in this area have scores that are lower than expected for children at that age suggesting this group is at risk for continuing on a low achievement and health trajectory.

### Vulnerable:

Children who score in this area are considered vulnerable for problems in later childhood.

## The Five Domains

### PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

*Gross and fine motor skills, energy levels for activities, independence in looking after own needs, and daily living skills.*

#### Grande Prairie:

- 71.1% of children are developmentally on track
- 12.6% of children are at risk
- 16.3% of children are vulnerable

### SOCIAL COMPETENCE

*Curiosity, eagerness to try new experiences, ability to control own behavior, respect, cooperation, following rules, and ability to play and work with other children.*

#### Grande Prairie:

- 71.4% of children are developmentally on track
- 14.7% of children are at risk
- 13.9% of children are vulnerable

### EMOTIONAL MATURITY

*The ability to think before acting, impulse control, ability to deal with feeling at an age-appropriate level, and empathy for others' feelings*

#### Grande Prairie:

- 68.8% of children are developmentally on track
- 17.7% of children are at risk
- 13.5% of children are vulnerable

### LANGUAGE & COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

*Early writing skills, reading awareness, age-appropriate literacy and numeracy skills, ability to understand similarities and differences, memory.*

#### Grande Prairie:

- 76.6% of children are developmentally on track
- 13.9% of children are at risk
- 9.5% of children are vulnerable

### COMMUNICATION & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

*Skills to communicate needs and wants in socially appropriate ways, symbolic use of language, story telling, and age-appropriate knowledge about the life and world around.*

#### Grande Prairie:

- 63.8% of children are developmentally on track
- 22.3% of children are at risk
- 13.9% of children are vulnerable