



Opportunity Place



Association of
**Early Childhood
Educators**
Nova Scotia



Pathways to Prosperity

Opportunity Place is excited to announce that this outreach and connection program has been extended! The goal of the Pathways to Prosperity program is to enable and empower qualifying Early Childhood Educators to successfully obtain their Level 2 classification through the Recognized Prior Learning (RPL) program. Opportunity Place is committed to building community capacity and resilience for early learning environments across Nova Scotia through the Pathways to Prosperity project.

The Pathways to Prosperity project is a customized program that is designed to support ECE Entry Level and Level 1 practitioners in preparing for the Early Childhood Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) program through the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Nova Scotia (AECENS). RPL is a competency-based assessment process.

The Pathways to Prosperity project provides support for individuals working in regulated child care, Family Home Day Care or a Pre-primary program without the credentials of a two-year diploma, to confidently demonstrate their competencies when they engage in the RPL process.

The Opportunity Place Pathways to Prosperity Project Coordinator will assist participants through the RPL process with structured activities as well as motivational support.

Program Content and Areas of Support:

- Financial assistance to participate in the ECE RPL Program available through the Canada – Nova Scotia Early Learning and Child Care Agreement
- Workshops on How to Engage in Exam Preparation
- Facilitated Study Group – How to Prepare for Exams
- Essential Skills Training and Employability Skills Assessment
- Mock Interviews and Practice Exams
- Diversity and Inclusion Training

Additional Training:

- Time Management Skills
- Increased Motivation and Confidence
- Public Speaking Skills
- Communication Skills
- De-escalation Skills

Funding for RPL expenses, as provided through the Canada – Nova Scotia Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, is dependant upon qualifying for the RPL program and participating in the Pathways to Prosperity program components.

Pathways to Prosperity training programs will occur primarily during the evenings and weekends to accommodate individuals who work. Scheduled training will be offered online and practice exams will be conducted in person following all public health measures as determined by the Nova Scotia Health Authority. Alternate arrangements for in person practice exams can be discussed with the Project Coordinator for consideration.

Opportunity Place will support participants requiring assistance with computer access and a lending library for resource materials. Participants will also have access to Career Counselling and Career Practitioner supports through the province-wide network of Nova Scotia Works Employment Services Centres.

Expression of Interest/Registration

Demand for the Opportunities Place Pathways to Prosperity support services is anticipated to be high and there are limited spaces available. The Association of Early Childhood Educators of Nova Scotia is responsible for the governance and administration of the RPL Program. Please contact the AECENS to express your interest in starting your Pathway to Prosperity. [For more information visit https://aecens.ca/rpl/](https://aecens.ca/rpl/)

*“As I reflect on the core values of Opportunity Place, **Respect, Growth, Encouragement, Energy, Flexibility and Collaboration** I think about early childhood educators across the province, knowing they embrace those values in all that they do each day. Core value alignment is a recipe for success! I am excited to support the committed, competent and creative educators who are continuing their learning journey by working towards successfully obtaining their level 2 classification through Recognized Prior Learning and the Pathways to Prosperity project.”*

– Kelly Ann Hamshaw, Project Coordinator, Pathways to Prosperity