



The Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) agreement aimed to address access, affordability, and inclusion. Almost all child care programs in Ontario's North joined CWELCC, however its implementation has been complicated. Expansion targets and associated funding allocations set by the province often fail to address the specific needs of this vast and diverse region.

I travelled to five Northern Ontario communities that participated in the study to conduct focus groups. My goal was to help ensure the voices of those who live and work in the region—which are often diluted in province-wide surveys—were included.

Staffing shortages are a—

