

Premier Visits the OKN Acton Community Hub Joins discussion with Our Kids Network on community hubs

Our Kids Network (OKN) was delighted to host The Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, The Hon. Indira Naidoo-Harris, Minister Responsible for Early Years and Child Care, and Karen Pitre, Special Advisor to the Premier on Community Hubs, at the OKN Acton Hub at McKenzie Smith Bennett Public School on November 8.

The Premier started her visit in a Kindergarten classroom, and then met with a group from Our Kids Network and Halton District School Board to talk about the network, and how and why the three OKN Hubs were established. They then turned their attention to the Acton Hub and its unique programs and activities.



Story time in the Kindergarten classroom with the Premier and Minister Naidoo-Harris. The Acton Hub Early Years Committee provided the children with t-shirts printed with "I'm an Awesome Acton Kid" on the front and a list of important local resources for families on the back.



The Premier joins our discussion about community hubs.

Acton Hub Early Years team members enthusiastically told their stories about coming together to take action when they learned that a number of children in Acton were unprepared for Kindergarten. They discussed the research they relied on to guide their decisions and the challenges of finding funds.

The Premier and Minister Naidoo-Harris were impressed with the Hub team's accomplishments and had many questions.

The meeting closed with a group photo in front of the Acton Hub.

After the Premier and Minister Naidoo-Harris departed, Karen Pitre and the OKN group continued the meeting. They further explored the complexities and challenges facing communities wanting to establish hubs and how Our Kids Network's experience and knowledge might be shared with the Ontario Community Hubs initiative.

For more information about the OKN Hubs visit <http://www.ourkidsnetwork.ca/Public/Hubs>

For information about Our Kids Network visit www.ourkidsnetwork.ca

For more information about Community Hubs Ontario visit <https://www.communityhubsontario.ca/>

For more information about the Our Kids Network Early Years Initiative visit <http://www.ourkidsnetwork.ca/Public/Early-Years-Initiative>.