As part of CUP’s 20th anniversary we are hosting the Issues and Impacts Series. Throughout the series, we engage field experts in discussing issues relevant to the wellbeing of children, youth and families. As a complement to the field expert talk, we invite our local research partnerships to provide a more intimate discussion of local projects working to understand and achieve impacts on the same issue. Please join us this February and March to discuss systems of Early Learning and Child Care.

**FIELD EXPERT TALK**

**Early Learning and Child Care – a National System for Canada**

For almost 50 years, there have been calls from advocates, economists, and social policy researchers for the federal government to work with provinces and territories in order to move 13 different approaches to early learning and child care to a more coherent and well-funded system for Canada. In the past few months, the Government of Canada has announced that it plans to do so, with an emphasis on affordability, accessibility, inclusive practice, and high quality. How will this plan move forward? What might be involved? How do provinces and territories approach the provision of ELCC now? Are municipalities involved? Are they really that different? This presentation will describe the complexities of the current ELCC policy landscape and explore both possibilities and challenges for the creation of a national system.

FIELD EXPERT: Kathleen Flanagan, Child and Family Policy / Early Childhood Education and Care Specialist, Kathleen Flanagan and Associates, Inc.

DATE: February 24, 2021
TIME: 12:00PM - 1:00PM MST
Please register here by February 17, 2021

**LOCAL PARTNERSHIP TALK**

**Local Matters: Options for improving early learning and care in Edmonton**

Since 2017, CUP has been working with the Edmonton Council for Early Learning and Care (ECELC) to improve early learning and care in Edmonton. The ECELC includes members from municipal and provincial government, community groups, and a variety of other organizations, all working toward the development of a system of high-quality early learning and care services in Edmonton, with an emphasis on meeting the needs of low-income and vulnerable families. This talk will explore what local entities of all kinds can do to help create such a system in light of both the provincial policy context in Alberta and the federal push for a national system of early learning and care.

LOCAL PARTNERSHIP: Dr. Robert Buschmann and the ECELC

DATE: March 10, 2021
TIME: 12:00PM - 1:00PM MST
Please register here by March 3, 2021

Watch for our Evaluation Events in May 2021.