

## Nshwaasnangong Large Child Care

### The Project:

Nshwaasnangong, Indigenous Child Care & Family Centre in London, Ontario, operated by Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre (SOAHAC).

Catering to urban Indigenous families in a spectacular and unique building designed to reflect Indigenous heritage and culture.

Childcare for up to 88 children in 5 rooms:

- 1 Infant
- 2 Toddler
- 2 Preschool

Plus an EarlyON room



*“The design is an Aboriginal design in the shape of a turtle...so the children are hugged and they feel mother earth”*

*Jan Martin, Director of Indigenous Relations for SOAHAC*

### Challenges:

1. Furnishings that reflect and compliment the unique building design:
  - Great deal of wood throughout the building
  - Unconventional wedge shaped rooms.
2. Flexible environment
  - To adapt with growing community in a new centre
  - For earlyON room to change regularly throughout the week to continually reengage children following the changing interest of the child
3. Compliment, support and not overwhelm the Indigenous cultural objects, art and play materials that are the primary focus
4. Large opening in a new build in COVID pandemic conditions for a ribbon cutting deadline



# CASE STUDY



## The Furniture

Predominantly Community Playthings Roomscapes:

- Mostly made of solid maple hardwood harvested in Northeast North America
- Mobile storage, for easy, quick reconfiguration of learning areas
- Easy post and panel connections, for a variety of configurations and angles
- Some curved storage units.

EarlyON room maximizes flexibility of the Community Playthings Roomscapes to quickly customize the room for different activities,

## Fulfillment Services

- Collected and collated furniture and play resources in our warehouse over several months
- Two truckloads with 14+ skids with over 1600 individual items.
- Team of 5 worked for 3 days on sight to unpack and setup rooms and learning areas in preparation for ribbon cutting for September 16th.
- Team returned for second smaller delivery in October.

## Solutions:

In close consultation over several weeks, LKG created room plans with furniture and play resources for each room and their learning areas.

Including:

- Play kitchens
- Dress-up centres and costumes
- Modelling clay, crayons and paper
- Carpets and mats
- Push bikes, trikes and Kindervans
- Board books and puzzles
- Dolls and puppets
- Food and cooking sets
- Unit, hollow and Tegu blocks



EarlyON room for mixed ages



EarlyON room with the Roomscapes systems of interconnecting furnishings with hidden wheels, the learning area can easily be reconfigured.

# CASE STUDY

Nshwaasnangong, Indigenous Child Care & Family Centre



EarlyON room: Child's Armchairs and Glider from Community Playthings



Preschool room: Hollow Blocks, Villagers Fire Truck and shelves from Community Playthings



EarlyON room: Toddler Gym and Child's Armchairs from Community Playthings



Toddler room: Preschool Sofa and Chair



Toddler room: Translucent shelves from Community Playthings



Toddler room: Woodcrest table and chairs by Community Playthings

# CASE STUDY



Infant Room with Mealtime Chairs



Toddler Room with Community Playthings  
Quarter Circle Tables



Infant Room



EarlyOn Room with mobile Library Rack by  
Community Playthings