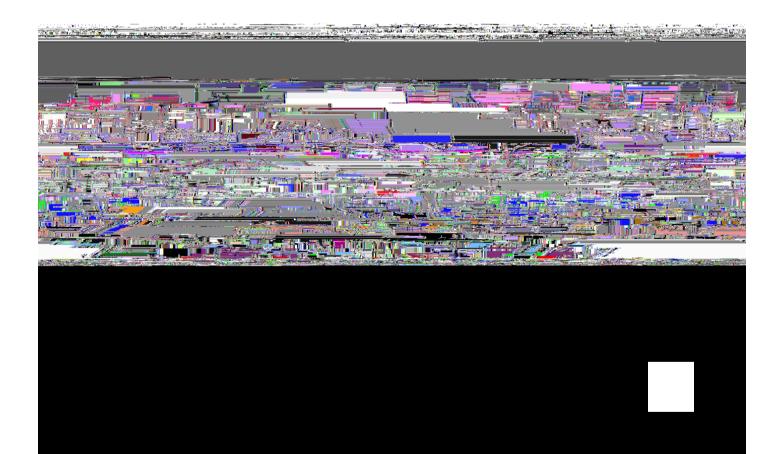


vision for children, families and communities. While recognizing that every jurisdiction may have unique service patterns, needs and challenges, the vision underpinning any Service Plan should be based on an explicit political direction, resting on principles of equity and social justice.

For more than 40 years, the City of Toronto has been struggling with the gap in access and quality to child care between its disadvantaged and affluent neighbourhoods. That gap still exists today, especially for children below the age of school attendance.

And while it must be acknowledged that the whole city qualifies as a child care desert with more than three children per licensed space, it also is clear from the map that levels of access vary greatly across the city.



g I hng ta tCi caT, ay I h <u>Ci tr</u> r. Sin re "regardless of the socio-economic status of his/her family and community, every child has the right to childhood experiences which promote the chances of developing into a healthy, well adjusted and productive adult".

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"All families in Toronto benefit from r a rvis s. at

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Table 1 Neighbourhood Status Matters			

