

November 9th, 2007
Keynote Speaker

Dr. Rob Santos

Scientific Director and Senior Policy Analyst, Healthy Child Manitoba,
The Early Development Instrument (EDI) in Manitoba

"How are Manitoba's Kids Doing? Lessons from the EDI."



Dr. Rob Santos is the Scientific Director and Senior Policy Advisor at the Healthy Child Manitoba Office (HCMO), the staff and secretariat of the Government of Manitoba's Healthy Child Committee of Cabinet (HCCC), the only standing Cabinet committee in Canada dedicated to the well-being of children and youth (prenatal to age 18 years). HCCC comprises the Ministers of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs; Culture, Heritage and Tourism; Education, Citizenship and Youth; Family Services and Housing; Health; Healthy Living; Justice; and Labour and Immigration/Status of Women. HCMO is mandated to work across departments and sectors through integrated research, policy, practice, and evaluation to facilitate successful child, adolescent, family, and community development.

Rob is one of Manitoba's representatives for Canada's Federal/Provincial/Territorial Early Childhood Development (ECD) Working Group and co-chairs its Committee on EDC Knowledge, Information, and Effective Practices. He serves as an advisor for Canada's national Centre of Excellence for Early Childhood Development, the Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network, the Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network, the Canadian Council on Learning's Early Childhood Learning Knowledge Centre, Dr. Fraser Mustard's national council for Early Child Development, Statistics Canada's Aboriginal Children's Survey and National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health.

Rob completed a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Manitoba, with specialization in community psychology, child development, population health, and prevention science and policy. He also has a cross-appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba.