

The GlobalChild Team

Academic Partners:

Canada

University of Victoria
University of Northern British Columbia
University of Ottawa
McMaster University
University of Waterloo
University of Manitoba
Université de Montréal

International

Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea
Université de Genève, Switzerland
Berlin University, Germany
University of Bilkent

Collaborating Institutions:

Island Health Authority, British Columbia (BC)
BC First Nations Health Authority
National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health
UNICEF Canada
Fondation du Dr. Julien, Quebec
Government of New Brunswick, Office of Child and Youth Advocates
Landon Pearson Resource Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights,
Ottawa
Max Planck Institute for Human Development
Child Health, British Columbia

GlobalChild: A rights-based approach to child health and development

Executive Summary

Recognizing the critical importance of children's environment to their lifelong health and development, the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child's (CRC) reporting system is intended to help State Parties identify and correct weaknesses and deficits in policies and programs that impact children. Canada was instrumental in the development of the CRC, playing an active role in the development and early drafts of the Convention and negotiating the provisions. It ratified the CRC early on in 1991 and, prior to ratification, in 1990 it hosted the World Summit for Children to promote the Convention to other governments of the world. In recent years, Canada has lagged behind in meeting its obligations under the CRC. While reporting difficulties might be explained by Canada's federal structure, it is also possible that reports reflect inadequate compliance.

GlobalChild (GC), a comprehensive child rights monitoring platform, will facilitate and support the ability of the 196 signatory States to comply with their obligations under the UN CRC. This bilingual digital monitoring and accountability platform will be based on a framework of indicators designed to correlate government policy, implementation structures and processes with child health and development outcomes. Importantly, it will pay particular attention to Canada's Indigenous children (Indigenous-GC). GC is intended to help to align Canadian internal processes with our international obligations and commitments to the CRC. In addition to providing a fully contextualized database available to different levels of government and researchers, GC will address consistent weaknesses in Canadian CRC reporting. Ultimately, it will provide credible evidence to evaluate existing government service delivery against international standards and to guide the development of more effective policies and procedures. GlobalChild will be developed under the auspices of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and will be designed to serve all 196 countries who are states parties to CRC.

GC, an initiative of the University of Victoria, is under the leadership of Dr. Ziba Vaghri in collaboration with seven Canadian and four international universities and numerous agencies and institutions committed to child health and well-being and/or child rights.

GLOBALCHILD TEAM

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (PI)



DR. ZIBA VAGHRI:

Dr. Ziba Vaghri is an Assistant Professor at the University of Victoria School of Public Health and Social Policy. In 2014 she received a 5-year [Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research](#) Scholar Award in recognition of her decades of work on child development and child rights. She was trained and mentored by one of the most prolific researchers of Early Child Development (ECD), the late Dr. Clyde Hertzman (OC).

From 2008 - 2014, as the Director of the International Program at the Human Early Learning Partnership at University of British Columbia, she took the lead role in the design, implementation and evaluation of a number of international projects related to children's health development and children's rights. For the last 10 years, she has partnered with the [United Nations \(UN\) Committee on the Rights of the Child](#) (CRC). During this period, as the Secretariat and the lead member of an international team of experts, Dr. Vaghri led the process of developing the Indicators of General Comment 7 (GC7) – implementation of CRC during early childhood years. Working under the auspices of UN CRC and the GC7 international team, she spearheaded the pilots of these indicators in Tanzania and Chile. Currently, she is conducting a similar pilot in the province of British Columbia. Following the first two pilots, Dr. Vaghri developed the concept to digitize the indicators which led to the creation of the Early Childhood Rights Indicators (ECRI) - an electronic tool to monitor the rights of children ages 0 - 8 years old; she also authored reports to the governments of Chile and Tanzania and their respective UNICEF offices.

Building on her years of experience working with government officials and international organizations including: World Health Organization (WHO); United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the UN CRC, Dr. Vaghri has assembled an impressive team comprised of experts from 7 Canadian and 4 international universities and a number of prominent Canadian and international child rights promoting institutions. As the Principal Investigator/ Scientific Director of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) funded GlobalChild project: *Global Child - a rights-based approach to enhancing the health and development of Canadian children*, the team will embark on a 5-year project to develop GlobalChild, a universal and comprehensive child rights monitoring platform.

CO INVESTIGATORS



DR. YANGHEE LEE

Yanghee Lee, a Professor in the Department of Child Psychology and Education Sungkyunkwan University, is currently serving as the [UN Special Rapporteur](#) on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar. She has been a member of the UN CRC (2003 – 2013), served as its Chair from 2007 – 2011; and as chairperson of the Meeting of Chairpersons of Treaty Bodies (2010-2011). Dr Lee has been the guiding force in the draft, negotiation and adoption of the third Optional Protocol to the CRC on a Communications Procedure.

She is the recipient of many awards including: 2007 Year of the Woman Award (Korea); the 2009 Order of Civil Merit (Suk Ryu Medal), the highest recognition given to a civilian in South Korea in recognition for her work in protecting and promoting the rights of children worldwide; the 2011 Hyo Ryung Award for

her dedication to children and their well-being; and the 2015 Youngsan Diplomat Award for her dedication to human rights. Dr. Lee is an elected member of the Executive Council of the International Society for the Prevention Child Abuse and Neglect; Executive Board Member of UNICEF National Committee of Korea, and founder and President of the International Center for Child Rights and the Korean Association for Children with Disabilities.



HONORABLE JEAN ZERMATTEN

Honourable Jean Zermatten, the former chair of the United Nations CRC, was also the only Swiss member of the Committee. He is the former President and Dean of the juvenile court of the Canton of Valais, Switzerland (1980 - 2005), has also served an active Chairman of the International Association of Magistrates for Youth and Family (IAYFJM) from (1994 – 1998). He founded and since 1995, has served as the Director of the International Institute of Rights of the Child (IDE) in Sion/Switzerland.

Mr. Jean Zermatten has also taught Juvenile

Criminal Law at the University of Freiburg for ten years. He has contributed to numerous draft law

projects, including: Project for the 1st unified Law for the criminal Procedure for Minors (Swiss Confederation); inter-cantonal concordat on the implementation of measures for young offenders (accepted in 2003); and collaborated on the creation of the first Swiss children's rights network, gathering more than 50 Swiss NGOs. He has used his expertise in many continents, including in Africa and is Member of the West Africa Network for Children on the Move. He has been bestowed a Doctor honoris causa (Dr h.c) from both the University of Fribourg (2007) and the University of Geneva (2014)

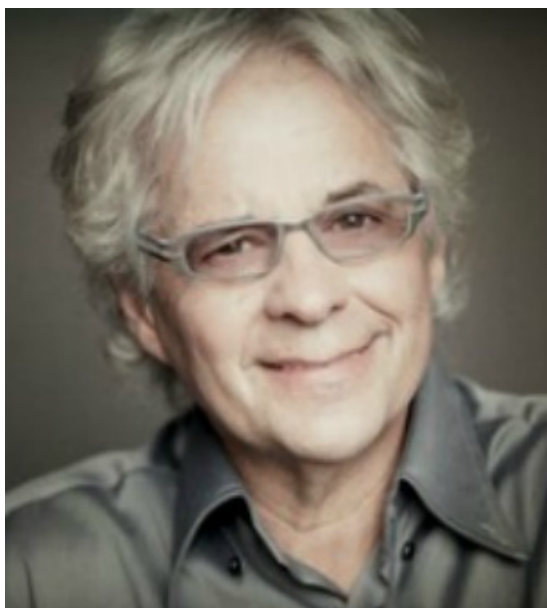


DR. MARGO GREENWOOD

Dr. Margo Greenwood, the Academic Leader of the [National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health](#), is an Indigenous scholar of Cree ancestry. She has years of experience focused on the health and well-being of Indigenous children, families and communities. Dr. Greenwood is also Vice-President of Aboriginal Health for the Northern Health Authority in British Columbia and Professor in both the First Nations Studies and Education programs at the University of Northern British Columbia. While her academic work crosses disciplines and sectors, she is particularly recognized regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally for her work in public health and

early childhood care and education of Indigenous children.

She has served on numerous national and provincial federations, committees and assemblies and has undertaken work with the UN; UNICEF; the Canadian Council on Social Determinants of Health; the Public Health Network of Canada; and the CIHR, specifically, the Institute for Aboriginal Peoples Health. In 2010, she was named 'Academic of the Year' by the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of British Columbia, and in 2011 she was bestowed the National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Education.



DR. GILLES JULIEN

Dr. Julien is recognized both nationally and internationally for his expertise and commitment in child development; specifically, focusing on the environment, the prevention of neglect and abuse, as well as the impacts related to social and economic inequities on the overall health of children. Dr. Julien has received many honours during his career. He is an Ashoka Fellow and a recipient of the Gold Medal of the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec, the Order of Quebec and the Order of Canada.

Through his foundation, [Fondation du Dr Julien](#), his mission is to enable children from a vulnerable environment to grow and develop their potential in

accordance with the UN CRC. A visionary leader, he created a preventive approach, social pediatric community, which ensures compliance of each of the fundamental rights of the child.



DR. SUE BENNETT

Dr Sue Bennett is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Ottawa and a pediatrician and mental health professional by training. Currently, she is the Director of Social Pediatrics and formerly the Director of the Child and Youth Protection Program at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. Her clinical work with maltreated children and youth spans almost three decades. She conducts research and education on child maltreatment and child rights for multidisciplinary professionals at local, national and international levels.

Sue has been an [International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect](#) (ISPCAN) Councilor since 2008 and was the ISPCAN Chair for the joint ISPCAN-[International Institute for Child Rights and Development](#) (IICRD) Program of Development for the draft General Comment on Article 19 of the UN CRC which was adopted by the UN CRC Committee in 2011. This General Comment has the potential to significantly transform and advance conceptualizations and practices of child protection throughout the world. Dr. Bennett's work has evolved from the perspective of the protection of children solely from violence and maltreatment to the overarching perspective of the protection and indeed promotion of all of children's human rights as exemplified in the UN CRC in order to secure and assure the well-being, health and development of the child to their fullest potential.



DR. FRANK TOMPA

Dr. Professor Frank Tompa is a Professor in the School in Computer Science at the University of Waterloo. His research interests include the design of text management systems suitable for maintaining large reference texts and large, heterogeneous text collections. *He has co-authored the book [Communicating with XML](#) in addition to more than 70 papers in the areas of database dependency theory, storage structure selection, query processing, materialized view maintenance, text matching, XML processing, information retrieval, structured text conversion, database integration, data retention and*

security and text classification. Professor Tompa serves as Co-director of the University of Waterloo's Centre for the New Oxford English Dictionary (OED) and Text Research. During this time, he worked closely with the Oxford University Press to help computerize the OED. Over the last 5 years, he has served on the program committees for 15 international computer science conferences, including VLDB, ICDE, CIKM, and DocEng. Professor Tompa co-founded [Open Text Corporation](#) (now headquartered on Frank Tompa Drive).

A Fellow of the Association for Computing Machinery (2010), Dr Tompa has received Canada's Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012) and was granted a Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, by Dalhousie University (2013); and was bestowed a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Canadian Association of Computer Science (2015)



ADEM ARKADAS – THIBERT

Mr. Arkadas head the [International Children's Center](#) (ICC) in Ankara Turkey; its mission is to advocate for and support all children to achieve their full potential in health, growth and development within the framework of health and rights in the community. Prior to assuming this leadership role, he served as the ICC's Child Rights Policy and Advocacy Officer.

He has worked with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) In Bosnia and Herzegovina; the United Nations' Refugee Agency in Turkey; the Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants; and the Children's Legal Centre in

the UK. He is a member of the international Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, the

International Society for Child indicators, and he is also a member of the Governing Board of the South East Europe Child Rights Action Network (SEECRAN). Mr. Arkadas has written reports and published articles on child rights, human rights and refugee issues. His main areas of interest are monitoring the implementation of human rights normative framework including the UN CRC and human rights impact assessment. He has over 20 years of experience in programme and project development and management, in developing policy advocacy guides, training materials as well as running trainings and projects in human rights and children's rights. Mr. Arkadas studied International Relations, Political Science and Public Administration at the London School of Economics. He also completed a Masters in Theory and Practice of Human Rights at the University of Essex and a Masters in Science (Economic and Social Demography) at Hacettepe University, Turkey.



DR. ABDUL ROUDSARI

Dr. Roudsari, a Professor in the [School of Health Information Science](#) (HIS) at the University of Victoria (UVic), has been involved in research, teaching, management, and external facing activities in the area of health informatics for over 25 years. He completed a PhD at King's College, University of London (1986), and in 2010, joined UVic as the Director of the School of HIS in the Faculty of Human and Social Development (HSD) (2010 – 2015). He also served one year as Acting Associate Dean of HSD.

He has taught extensively to both undergraduate and graduate students and has successfully supervised over 100 graduate students, including 19 PhD research students. He has broad interests in health informatics, a passion for quality

and excellence in research and teaching in this area, and a desire and demonstrated ability to help others be successful. His interest and expertise span modelling in healthcare; methodology for health resource management; design development; the evaluation of clinical decision support systems; and evaluation methodologies with particular application in telemedicine. More recently, he has focused his interests on Big Data, ontologies and temporal representation and reasoning. His research has attracted funding from the European Union (EU) and the National Health Service in the United Kingdom. Previously, he successfully led a major innovative EU-funded home telecare project.



DR. JOAN DURRANT

Throughout her 30-year career, Dr. Durrant has advocated at all levels for the protection and rights of children. As a Professor of Community Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba, she has focused her research and teaching on children's rights and protection from violence, particularly punitive violence. She co-authored the [Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth](#), Canada's authoritative call to action on eliminating punitive violence, which has been endorsed by more than 550 professional organizations across Canada.

She was a member of the Research Advisory Committee of the *United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children*, and co-edited a book published by UNESCO titled *Eliminating Corporal Punishment: The Way Forward to Constructive Discipline*; this paper became UNESCO's official

position statement on children's rights to protection from punitive violence. Dr. Durrant's seminal research on Sweden's corporal punishment ban (the first in the world) has been cited in parliaments around the world. She has served as a consultant to the numerous governments, including: Japan, New Zealand and the UK; provided expert testimony to Canada's Senate Committee on Human Rights; and served as an expert witness in the Constitutional Challenge to section 43 of the Criminal Code of Canada, which provides a defence to the corrective assault of children.

Most recently, Joan collaborated with Save the Children Sweden to develop an innovative parenting program, [Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting](#) – a program that is explicitly based on children's rights to protection and participation. This program has been implemented by community agencies in more than 30 countries around the world, including: Canada, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Japan, Ethiopia, Peru and Gaza.



DR. JEAN M CLINTON

Dr. Jean Clinton is a Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University, division of Child Psychiatry. She is also on staff at McMaster Children's Hospital with cross appointments in Pediatrics and Family Medicine, and an Associate in the Department of Child Psychiatry, University of Toronto and Sick Children's Hospital. She is also a senior scientist at the [Infant Child Health \(INCH\) Lab](#) at McMaster University. In addition, she is a Fellow of the Child Trauma Academy. She has served as a consultant to children and youth mental

health programs, child welfare, and primary care for almost 30 years. Dr. Clinton was recently appointed as an education advisor to the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Education.

Dr Clinton is renowned locally, provincially, nationally, and more recently internationally as an advocate for children's issues. Her special interest lies in brain development, and the crucial role relationships and connectedness play therein. Dr Clinton champions the development of a national, comprehensive child well-being strategy, including a system of early learning and care for all young children and their families. She is equally committed to ensuring that children's and youths' needs and voices are heard and respected.

COLLABORATORS AND COLLABORATING AGENCIES



MS. LISA WOLFF

Lisa Wolff is Director, Policy and Education at [UNICEF Canada](#). She has worked in the organization for more than a decade leading education and policy focused work to advance the rights of Canada's children to develop to their fullest potential, consistent with international human rights standards. Collaborating with government, institutions, civil society, researchers and private sector partners, Lisa has developed initiatives to advance children's rights in policy, governance, child related programming and educational curricula. These include training programs; symposia; parliamentary engagement and other efforts to help ensure every childhood is a good one. Lisa is a member of the Board of Directors of

PREVNet, the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children, and the North-South Partnership for First Nations Children.

She has a Bachelor of Environmental Studies from University of Waterloo, a Bachelor of Education and Master of Education from the University of Toronto. Lisa received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal from the Governor-General of Canada in 2012.

Landon Pearson Resource Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights



HONORABEL LANDON PEARSON

The Honourable Landon Pearson OC, served in the Senate of Canada (1994 – 2005), where she became known as the Children's Senator as well as the Senator for Children. She is a long-time advocate for the rights and well-being of children. Throughout her career, whether working with or on behalf of children at home and abroad, serving on various councils and commissions or in her role as a Canadian senator responsible for children, Landon Pearson has been an outspoken champion for children.

Upon her retirement from the Senate she was invited by Carleton University to establish the [Landon](#)

[Pearson Resource Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights](#) - a centre that will ensure that her years of work and her passion for children's rights will continue to inspire others to carry her vision forward.

New Brunswick Office of Child and Youth Care



MR. CHRISTIAN WHALEN

Deputy Advocate and Senior Legal Counsel

Christian Whalen, a native of Fredericton, New Brunswick (NB), holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Carleton University (1987); a Bachelor of Law degree from the University of New Brunswick (1989); and a diplôme d'études approfondies from l'Université Robert Schuman in Strasbourg, France (1993). Following his call to the bar in Ontario and NB, Mr. Whalen worked as a lawyer in private practice and as legal counsel to the NB Human Rights Commission before joining the Office of the Ombudsman in 2005 as legal counsel.

He has been responsible for systemic investigations and acted as lead investigator on several reports of the Office

of Ombudsman and the [Office of the Child and Youth Advocate](#), including *Connecting the Dots*, *Hand-in-Hand* and *Staying Connected*. He was also the project lead on the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate's annual *State of our Children and Youth* reports and a lead developer of the *Children's Rights and Well-being Framework*. He served as the Acting Child and Youth Advocate for NB from April 2011 to August 2013. He founded and serves as secretary to the Working Group on Children's Rights in the Francophonie and is the founding Chair of the Canadian Bar Association's National Sections Council Committee on Children's Law. He is the NB site lead and a principal applicant in the ACCESS Open Minds grant, a \$25 million CIHR Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR) initiative to transform mental health services for young Canadians. In 2014 he received the Children's Rights Champion Award from the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children; and in 2015, he was awarded the John Tait Award by the Canadian Bar Association. The John Tait Award is in recognition for achieving the highest standards of professional conduct and competence making significant contributions to social justice or community affairs, and exemplifying preeminent public service.

SCHOOL OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

DR. PHILIP C. LANCASTER



Dr. Lancaster had a distinguished career as an Officer in the Canadian Armed Forces (Army) (retired Major). His career spanned a wide variety of staff, training and operational posts, lecturing at the Royal Military College of Canada and serving as General Romeo Dallaire's Military Assistant during the Rwandan Genocide. He has spent most of the last 20 years working in Africa; this work has included working with the UNICEF in South Sudan, Uganda and Burundi; serving as a consultant with the World Bank in the Republic of Congo and Democratic Republic of Congo

(DRC); and the Director of the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Division of the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Congo; Coordinator of the UN Panel of Experts for DRC.

He has conducted extensive research into the use of Child Soldiers and helped General Dallaire launch the [Child Soldier Initiative](#). He also ran a successful reintegration project for former combatants in Afghanistan. Recently, he led a team of international experts that conducted a World Bank funded study of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA); he has also been engaged as a consultant to several leading international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in counter LRA initiatives. He wrote the first Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) evaluation of the application of the Principles of Good Interventions for Sierra Leone. He has recently returned from Mali, where he was the lead International Humanitarian Law instructor for the European Union Training Mission. Philip has a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Ottawa, Canada; he holds an appointment as Adjunct Professor at the School of Child and Youth Care, University of Victoria, Canada.

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, UNIVERSITY OF BERLIN



DR. LOTHAR KRAPPMANN

Dr. Lothar Krappmann was a member of the UN CRC from 2003-2011. He studied Sociology, Philosophy, and Modern History at universities in Frankfurt and Cologne, and completed his doctorate in Sociology at the Freie Universität Berlin. Until his retirement, he was a senior researcher at the [Max Planck Institute of Human Development](#) in Berlin. His main field of research is the social, emotional, and moral development of children in family, school, kindergarten and day care institutions, with special interests in vulnerable groups of children, particularly children growing up in poverty. He remains involved in a number of activities and programmes promoting citizenship education and children's participation in kindergarten and school, and served on advisory boards

to research institutions, social welfare organizations, and governmental agencies.

ISLAND HEALTH AUTHORITY, BRITISH COLUMBIA



DR. RICHARD CROW, MSC, MD, CCFP, FCFP

Dr Richard Crow is the Executive Medical Director Population and Community Health at [Island Health Authority](#). His portfolio includes: Mental Health and Substance Use Services; Seniors Health Strategy; Child, Youth and Family Services; Public Health Services; and Community Health and Care. He is also the Executive Medical Director for the End of Life Services. He has held numerous medical leadership roles with Island Health. Dr. Crow received his BSc, MSc, and MD degrees from the University of British Columbia (UBC) and completed his family practice residency at the

University of Western Ontario. In 2000 he was made a Fellow of the College of Family Physicians of Canada (FCFP). He is a former President of the Victoria Medical Society. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor in UBC's Faculty of Medicine and Affiliate Assistant Professor in the University of Victoria's Island Medical Program.



MS. CHERYL DAMSTETTER RN, MPH

Cheryl Damstetter, RN, MPH is the Chief, Community Health and Care for [Island Health Authority](#). She spent two years in Merida Yucatan during university where she had the opportunity to become fluent in Spanish and see first-hand the health care issues associated with poverty. Prior to arriving at Island Health she served 8 years as the CEO for Columbia Valley Community Health Center in North Central Washington, where integrated medical, behavioral and dental services are delivered for a low-income population.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FIRST NATIONS HEALTH AUTHORITY



DR. RICHARD JOCK

Dr. Jock is a member of the Mohawks of Akwesasne and serves as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) for the [BC First Nations Health Authority](#). (FNHA) As the COO, Dr. Jock's portfolio includes: health benefits; policy; planning, engagement, service improvements/ integration; investment strategies; and regional partnership implementation. His position also provides leadership for the building, functioning and implementation of strong partnerships within the First Nations health governance structure and within the health system more broadly.

Dr. Jock has worked for the past 25 years for First Nations organizations and with the federal government, including numerous positions in the health field. Immediately prior to joining the FNHA, he held the post of Chief Executive Officer for the Assembly of First Nations. Among his other professional roles, he has held senior leadership positions at Norway House Health Services Incorporated, Health Canada, the National Aboriginal Health Organization and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.