

# Annual Report

**2005 - 2006**



## International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD)

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## ***A Message from the Executive Director***



This last year has seen many new developments for us, including four new core team members joining the staff, the creation of a number of important new partnerships with human rights and child focused agencies, and the opportunity to work with and in support of many vulnerable children including: children affected by the Tsunami in India, children at risk of trafficking in Asia, Aboriginal children in Canada, and marginalized children in 3 of Canada's cities. I would especially like to welcome Renée Lormé-Gulbrandsen, Lorelle Posten, Jocelyn Helland, Derek Peterson and Vanessa Currie and our new board members, Fran Grunberg and Maria Le Rose to IICRD and wish all of our team, board, advisors, associates, members and partners a wonderful summer with their families. The year ahead promises to be full of new challenges in creating a world with more peace, dignity and respect for children, their families and communities. IICRD is uniquely positioned to create a culture of children's rights by strengthening systems of accountability and reinforcing children's resiliency.

Sincerely,

Philip Cook

## ***IICRD Overview***

Children are more at risk and the world's problems are more complex than ever before. Yet there are increased opportunities to build creative partnerships with children to assure a better future for our collective world.

Since 1994 *The International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD)* has been working on the front lines to implement children's rights to support the healthy development of the world's vulnerable children.

*IICRD* uses a unique "culturally grounded" approach that builds on the strengths of children, families, communities and their unique cultures. Within the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), *IICRD* develops educational, research and capacity building tools and implements programs that reconnect, re-instill and recreate hope and possibility for children as participating members of the human family.

## ***Our Mission***

To enhance the capacity of individuals, organizations and governments to effectively use the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to create peace, and dignity for children and our world.

## ***Our Work***

IICRD supports children as citizens, recognizing them as bearers of rights. We advance the quality of life and development of children and their societies through innovative education, research and capacity building that draws on the strengths of families, communities and cultures.

Specifically IICRD projects apply **Research, Education, and Capacity Building** to make a difference in children's lives in four key areas:

- ◆ **Children at Risk:** Fostering Resilience to Protect Vulnerable Children
- ◆ **Children as Partners:** Engaging Children as Agents of Positive Change
- ◆ **Children Reclaiming Culture:** Drawing on the Strengths of Child Participation and Traditional Cultural Teachings
- ◆ **Tools for Change:** Creating a Culture of Children's Rights

IICRD achieves this by:

- ◆ Working on the front lines of some of the greatest challenges for children;
- ◆ Engaging children and communities in individual and social development;
- ◆ Addressing social, emotional and other concerns faced by children that are not being met by other agencies;
- ◆ Reconnecting children to their human and natural world;
- ◆ Drawing on strengths of children, families, communities and cultures; and
- ◆ Re-instilling a sense of hope and possibility.

## ***IICRD's Current Projects***

All of IICRD's projects apply an integrated, developmental and strengths based approach to child rights. Our projects focus on the four thematic areas (*Children at Risk; Children as Partners; Children Reclaiming Culture; Tools for Change*) and impact the following areas to improve conditions for children and our world:

1. **Community programming;**
2. **Systems** that affect children's lives; and
3. **Innovative ideas** promoting good practices of healthy child development.

### ***Children at Risk: Fostering Resilience to Protect Vulnerable Children***

#### **Psychosocial Support for Tsunami Affected Children in Tamil Nadu, India**

**Funders:** Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) - International Humanitarian Assistance Branch (IHA), Save the Children Canada, Save the Children Finland, Three on a Tree Society, Pender Islands Elementary and Secondary School and Pender Island Recycling Society (PIRS)

**Length of Project:** 2.5 years

**Funds secured:** \$325,000

**Partners:** Save the Children Canada, Save the Children Finland, ASSEFA



IICRD continues to partner with Save the Children and a local Indian NGO Association for Sarva Seva Farms (ASSEFA) to work with teachers, community workers and children in Cuddalore and Chidambarum districts of Tamil Nadu State to facilitate nature based psychosocial healing of children affected by the tsunami. The IICRD team has provided training and support to our partners and field staff, Vanessa Currie and Charumathi Purushothanman to implement and train teachers, community workers and children in:

- ◆ Children's Development;
- ◆ Child Rights;
- ◆ Psychosocial Support and Protection;
- ◆ Child Participation;
- ◆ Experiential Nature-based Activities; and
- ◆ The Triple "A" Participatory Approach.

One complete training and research cycle has been completed in two districts and community workbooks and a process training manual are currently being developed to facilitate further work with children, youth, women, men and community leaders to support vulnerable children through their meaningful involvement, psycho-social support and connection to the natural environment. These will be piloted with new community partners over the next year.

## **South East Asia Regional Cooperation in Human Development (SEARCH)**

**Funders:** Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA)

**Length of Project:** 6 years

**Funds secured:** \$6,000,000

**Partners:** Salasan and Four Worlds International

IICRD continues to provide the child rights and cultural/strength based expertise to this 6 year, \$6 million CIDA funding Search Project in South East Asia focusing on better supporting children affected by trafficking and migration through community probased interventions and the rule of law in seven SE Asian countries. Special focus is being given to Indigenous women and children.

## **Innovative Rights Based Approaches to Child Protection**

**Funders:** Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA)

**Length of Project:** Development grant

**Funds secured:** \$13,000

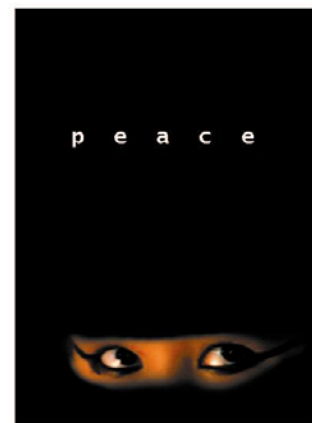
**Partners:** CIDA, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, University of California at Davis and the Oxford University Centre for Refugee Studies

## **Violence Against Children in the School Community: A Program of Cooperation in Related Research**

IICRD, with Stuart Hart as the focal point, continues to support the efforts of the International School Psychology Association (ISPA), Education International (EI), and International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) are carrying out an international study of violence against children in the school community. The information gathered from the school community, including children and youth has been organized, analyzed and reported to the UN Secretary General's International Study on Violence Against Children.

### **“Peace” Initiative**

Hildebrand Productions continues to work in partnership with IICRD to make “Peace” a reality. With seed funding and support from the Three Oaks Foundation (Loreena McKennitt), the NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) and the Discovery Channel, demo packages have been developed and circulated. This film and education initiative uses visual imagery and music to create





understanding and raise the profile of the role of children and culture in creating a harmonious world with proceeds dedicated to the support of community based peace initiatives. With endorsements from the Museum of Civilization and the Museum of Anthropology further funding is being secured with the hope of beginning to film a feature film and 4 part TV series later this year.

“Shot in majestic locations around the world, this initiative examines the value of cultural wisdoms and compassionate belief systems that illuminate the richness of our planet.”

Loreena McKennitt  
International Canadian Recording Artist

## ***Children as Partners: Engaging Children as Agents of Positive Change***

### **Children as Partners (CAP)**

IICRD continues to manage and update [www.iicrd.org/cap](http://www.iicrd.org/cap) to ensure the latest news, research, publications, tools and other information on child participation is available on line globally. Funding for ongoing support and maintenance is being sought.

### **Meaningful Child Participation in BC Family Court Processes**

**Funders:** Law Foundation of BC & BC Attorney General (continued pilot work only)

**Length of Project:** Phase I: 3 years      Phase I: \$75,000 (Law Foundation of BC)

**Funds secured:** Phase II: 1 year      Phase II \$90,000 (Law Foundation of BC)  
\$15,000 (Attorney General of BC)

**Partners:** Advisory committee and volunteers from Provincial Court (Chief Judge Stansfield), bar (Debra VanGinkel, Q.C.) and Kelowna court house and community. This Project has been focused on examining the current state of child participation in BC family court processes, identifying strengths within children, families and the system and building on these strengths to support meaningful child participation in BC family court processes. To date IICRD has organized and facilitated an experts' session on child participation with stakeholders and provincial, national and international experts; undertaken surveys and interviews with lawyers, judges, service providers; initiated a pilot project in Kelowna with volunteer lawyers, judges and court house staff; and liaised with several key stakeholders in BC (e.g. Attorney General representatives, CBA family law sections (Vancouver, Kelowna), Ministry of Children and Family Development, BC Provincial Court and BC Supreme Court etc) to further meaningful child participation. The Project's Phase I report will be released in August 2006 followed by a stakeholders' session to publicly launch Phase II of the Project. In Phase II IICRD will develop courses designed to assist lawyers, judges and social workers to support children's meaningful participation in family court. Funding was recently secured from the BC Attorney General to continue the pilot work through to October 2006.

The Project has thus far caught the attention of key stakeholders in the province across the legal system; been included for a careful consideration recommendation in the BC Justice Review Task Force's Family Law Working Group report (released June 2005);



impacted children directly by giving them the opportunity to have their views shared with a judge in the Kelowna pilot; provided introductory training to several Kelowna lawyers participating on the pilot roster; raised the issue of child participation in provincial legal circles; and been included in a presentation to the world congress on family law and child rights in March 2005.

## Growing Up in Cities – Canada

**Funders:** Social Development Directorate (SDD)

**Length of Project:** 3 years - completed March 31 2005

**Funds secured:** \$680,000  
GUICC Team



**Partners:** Environmental Youth Alliance and Redwire Native Youth Media Society, Vancouver; Commission Jeunesse, Gatineau; Heartwood Institute for Community Youth Development, Halifax; and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO

For the past 3 years, IICRD has been focusing on the importance of engaging young people in creating child and youth friendly communities and including them in the decision-making process. Through research, holding of events, and development and implementation of creative tools, the GUICC team has positively impacted the social inclusion of young people. In partnership with local organizations in Vancouver, Gatineau, and Halifax, IICRD created a network in which to research topics of interest to young people based on the community they live. Using the results of participatory action research projects in each of the communities, IICRD developed professional training, videos, a multi-media DVD, informational website, a Creative Tools manual, a how-to guide for professionals who are interested in incorporation the voices of young people into the decision-making process, research and policy papers, and hosted workshops, forums and urban cafés on the importance of engaging young people in Canada.



As a result young people's interest in participating in their societies have been validated and negative stereotypes around young people have been reshaped and policy makers and government officials are rethinking aggressive measures towards issues affecting the children and youth in their communities. In Halifax, skateboarders have created a connection with the municipality and are designing a safe place to skateboard. In Gatineau, young people are creating a café-bistro through a co-operative process that will be managed and run by the young people. In Vancouver, supports for queer and immigrant children and youth are being created by young people in that community.

IICRD will build on lessons learned from the Growing Up in Cities Canada in our new initiative with the J. W. McConnell Family Foundation of Canada "Building Resilient Communities by Engaging Youth" to create and strengthen frameworks for meaningful youth engagement across Canada. It will focus on a comprehensive community approach that involves public, private, and voluntary sector partners in four

municipalities - to renew community organizations, programs, and spaces in partnership with young people.

## ***Children Reclaiming Culture: Drawing on the Strengths of Child Participation and Traditional Cultural Teachings***

### **Indigenous Children's Rights Book**

The Indigenous Children's Rights Book is currently being edited by Dr. Cook and Dr Price-Cohen and will be submitted for publication by Transnational Press by the early fall. Orders have already been received.

### **Family Group Conferencing Literature Review**

Jocelyn Helland worked with the Child and Youth Officer of BC's (CYO) Family Group Conferencing Evaluation Project working group to draft a literature review of family group conferencing and its affects on children. This review has informed the first stage of a BC family group conferencing evaluation conducted by Child and Youth Officer of BC (CYO), BC Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD) and has been posted on the MCFD internal website to inform further research they are doing in this area.

### **Establishing Cultural Relevancy in Child Protection Services for Urban Aboriginal Children and Families Project**

IICRD continues to work with Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society (VACFSS) to support research on restorative aboriginal child protection programs with funding from the BC Ministry of Child and Family Development. This project has been extended and will resume in autumn 2006 when IICRD will work in partnership with local First Nations to create a culturally appropriate program model and associated assessment tools to provide relevant preservation and intervention services to urban Aboriginal children and families.

## ***Tools for Change: Creating a Culture of Children's Rights***

### **Rights 2 Success (R2S)**

**Funder:** The Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks and the Ministry of Children and Family Development

**Length of Project:** 6 months

**Funds secured:** \$16,500

**Partners:** Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks, the Ministry of Children and Family Development, and the Child and Youth Officer for BC

IICRD, specifically Jocelyn Helland, supported the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks, the Ministry of Children and Family Development, and the Child and Youth Officer for BC to develop and pilot the *Rights 2 Success* workshops in BC: to support the legislated mandate to educate children and youth in care and at risk by those serving children and youth within the child welfare system and advances the rights of children and youth as stipulated in the UNCRC and the Child, Family and Community Services Act (British Columbia). The workshops were delivered to 8 communities throughout BC, thus impacting approximately 65 youth and 138 adults, and taught young people and the adults who support them about children's rights, participation and advocacy.

The project partners are currently evaluating the pilot and developing next steps for the project.

## International Youth Internships

**Funders:** Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC),  
Canada Corps (CIDA)

**Length of Project:** 1 year

**Funds secured:** \$88,000



**Partners:** Save the Children Sweden, Thailand; Save the Children UK, Bangladesh; Educational Research Institute, Slovenia; Children's Resource Center, South Africa; Centro de Atención Múltiple "Cihuatlán", Mexico; and Concern for Working Children, India.

Each of the interns was selected and trained by IICRD before spending 4 - 6 months in the field.

- ◆ Sharlene Ramkissoon worked with Save the Children Bangladesh on Child Rights' issues and Save the Children's Poverty Reduction Strategy and is now working with C.A.R.E. Canada in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- ◆ Yona Nestel interned with Save the Children Sweden in Thailand where she wrote the published proceedings from the SEAP Regional Workshops on Good Practices: A Child Rights Programming Perspective, as well as worked on a child rights monitoring and evaluation toolkit and networked with regional organizations. Created large networks which have led to her current position with Save US in Bande Ache working on inclusive education.

*"I feel that this experience has given me the opportunity to learn not only about children's rights but about what personal characteristics and qualifications are required of someone working to advance children's rights. In addition I think that applying these lessons will open up several doors for me in terms of career advancements in the field of children rights promotion and protection."*

- ◆ Samantha Ash is working with the Education Research Institute for an additional 4 months as arranged at the beginning of her placement. She will continue to assist with the third sweep of the Cross-Cultural Study on the Rights of the Child; A Child Rights International Study Project (CRISP) with a special focus on questions related to "Violence Against Children in the School Community" and links to the UN International Study on Violence against Children. She is also assisting the Developmental Research Centre for Educational Initiatives (Slovenia Step-by- Step organization with a proposal for one of their education program related to children's

rights, and connecting with UNICEF and Friends of Youth to learn about Slovenian youth parliaments.

- ◆ Sarah Lounsbury did her internship with the Centro de Atencion Multiple Cihualtan in Mexico, a school that works with children with disabilities. Her main accomplishments were fund raising, helping to set up sustainable infrastructure, organizing a trip to Canada for 12 students with disabilities and raising awareness of rights and alternate methods of discipline.

*"I helped to teach the staff that children with disabilities are agents of change and should be involved in decision making. In staff meetings, held in Spanish, I tried my best to share my thoughts about child rights. I talked about teaching children using positive reinforcement and explained why hitting children is not effective. I explained that when children get power in constructive ways then they are less likely to go against the school system. I looked at what was right at the school, what the staff were doing right and I tried to build on those things."*

- ◆ Sonja Craik was placed with the Children's Resource Center in Cape Town, South Africa where she worked with CRC's child members on designing and implementing a participatory research evaluation of the center's child to child health program.
- ◆ Jennifer Scott did a 4 month research placement with the Concern for Working Children in India and focused on participatory evaluation of school children forming their own Unions or Sanga's.

IICRD will not be running the internship program in 2006/7.

## IICRD Internship Program Review 2005

For over seven consecutive years, IICRD has furthered its reach through Young Professionals International (YPI), funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs Canada. IICRD conducted a program review in the fall of 2005. During this review, IICRD interviewed all willing past young professionals including 15 in-depth interviews with young professional alumni from almost every placement year.

We asked our young professionals the following questions:

As a young Canadian, what impact they believe they had on the local community, the organization they were sent to, and on wider systems during the course of their work? What impact the YPI placements had on them professionally and personally? What they are doing now in their career? What feedback do they have for the program?

See our website ([www.iicrd.org](http://www.iicrd.org)) for the full review.

## Child Rights Education for Professionals (CRED-PRO)

**Funders:** The Oak Foundation

**Length of Project:** 2.0 of 10 years secured

**Funds secured:** \$240,000 USD

**Partners:** Professional Associations, University Centers, and Child Focused Agencies, including but not limited to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO, PAHO, Education International, the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, the International School Psychology Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Royal College of Pediatrics and

Child Health, the European Society for Social Pediatrics, Children's Environmental Research Group (CERG), City University of New York (CUNY), New York, New York, USA, Children's Rights Centre, University of Ghent, Ghent, Belgium, School of Education, Exeter University, Exeter, United Kingdom, College of Family Sciences, University of Dubai, Dubai, Metropolitan University, Mexico, Center for Child Rights Law, Pretoria University, South Africa, Program in International Human Rights Law, Indiana University Law School, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, USA, Institute for Dispute Resolution, School of Law, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

CRED-PRO is envisioned to develop and expand to provide and/or support child rights education continuously at pre-service and continuing service levels for all the professions/professionals working with and for children throughout the world in partnerships with relevant professions and interested Non-Governmental Organizations and Governmental Organizations. Two year and 10-year stages toward achievement of self-supporting and sustainable status have been planned.

Specifically the goals of the CRED-PRO initiative are to:

- Produce and make available an electronically retrievable international resource base of existing educational/training materials on the application of children's rights to professional practice for all relevant professions
- Produce a child rights foundational module for all professions and extended profession-specific adaptations and advanced practice, policy and research modules --with optional versions to fit different cultural, economic and social environments
- Develop and implement strategies and systems for ensuring the implementation of child rights education for relevant professions at pre-service preparation and continuing education levels throughout the world.
- Share and implement the child rights education curricula-modules internationally through creation of an interdependent network of higher education, professional, governmental, and child advocacy organizations dedicated to the improvement of children's lives
- Increase the number of professional leaders fostering child rights through the establishment of an accredited higher-education, doctoral, curriculum that can be implemented on a virtual, online basis
- Establish a network of cooperative centers of higher learning throughout the world as a means of sustaining specific actionable education and training initiatives.
- Achieve marked improvement in the protection, health, development, and education of children through better service, treatment, and community influence by all relevant professionals.

## **Building Capacity and Community Assets**

In the past year, Derek Peterson has been working with communities and schools in 14 states across the United States, in two schools in Athens, Greece and beginning conversations with Non- Governmental Organizations in Juarez, Mexico all involving youth development and community engagement. In each of his presentations, keynotes, and workshops he touches upon and explains IICRD's mission and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In the spring of 2006 Derek founded the academic field of Integrative Youth Development, which is a systemic framework of seven evaluative



criteria for a community and its sectors to measure progress and/or target programs and practices. He has been exploring the use of satellite telecommunications to support local indigenous communities in northern Canada and Alaska, as well as co-founded a school reform business called “The Professional Academy of Connected Schools” with a group out of Missoula, Montana. All of this work will add value to his support of IICRD and its mission and objectives.

## **B.C. Child and Youth Development**

With funding provided by the Ministry of Children and Family Development, Les Foster has completed several writing projects including:

- The BC Atlas of Child Development, published by Western Geographical Press, University of Victoria, in conjunction with the Human Early Learning Partnership at UBC. This research and publication took approximately two years to complete and will assist provincial and school district policy makers to target program funding to help improve the <sup>3</sup>readiness to learn<sup>2</sup> of children as they enter kindergarten.
- “People, politics and child welfare in BC”, resulting in the development of a co-edited volume (with Professor Emeritus Brian Wharf) which has been accepted for publication by UBC Press. This volume describes the history of practice and policies related to child welfare from the early 1900's and the several attempts to adopt a more community based approach to child welfare. It concludes with recommendations to stay the course for the regional governance of aboriginal and non-aboriginal child welfare. Chapter authors include scholars, practitioners as well as previous senior executives in the provincial government. This project has been underway since early 2004 and is scheduled for release in late 2006 or early 2007.
- A volume titled: Youth in British Columbia: their past and their future, was co-edited with Professor Emeritus Roger Tonkin of the McCreary Youth Foundation and published in the fall by Western Geographical Press. Chapters contain a variety of factors related to youth health and development, past, present and future and constructs a framework for government to consider when developing youth policies. Chapters employ data from the three major adolescent health and behaviour surveys undertaken by the McCreary Centre in 1992, 1998 and 2003. A publishing grant was obtained from the Ministry of Health for this volume. The project took approximately two years to complete.
- Contributions were also made to a variety of other projects including a report by the Canadian Population Health Initiative: Improving the Health of Young Canadians (see [http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw\\_page=PG\\_380\\_E&cw\\_topic=380&cw\\_rel=AR\\_1217\\_E](http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=PG_380_E&cw_topic=380&cw_rel=AR_1217_E)) which highlights research relevant to understanding adolescent health and development. It explores the association between positive assets in adolescents' social environments and health outcomes and behaviours. The report is aimed primarily at policy makers. Contributions were also made to a recent report by the McCreary Centre titled: Healthy Bodies: Promoting healthy bodies-physical activity, weight and tobacco use among BC youth (see [www.mcs.bc.ca/](http://www.mcs.bc.ca/)). The publication has several maps which show how youth development and behaviours vary throughout the

province of BC.

## ***New Initiatives***

- Building Resilient Communities by Engaging Youth (2.4 million over 4 years)
- Law Foundation Phase 2 (\$90,000 over one year)
- IICRD Child Rights and Development Training

## ***IICRD Activities***

### **NGO Activities**

**Charitable Status!** We are delighted that IICRD received charitable status this past year effective September 30, 2005. Thanks to the hard work of **Larissa Streu from Miller Thomson LLP**, one of our board members, we can now receive private donations and issue tax receipts. Our charitable status number is: 86080 7866 RR0001

The Family Law Working Group from the Justice Review Task Force of BC recommended *that the final report of the International Institute for Child Rights and Development on the matter of child participation in family court processes be carefully considered by family justice system policy makers and other stakeholders*, May 2005.

**Lorelle Posten** joined the IICRD team as Administrative Director in Sept 2005. She is a Chartered Accountant and Nonprofit Manager with experience in nonprofit, government, education and business in Canada, the US and the UK and has a Masters Degree in Nonprofit Management and Social Policy from the London School of Economics.

**Renée Lormé-Gulbrandsen** also joined our team as GUICC project assistant and IICRD administrator. She has a background in Sociology (Social Justice) and Psychology.

**Maria Lerosé** and **Fran Grunberg** joined IICRD's Board of Directors, Nov 2005.

Welcome to all of you!!

Ongoing planning and designing of IICRD's Child Rights and Development Training which will be coming to BC the Spring of 2007 has been a large priority for IICRD this year. We plan to share how IICRD has been able to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in the day to day lives of children around the world by facilitating a better understanding of the social ecology of childhood and how to use strengths based (assets) and culturally grounded tools to support the most vulnerable children and their rights.

Visit [www.iicrd.org](http://www.iicrd.org) in Sept 2006 to find out more.



## Meeting Highlights

Meetings with Susan Bissell, Marta Santos-Pais colleagues at UNICEF's Innocenti Research Center in Italy to discuss next steps the Innovative Culturally Grounded Rights Based Approaches to Child Protection, June 2005

Meetings with Save the Children Canada in Toronto to discuss next steps with the Tsunami Project and develop a strategic alliance for future partnerships.

Meeting with Trudi Brown, Chair, University of Victoria Board of Governors, as follow up to the Family Law conference in South Africa, Sept 2005.

Meetings with Senior Policy Advisors from the BC Attorney General's Office, and representatives from the Joint Courts Committee for Langley, Fort Langley and Surrey about IICRD's Child Participation In Family Court Processes Work.

Meetings with the J. W. McConnell Family Foundation in Montreal to discuss an upcoming partnership between IICRD and McConnell on engaging young people in Building Resilient Communities in Canada, Dec. 2005 & Feb 2006.

## Presentations/Courses

Philip Cook Presented at the Adolescent Participation sessions hosted by UNICEF Head quarters in New York, Sept 2005.

Philip Cook presented IICRD's work to the University of Victoria Board of Governors, Nov 2005.

Philip Cook presented to faculty and graduate students at the Department of Human and Community Development University of California at Davis to discuss IICRD's approach to children's rights and development, Nov 2005.

Suzanne Williams presented on IICRD's work to the International Human Rights Class at the Centre for Dispute Resolution, University of Victoria.

Vanessa Currie presented the IICRD's Rights and Nature-based Psychosocial Healing Approach at the UNICEF, post tsunami best practice on child participation conference in Thailand, Dec 2005.

Julian Norris and Jan Mackie joined Philip and Michele Cook and Vanessa Currie in Tamil Nadu, India to facilitated nature based experiential learning and healing workshops with teachers and children as part of the Post Tsunami Psychosocial Recovery Project, Jan 2006.

Natasha Blanchet-Cohen and Renée Lormé-Gulbrandsen hosted the Growing Up In Cities Canada Public Forum held in Ottawa, Feb 2006.

Innocenti Research Centre Round Table on current issues of implementing child right held in Florence Italy, Mar 2006.

Natasha Blanchet-Cohen presented at the UNESCO-AGM in Montreal, Mar 2006.

Natasha Blanchet-Cohen moderated a workshop at the International Mayor's Conference of Francophone Mayor's on social insertion of young people in Montreal, Apr 2006.

### **Coming up:**

Child Rights Education for Professionals CRED-PRO Foundational Retreat to be held in Whistler, BC. May 2006.

Growing Up in Cities +10 to be hosted at UBC in partnership with Cornell-UNESCO Chair (June, 2006).

Philip Cook to present the Circle of Care model and results at the International Child Rights and Development Conference hosted by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), June 2006.

Philip Cook and Suzanne Williams to present two workshops on child rights and child participation to representatives working on juvenile justice projects throughout Russia. This is part of a CIDA-funded project headed by the Association of Universities and Colleges Canada.

Suzanne Williams to present at the conference at Brock University called "Investment and Citizenship: Towards Transdisciplinary Dialogue in Child and Youth Rights" in July 2006.

### **Publications**

Blanchet-Cohen, N. & and Cook, P 2005. *Creative Tools: Civic Engagement of Young People*.

Blanchet-Cohen, N. & and Cook, P 2005. *Outils Créatifs: l'engagement des jeunes dans la communauté*.

Blanchet-Cohen, N. 2005. *Growing Up in Cities Canada* DVD.

Blanchet-Cohen, N. & Lormé-Gulbrandsen, R. 2005. *Carving the Road: Growing Up in Cities Canada* Multimedia DVD for Engaging Young People.

Cook, P. & DuToit, L. 2005. *Overcoming Adversity With Children Affected by HIV/AIDS in the Indigenous South African Cultural Context*. Sage Publications

Cook, P. & White, B. 2005. *Risk Recovery and Resilience: Helping Young and Old Move Together to Support South African Communities Affected by HIV/AIDS*. Journal of Intergenerational Relations

Cook, P. & White, B. 2005. *Prevention of Violence against Indigenous Children*. Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana de la Ciudad de Mexico, Mexico

Cook, P. 2004. *Cross-Cultural Perspectives on the Child Image*. Institute for Children's Rights, University of Ghent, Belgium

Hart, S. et al 2005. *Eliminating Corporal Punishment: The Way Forward to Constructive Child Discipline*. UNESCO

Helland, J. Dec 2005. *IICRD Internship Program Review 2005*.

Helland, J. Oct 2005. *Family Group Conferencing Literature Review for BC Officer for Children and Youth*. (Posted on IICRD and the Ministry of Children and Family's internal website)

Foster, L. & Tonkin, R.S. ed. 2005. *Youth Issues in BC*. BCMCFD

Foster, L. ed. 2005. *BC Atlas of Child Development*. Western Geographical Press, University of Victoria.

Foster, L. (contributor) 2006. *Improving the Health of Young Canadians*. ([http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw\\_page=PG\\_380\\_E&cw\\_topic=380&cw\\_rel=AR\\_1217\\_e](http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=PG_380_E&cw_topic=380&cw_rel=AR_1217_e))

Foster, L. (contributor) 2006. *Healthy Bodies: Promoting healthy bodies-physical activity, weight, and tobacco use among BC youth*. (<http://www.msc.bc.ca>)

Williams, S. Mar 2005. *Child Participation in BC Family Court Processes*, Project Report

## Core Staff

- ◆ **Dr. Philip Cook**, Executive Director
- ◆ **Dr. Stuart Hart**, Deputy Director
- ◆ **Suzanne Williams**, Deputy Director and Legal Advisor
- ◆ **Dr. Natasha Blanchet-Cohen**, GUICC Coordinator and Researcher
- ◆ **Michele Cook**, Program Director
- ◆ **Lorelle Posten**, Administrative Director
- ◆ **Jocelyn Helland**, Community Liaison
- ◆ **Derek Peterson**, Assets and Community Capacity Facilitator
- ◆ **Renée Lormé-Gulbrandsen**, GUICC Project Assistant and Administrator



## ***Board of Directors***

- ◆ **Val Fronczek**, former Executive Director for Society for Children and Youth and president of the International Play Association.
- ◆ **Dr. Gordon Smith**, Director of the Centre for Global Studies, University of Victoria
- ◆ **Kaija Dixon**, former Administration Director and Financial Coordinator, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada
- ◆ **Maria LeRose**, adjunct Professor at the School of Medicine at UBC, media production and communications
- ◆ **Fran Grunberg**, Department of Social Work, Langara College
- ◆ **Bill White**, First Nations Advisor, Coast Salish (Nanaimo-Cowichan)
- ◆ **Jil Amadio**, communications, marketing and public relations consultant
- ◆ **Simon Jackson**, founder and Director of Spirit Bear Youth Coalition
- ◆ **Larissa Streu**, Lawyer, Miller Thomson LLP
- ◆ **Dr. Philip Cook**, IICRD executive director (ex-officio)

## ***Advisory Committee – Providing IICRD with Advice***

- ◆ **Senator Landon Pearson**, Government of Canada advisor on children's issues
- ◆ **Dr. Roger Hart**, Professor, Director of Children's Environments Research Group
- ◆ **Chief Kim Recalma-Clutesi OgwiLogwa (Kwagiulth)**, Qualicum Reserve
- ◆ **Judith Karp**, Former member, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
- ◆ **Noeli Pocatererra**, Senator, Government of Venezuela (Wayuu)
- ◆ **Cherry Kingsley**, International Center to Combat the Exploitation of Children (ICCEC)
- ◆ **Jaap Doek**, Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Geneva
- ◆ **Dr. Bill Myers**, Chair, International Child Rights Expert, University of California at Davis
- ◆ **Victor P. Karunan**, Senior Advisor, Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP), UNICEF Head Quarters, New York
- ◆ **Cynthia Price Cohen**, J.D.; M.A.; J.S.D. Child Rights International Research Institute, New York

## ***Associates –Supporting IICRD’s Work***

- ◆ **Brent Parfitt**, Member of UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Geneva and former Deputy Ombudsman for British Columbia.
- ◆ **Lesley Du Toit**, Director Child and Youth Care Agency for Development (CYCAD), South Africa.
- ◆ **Julian Norris**, Co-founder of Rediscovery Ghost River and founder of Guiding Spirit, extensive experience working with traditional Elders and youth.
- ◆ **Dr. David Lertzman**, Adjunct Professor in environmental management and sustainability.
- ◆ **Pat Amos**, A key facilitator in the Guiding Spirit program and an experienced experiential educator and outdoor leader.
- ◆ **Rita Sikhondze**, Youth advisor, South Africa.

- ◆ **Sandra Griffin**, Advisor to Minister Ken Driden, Social Development Canada and former Executive Director Canadian Child Care Federation.
- ◆ **Chris Lowry**, Children's advocate formally with Street kids International and Medecins Sans Frontieres.
- ◆ **Gerison Lansdown**, director of the Children's Rights Office (now known as the Children's Rights Alliance for England) from its establishment in 1992 to 2000, and international consultant in children's rights.
- ◆ **Dr. Les Foster**, implementing policy change to benefit children through research and knowledge transfer.
- ◆ **Mira Dodig**, a strong front line woman and children's mental health practitioner with experience working in war affected areas.
- ◆ **Vanessa Currie**, formally with WAR CHILD and Taking it Global, Vanessa has been working for IICRD as a field officer in India.
- ◆ **Jan Mackie**, director of Spiral Garden with 25 years experience in art garden therapeutic interventions with children at risk in Canada, Mexico, India, and Sri Lanka.

***IICRD would also like to acknowledge the many volunteers that supported IICRD's work this year, including Paul Crossley for his work on our web platform and invite everyone to come and visit us at our new satellite office on Pender Island.***

***We would also like to honour the passing of Agnes Pierre from Katzie. Agnes was a member of our Board of Directors, and a long standing supporter of IICRD. Her dedication to children and her generous spirit and presence will be greatly missed.***

