

# Annual Report 2002-2003



International Institute for  
Child Rights and Development

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## 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 support and promote the rights 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 our children as participant members of the human family.

*Our mission...*  
is to create  
peace, dignity  
and respect for  
children and our  
world...

## Our Mission

IICRD's mission is to create peace, dignity and respect for children and our world by building on strengths to implement the standards and spirit of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) by:

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

## Our Work

IICRD supports children as agents of positive change. 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.

## *A Message from the Executive Director*



This last year has seen a period of critical growth for the Institute. Not only has our team of core staff expanded to include Suzanne Williams and Dr. Stuart Hart, we have also formally incorporated as an NGO (hence "International" being added to our name). In addition, we now have a talented and supportive Board of Directors, led by Dr. Bill Myers, from whom to draw on in facilitating the present and future growth of IICRD. While we all believed that becoming an NGO based at the University of Victoria would assist us with our work, I do not think that anyone had any idea of the amount of work and energy that would be required to make this happen. I must thank each and everyone at the Institute, as well as all of our friends who have supported us through this process.

In making our transition this year, we have also been reevaluating our "niche" in supporting vulnerable children. I firmly believe that children's issues are more important than ever, and while this new growing phase has presented many opportunities that we are currently exploring, it is clear that we must build on our unique strengths in order to make a real difference in the lives of children, as well as best utilizing our limited resources effectively.

Take any global challenge foremost in people's minds: the spread of terrorism, an environment under stress, ethnic strife, rampant HIV/AIDS, escalating inter-country conflict, and others, and children show up as the most vulnerable in all these situations and are also the key to creating change to overcome these challenges. If you look at our work for which we are best known, supporting children and communities affected by AIDS, linking children's rights to environmental sustainability, educating professionals to support the rights of children, applying a cultural lens to issues of community development, and supporting children's psycho-social needs in situations of violence and conflict, we are out there doing the right things. While we have explored many different avenues over the past 2 years, we see the difference that IICRD can make in areas where others are not working, and thus we will continue to take the "road less traveled".

In a recent IICRD retreat it was therefore decided that all projects undertaken by IICRD will meet the following criteria:

- 1) IICRD will focus on creating social change that seeks to strengthen a collective sense of humanity by addressing children's vulnerability.
- 2) IICRD will only focus on working with the most vulnerable children where other agencies, governments, or INGO's (International non-governmental organizations) are not working, or whose work does not cover a critical issue that IICRD can address.
- 3) IICRD recognizes the importance of adults in taking a greater responsibility in supporting vulnerable children and in entering into meaningful relationships with children and youth towards this end. We as a group of committed adults and young people, pledge ourselves to work in solidarity with

children, youth, their families and communities, where possible drawing on the strengths of local cultures.

4) IICRD will strive to make a real difference in the lives of these children and youth, their families and communities. This could be at a community, policy or legislative level.

Specifically, IICRD will undertake to achieve this change by:

- Strengthening children's dignity;
- Building social care and support;
- Involving local people in making decisions that affect them; and
- Promoting advocacy that addresses the rights of children.

These goals will be addressed using IICRD's proven knowledge and skills in the areas of CAPACITY BUILDING, EDUCATION, RESEARCH and ADVOCACY.

IICRD will strategically select projects where we feel we can make the most difference based on these criteria. Areas of current strength that will similarly guide our strategic choice of interventions include:

- Addressing the social and emotional needs of children affected by AIDS;
- Supporting the mental health of war affected children;
- Linking children's rights to environmental sustainability;
- Creating multimedia educational tools for children and adults on children, culture and peace building;
- Educating human service professionals working with vulnerable children; and
- Creating legal and policy tools that support the rights of vulnerable children.

IICRD will not take on projects that do not fall within these guidelines. Where possible, we will work in partnership with local organizations where local capacity can be developed to support the needs of vulnerable children.

Given the extent of these challenges, we expect the year ahead to be a time of great activity. We will be producing periodic updates, showcasing inspiring projects, and publishing reports on our website (soon to be made more youth friendly, through funding provided by CIDA), and look forward to keeping in close contact with partners, friends and associates.

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 Dr. Philip Cook, Executive Director  
 International Institute for Child Rights and Development  
 Centre for Global Studies,  
 University of Victoria

## *IICRD Projects*



### **Children As Partners (CAP): Supporting Children's Meaningful Participation**

This is one of IICRD's newest international initiatives. Children As Partners (CAP) focuses on furthering child participation at all levels of decision-making. Through research and partnership building, CAP aims to improve communication, cooperation and effectiveness for agencies committed to meaningful participation of children and youth.

### **Circles of Care (South Africa): Community Support for Children Affected by HIV/AIDS**

This exciting project focuses on participatory action research that mobilizes communities to build on their cultural strengths to better support vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDS and poverty. IICRD in partnership with the Child and Youth Care Agency for Development (CYCAD) has delivered training in the "Triple A" (Assessment, Analysis & Action) - participatory action research process in two South African Provinces, the Free State and the Eastern Cape. Working at the municipal level, starting in Port St. John's and Maluti-A-Phofeng Circles of Care is collecting, analyzing and taking action from data collected by children, women, and community leaders. This information is then being used at a community and provincial level to affect change for children affected by HIV/AIDS, especially orphans. Over the last year, focus group discussions were carried out with leading elders and traditional healers in the communities (with input and assistance from Bill White, University of Victoria's Aboriginal Liaison Officer), 3 cohorts of researchers and facilitators were trained, and a youth leadership program for the youth in Maluti-A-Phofeng was delivered with assistance from Julian Norris of Ghost River Rediscovery, Canada.



Ongoing funding is being provided through International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), South Africa. The next phases of the project will expand to areas of health and engage the traditional kingdom of the Batlokwa people in the Free State, as well as working with international lawyer Ann Skelton, through the Child Rights Law Centre at the University of Pretoria in examining issues of children's participation in the context of suitable health and traditional governance.

### **Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel to the Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD)**

IICRD has worked this past year with the British Columbia Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) in providing specialized

expertise to the Minister and Ministry staff on various children's issues. Drawing on an extensive international network of experts, IICRD designed an initial round table session with MCFD senior staff in August 2002 that included the following subject matters and experts:

- Community and Family-based Partnerships - Lesley Du Toit (Executive Director, Child and Youth Care Agency for Development (CYCAD), South Africa)
- Early Childhood Development - John Bennett (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), France)
- UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)/ Monitoring Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child - Jaap Doek (CRC Chair, Netherlands) and Judith Karp (former CRC Rapporteur, Israel)
- Children's Participation and Special Needs - Gerison Lansdown (United Kingdom)

In April and May 2003 Lesley Du Toit spent ten days with IICRD's Executive Director, Dr. Philip Cook, meeting with MCFD staff around BC who have been experiencing great change and transition within their Ministry. Lesley shared her experiences in designing and implementing the new child welfare system under Nelson Mandela in South Africa where the focus was on providing the most effective, least intrusive method to address each child's need. Both Philip and Lesley emphasized a developmental approach to addressing the needs of children.

IICRD also organized a one-day event focused on Aboriginal children for MCFD staff from around the province. Lesley Du Toit, Dr. Martin Brokenleg (Lakota Sioux Elder, and Professor at Augustana College, South Dakota), Agnes Pierre (Coast Salish Elder from Katzie, BC, and advisor to RCMP Commissioner on Aboriginal matters) and Bill White-*Xelimux* (University of Victoria, Aboriginal Liaison Officer) shared their experiences and knowledge. Lesley Du Toit highlighted the transformational process in using a strengths based approach to protect children, Dr. Brokenleg, highlighted his Circle of Courage approach to supporting children at risk that draws on the traditional medicine wheel. Agnes Pierre, shared her hands on experience as an elder in the community and Bill White spoke of the importance of tradition.

### **International Consultant Resource Team**

The IICRD *International Consultant Resource Team* is comprised of individual experts on child rights. At present, over 40 experts from 21 nations have joined the IICRD *Consultant Resource Team*. Their expertise covers a broad range of child rights and development topics (e.g., child development, family, child protection and violence against children, education, physical and mental health, resilience, community development, child and family law, juvenile justice).

This consultancy program has been formed in response to repeated calls by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights for technical resource assistance to be recommended and provided to nations where critical needs and opportunities exist. A concerted effort is underway to identify areas of need, particularly as revealed in United Nations reports, and to select experts of strong credibility in these areas to join the *International Consultant Resource Team*.

IICRD draws on the expertise of this resource team when providing guidance and/or services to governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations and collaborates with team members in producing relevant recommendations, summaries, and reports.

*Stories are about how adults, children and decision-makers can work together for a better world.*

### **Children and Environment Legacy Book**

*Munching for Marmots, Sleeping with Bats* is to be a book of children's stories and art about their experiences working on environmental projects that grew out of IICRD and the Troubadour Music's experience with the United Nations Environment Program's (UNEP) "Children and Environment Conference" held in May 2002. The stories are about how adults, children and decision-makers can work together for a better world. About 25-30 inspirational stories will be included in the collection. We plan to profile children who work on their own as well as those who are deeply involved in projects and campaigns with their families, schools or community groups. Our profiles reveal the delight that ordinary children take in the natural world, the ideas they develop for taking action, and the frustrations they feel in not being heard. This book is the result of a partnership between International Children's Conference (ICC) Canada 2002 - the organizing body of the 2002 United Nations Environment Program's International Children's Conference on the Environment, Troubadour Music Inc., the Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA), and the International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD). The junior Board of the UNEP International Children's Conference on the Environment is also represented on the book's advisory committee.

### **Guiding Spirit Outdoor Youth Leadership Program**

Guiding Spirit is an innovative culturally grounded outdoor leadership program designed for youth leaders. IICRD and Ghost River Rediscovery, Alberta ran the first 4-month intensive Guiding Spirit program in Alberta in 2000. The success of this program resulted in IICRD seeking funding to bring Guiding Spirit to the West Coast of Canada.



IICRD received funding from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to assist in the launching of a coastal "Guiding Spirit". The monies were used to consolidate, a full time, year round Coastal Guiding Spirit program and

a three-week introductory program. Both of these were extensively marketed to coastal First Nation Communities and youth organizations through our website, community newspapers, conferences and community visits and presentations.

The program was met with exceptional interest and enthusiasm. IICRD received numerous qualified applicants who had been looking for a culturally grounded program to help them work more effectively with their young people and elders. Unfortunately, several of the potential participants had difficulty securing funds for the program. IICRD applied to the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation in an attempt to secure additional funds in the form of scholarships for the participants, but was unsuccessful. Therefore, due to lack of operating funds, which are provided through participant fees, IICRD was unable to offer Guiding Spirit this year, but continues to seek ways to bring Guiding Spirit to our coastal communities over the next year.

### **Culture of Peace Project**

With the funding provided by the Three Oaks Foundation (supported by Canadian Musician, Loreena McKinnett), IICRD and Hildebrand Productions have been documenting, on 35 mm film, visual images that capture age-old traditions that support children's well being and children's ability to make a difference in building peace respecting communities. The project seeks to use various forms of visual media as a message of hope in creating a new "culture of peace" that draws on and transcends all cultures.



At present, footage has been collected in Nepal in Kathmandu and in Tibetan temples and communities in the Annapurna region of the Nepal Himalayas. We are seeking funding from other sources to edit and produce a promotional DVD that can be used to generate support for a full-length feature film.

### **Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) - International Youth Internships**

IICRD has been facilitating DFAIT youth internships, now termed Young Professionals International (YPI), for the last four years. The majority of our placements focus on International Indigenous applications of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child using a strengths-based approach. Here is a brief description of this year's interns and their placements.

#### **Where they went and what they did...**

**Amy Haysom** is from Victoria, British Columbia, and has completed her degree in Sociology. Amy coordinated the involvement of youth in the Children as Partners conference; this involved organizing focus group meetings with local youth and involving international youth and working with a Thai NGO called Inter Mountain Peoples Education and Culture in



*" An experience is only as much as you are willing to make it ... and then watch as all sorts of other wonderful discoveries present themselves too!"*

Amy Haysom

Thailand Association (IMPECT). She produced documentation on issues relating to birth registration that has been presented at a meeting in Bangkok and facilitated a Child Rights Seminar for hill tribe children in November 2002.

**Marnelle Dragila** has completed a master degree in social work and one year of studies in law. Ms. Dragila carried out research related to children's participation (Children as Partners Initiative) in Southeast Asia for UNICEF. Marnelle produced a report "Article 12 in Practice: A review of Child Participation in UNICEF Country Programmes in the East Asia & Pacific Region (EAPR)". This is available on our website.

**Kabita Chakraborty** is from Toronto with a Masters degree from the University of Toronto. Ms. Chakraborty was based in Thailand with Save the Children Alliance US Regional Office. She attended the 3rd East Asia Pacific Children and Young People's Forum in Seoul in December 2002, and produced the proceedings which are available, online: <http://www.seapa.net/external/special/Forum3/Forum3.htm>, and carried out interviews with children in Kolhata for IICRD in relation to the Children and Environment book project.

**Aisling Bondy** has a BA from McGill in Political Science and International Development Studies. Her position was with Melel in San Cristobal Chiapas, México where she was involved with Espacio Comunitario Infantil (ECI), which teaches "A Culture for Peace" to local youth, and in a study on discrimination.

**Karla Gonzalez** has a BA from McGill and lives in Montreal. Her internship was with Na Bolom, San Cristobal, Mexico where she was involved in community work in El Pinar and el Naha close to San Cristobal, working with children to strengthen their cultural identity. In Naha, she worked in the school and produced a booklet and a mural.

**Erin Hetherington** has a BA in political science and international development from McGill University. Her internship was with IEPAC in Sihio, Merida, Mexico. She successfully carried out workshops on health issues, and developed a manual in Spanish to leave with the community on topics relevant to health and youth.

**Ben Crompton** is from Kelowna, BC and has a BA from the University of Victoria in Political Science and a certificate in participatory methods for rural water projects. Mr. Crompton worked with IMPECT in Chiang Mai, Thailand. He carried out interviews in Northern Thailand with Hill tribe communities for IICRD that will be showcased in the Children and Environment book project.

*" I believe that this entire experience, both positive and negative, will be a great support and tool in all future work I will undertake in the field of development and human rights."*

Aisling Bondy

## *IICRD Activities*

### **CAP Foundational Partners Meeting**



In August of 2002, IICRD organized a two-day meeting at Dunsmuir Lodge of leading international organizations who were interested in exploring the possibilities for working together on the 'Children as Partners' (CAP) Initiative. Representatives from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Save the Children, UNICEF, Plan International, World Vision, local governments and others came together to discuss the need to work together and share knowledge and experience in the area of Child Participation. While the concept of a CAP initiative was supported, the logistics of how to work together to make it a reality presented more of a challenge. This challenge was brought forward to the Experts Retreat that followed.

### **CAP Experts Retreat**

Following the Foundational Partners Meeting, an *Experts Seminar on Children's Participation* was held to help identify child participation goals and design essentials through exploring the present status of knowledge, best practices, needs and perspectives on child participation (targeted emphasis on critical health, education and protection themes) with experts from around the world. While the retreat started out as a forum to share information amongst experts and youth, it also became a model of the possibilities and challenges inherent in making children's participation and a CAP initiative a reality. Full retreat proceedings are available at <http://web.uvic.ca/iicrd>

### **Children as Partners Alliance (CAPA)**

One outcome of these meetings was the founding of the Children as Partners Alliance (CAPA). Since its founding, CAPA consultations with child-led organizations and other civil society organizations from around the world have been undertaken to assist with future directions of CAPA, an initial web presence has been established through the Children's Rights Information Network (CRIN) and a working session to chart the future directions of CAPA is scheduled for September 21-23 in London, UK.

CAPA activities carried out by IICRD have included:

#### **Research**

IICRD is completing its compilation of some of the latest findings in research, programming and policy best practices in the area of child participation as a result of funding received from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Our associates at City

University New York under the direction of Dr. Roger Hart completed an initial review of the literature, we received an in-depth report from one of our India partners (Concerned for Working Children) and IICRD has additional contributions from experts Gerison Lansdown (UK) and Dr. Stuart Hart (USA).

#### **Website Development**

IICRD was instrumental in establishing the initial CAPA web presence in conjunction with CRIN. To honour the spirit of Children as Partners there is a need to ensure a CAP web presence is child friendly/accessible.

#### **Consultations and General Coordination**

IICRD has been the general coordinator of CAPA activities this past year. Together with Save the Children Alliance, IICRD was involved in compiling consultations received from civil society organizations, as well as facilitating CAPA communication (CRIN newsletter, UNICEF's State of the World's Children, and general updates) and activities.

#### **RSA (South Africa) Conference**

In October 2002, IICRD and CYCAD co-hosted a small conference in Qwa Qwa, Free State to examine issues of traditional African values and children's rights in the context of HIV/AIDS. The conference brought together child, youth and adult representatives from the Circles of care project sites in the Free State and Eastern Cape, as well as members of the Provincial Department of Welfare, Local Government, UNICEF, Save the Children, and local NGO's. The project resulted in a plan of action to support children affected by AIDS at the local level, drawing more closely on the strengths of youth and the Elders. The government of the Free State has committed 3 year funding to support this process, beginning with a pilot with the Batlokwa communities, and later expending this to other municipalities. IDRC has also requested that a proposal be submitted to carry out participatory research to document this process.

#### **Society for Children and Youth Resource Pilot**

At the request of the BC Society for Children and Youth, IICRD piloted an educational resource with representatives from several organizations working with aboriginal children and youth in a one-day workshop in July 2003.

#### **Incorporation**

The International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) formalized its structure and was incorporated as a non-profit organization in June 2002. IICRD's Board of Directors was elected in November 2002 and an application for charitable status, which will

enable us to provide tax receipts for donations, is in process and will be submitted by Fall 2003.

### **Presentations/ Meetings**

Presentations by Dr. Cook and Mira Dodig (Medecins Sans Frontieres Canada) on the More Than Bandages (MTB) project were made to Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) mental health staff during an MSF Holland conference on Humanitarian Mental Health Interventions hosted in Appeldorm, Holland in March 2003. Discussions are ongoing with respect to formalizing IICRD's advisory role to MSF with respect to children's mental health and HIV/AIDS. Some of IICRD's other meetings and presentations this past year have included:

- o Meeting with representatives from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in Fall 2002;
- o Meeting with the Vice President for Sustainable Development of Placer Dome were held in early February 2003 to examine opportunities for corporate partnership;
- o Meeting with MP Steven Owen's Executive Assistant in Ottawa in Spring 2003 to discuss ongoing support for the Guiding Spirit Program and opportunities for working in other parts of Canada where community breakdown is occurring and fewer resources are available to support Aboriginal youth at risk;
- o Making presentations to undergraduate Anthropology classes at the University of British Columbia.

## ***New Initiatives for 2003***

Everyone at IICRD has been busy writing proposals to secure funding to expand on our existing projects and initiate new and exciting ones. Examples of projects in the planning and early development pipeline include:

### **Children as Partners Alliance (CAPA) - Phase 2**

#### **Research**

IICRD is developing a research framework designed to examine the impact of child participation. This will be piloted in IICRD's project focused on child participation in family court processes that is being funded by the Law Foundation of BC over the next two years. IICRD also wishes to apply this framework to international contexts.

#### **Website**

IICRD has secured \$40,000 CDN from CIDA to develop a child and youth accessible website for the CAP initiative. IICRD is dedicating one of its interns to this project as part of her internship. Young people from

various parts of the world will be involved in the design and content of the site that IICRD aims to have up and running by early 2004.

### **Next Steps**

Research and consultation results will be shared at the CAPA working session in London, UK in September 2003.

### **Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel - Phase 2**

The BC Ministry for Child and Family Development is presently reviewing the need for external expertise/advise through a 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase Blue Ribbon Panel. Child protection, quality assurance, and community development are some of the key areas that the Ministry has expressed an interest in having addressed in 2003-2004.

### **Child/Adult Partnerships: Action Research to Increase Children's Participation in Civil Society**

The main areas of the research for this project will be in the areas of: (1) play, recreation and sports (2) social and justice services (3) physical environment and (4) local governance. These areas are of critical importance to the development of BC children, and build on priority issue-areas identified at the UN General Assembly's Special Session for Children (UNGASS) (UNICEF, 2002). In addition to drawing upon faculty and researchers at the University of Victoria and the University of British Columbia, core project partners include: Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA), International Center to Combat the Exploitation of Children (ICCEC), Society for Children and Youth of B.C. (SCY) and the Youth Millennium Project (YMP) at the University of British Columbia. Each organization is actively involved in projects and initiatives that promote children's participation in specific areas. A multi-year proposal has been submitted to SSHRC (CURA).

*Develop and improve upon tools and approaches to strengthen participation of 'marginalized' children and youth in service delivery and policy-making*

### **Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT)- Young Professionals International (YPI)**

IICRD has received funding for 8 international intern positions for 2003-2004. Placements are being considered in South Africa, Thailand, Mexico, Nepal and Venezuela.

### **Culture of Peace CIDA Global Classroom Initiative**

In collaboration with School District 64 and Pender Island Elementary and Secondary School and Troubadour Music Inc., IICRD has submitted a Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) - Global Classroom Initiative Proposal to focus on educating children on global issues related to peace building and empowering children to see the difference they can make in creating peace in their everyday world.

IICRD will draw on their experience and existing Culture of Peace footage and peace projects and stories in working with Pender Island children ages 9-13 to create a new experiential curriculum for their peers.

### **Creating Better Cities for Children and Youth**

This project focuses on building a unique partnership between 6 organizations across Canada working in different ways for greater inclusion of children and youth in civil society: Environmental Youth Alliance (Vancouver), Redwire Native Youth Media Society (Vancouver), Heartwood Institute (Nova Scotia), Youth Commission (Ville de Gatineau, Quebec), Canadian Commission for UNESCO and the International Institute for Child Rights and Development based at the University of Victoria, British Columbia as the lead organization. Together they will develop and improve upon tools and approaches to strengthen participation of 'marginalized' children and youth in service delivery and policy-making provided by Canadian municipalities. It is hoped that this project will result in greater inclusion of marginalized voices and needs of children and youth in program delivery and decision-making at the level of local governance, and put processes in place that allow youth to build skills for future employment by engaging in their local communities. A multiyear proposal has been submitted to HRDC.

### **Meaningful Child Participation in the Courtroom**

The Law Foundation of British Columbia (BC) is funding IICRD over the next two years to examine meaningful child participation in family court processes in BC. In addition to two young people and a law student from the University of Victoria, the project team includes Judge Hugh Stansfield of the BC Provincial Court and Ms. Debra VanGinkel, chair of the Canadian Bar Association Family Law subsection in Vancouver.

### **Circles of Care - Phase 2 "Harmonizing Children's Rights to Health, Civic Engagement and African Governance"**

IICRD in collaboration with Child and Youth Care Agency for Development (CYCAD) and the University of Pretoria, Centre for Child Rights and the Law, is in the process of applying for 3 year funding for the Circles of Care Project through IDRC's Equity, Governance and Health Initiative. This next stage of the IDRC supports seeks to take the Triple A participatory research model to the next level by developing a community advocacy model that addresses the inter-sectoral roles of health, education and social development ministries in supporting vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDS. The project will continue the community work begun in the Free State and Eastern Cape Provinces

and will deepen the participatory involvement of children, women, community leaders and traditional leaders.

### **Culture of Peace**

Editing Culture of Peace footage and preparing promotional materials (DVD package, etc) for marketing/fundraising is planned for 2003. Discussions are underway with the National Film Board with respect to funding the editing and promoting the Culture of Peace film demo.

### **South-East Asia - SEARCH Project**

IICRD and Four Worlds International Institute for Development have partnered with Salasan Development Partners in submitting a bid for CIDA's South East Asian Regional Cooperation on Human Development (SEARCH). This 5-year project seeks to regionalize CIDA's SE Asian Fund for International Legal Defense (SEAFILD). The decision in the competitive bidding process is expected to be announced in the Fall 2003.

### **Moral-Ethical Education and Development Project**

The Moral-Ethical Education and Development Project, now in an early stage of development, is intended to foster and provide value based education that fosters child supportive values to address issues such as alcoholism and family and community violence that are undermining support for children. The project recognizes:

- The important questions in life are values questions - especially those having to do with commitments to truth, love and respect for the human dignity of self and others that under gird critical behavioral choices.
- The family, peer group, church, school, community and larger society all influence the development and expression of moral and ethical values.
- Moral, ethical and democratic standards underpin successful, modern societies.

A 5-10 year program of values-based education for selected schools and communities in selected countries is envisioned with a mainstream national agency or organization leading the program. The program would be integrated into the curriculum and community life of the selected candidate schools, be highly participatory and based on human rights. It would generate guidelines applying the most proven principles and strategies of values education, which would include involvement of families and local community.

Presently, IICRD is in the process of establishing partnerships with experts, organizations, and nations that will facilitate locally driven project development, and implementation. Ireland, Nepal, and Sri Lanka appear promising as national sites. Support from the Mendelson

Center for Sport, Character, and Community (University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA), the Arigatou Foundation and the Global Network of Religions of Children (both in Tokyo, Japan) are also being pursued.

*Strengthening the ability of professionals working with and for children to improve the development and quality of life of children*

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

In response to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child repeatedly noting the critical need to provide educational and capacity building services, IICRD has developed Child Rights Education for Professionals (CRED-PRO).

CRED-PRO has been designed to strengthen the ability of professionals and policy makers working with and for children to improve the development and quality of life of children by advancing their understanding and appreciation of children's human rights and fostering the application of children's rights knowledge into theory, research, principles, policies, and practices.

CRED-PRO courses will be offered through a wide range of distributive education systems (e.g., distance-electronic, hard copy print, face-to-face programs) to both practicing professionals and those preparing for professional life. Courses will be managed and offered by a consortium of centers for higher learning, professional associations, and international agencies throughout the world, and coordinated by the IICRD.

The American Academy of Pediatrics, Royale College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Education International, the International School Psychology Association, and the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect have all joined the project and will work together to make CED-PRO a reality. Funding is being sought from a variety of international and national agencies and foundations.

### ***Coming up in 2003***

- Ongoing involvement with Senator Landon Pearson's office - preparation of National Plan of Action process, and completion of Anti-Sexual Exploitation Training Guide for Professionals (in collaboration with the International Centre to Combat the Exploitation of Children - ICCEC).
- Presentation to be made at the World Health Congress in Vancouver in May, 2003.
- At the University of Victoria...
  - Dr. Philip Cook to receive Adjunct Position with the Faculty of Law.
  - IICRD to continue working relationship with the Institute for Dispute Resolution (IDR).



- IICRD presenting at the School of Child and Youth Care's conference in August 2003.
- IICRD presenting an under-graduate course on Children's Participation in School of Child and Youth Care in summer of 2003.
- IICRD teaching an undergraduate course on Children in the Law in the Law Faculty in the summer of 2004.
- Global Studies hosting Mary Robinson's (Former High Commissioner for Human Rights) visit in September 2003 as part of the University of Victoria's International Days.
- IICRD hosting a child rights conference in August 2004.

## Board of Directors

**Dr. Bill Myers**, Chair, International Child Rights Expert, University of California at Davis

**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

**Agnes Pierre**, Elder, Katzie Reserve - First Nations Advisor

**Jil Amadio**, Communications, marketing and public relations consultant

**Simon Jackson**, Founder and director of Spirit Bear Youth Coalition

**Larissa Streu**, Lawyer, Miller Thomson LLP

**Nikki Sanchez-Hood**, Canadian Youth representative at UN Special Session (ex-officio)

**Dr. Philip Cook**, IICRD executive director (ex-officio)

## Advisory Committee

**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 Pocaterra**, Senator, Government of Venezuela (Wayuu)

**Cherry Kingsley**, International Center to Combat the Exploitation of Children (ICCEC)

## Core Staff

**Dr. Philip Cook**, Executive Director

**Dr. Stuart Hart**, Deputy Director

**Suzanne Williams**, Managing Director

**Natasha Blanchet-Cohen**, Program Director

**Michele Cook**, Communications Director

**Yvonne Rondeau**, Administrator

## Associates

**Bill White**, Coast Salish (Nanaimo-Cowichan), Aboriginal liaison Officer, University of Victoria, an invaluable link to local First Nations communities with a wealth of knowledge and experience advising on protocol.

**Brent Parfitt**, 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**, Executive Director Canadian Child Care Federation.

**Chris Lowry**, Children's advocate formally with Street kids International and Medecins Sans Frontieres.

## *IICRD Financial Statement 2002-2003*

**University  
Accounts**
**International Institute for Child Rights and Development  
Centre for Global Studies**
**Researcher(s)  
REPORTING  
PERIOD:**
**Dr. Philip Cook**  
As at March 31, 2003

	CIDA CAP	DFAIT Interns	Ministry of Child & Family	Three Oaks Fnd'n	CIDA CYCAD	CIDA Children as Partners	International Child Rights	TOTAL
<b>BUDGET (RECEIPTS)</b>	90,000.00	94,500.00	120,000.00	25,000.00	80,000.00	32,000.00	109,873.63	551,373.63
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>								
Salaries	16,052.57	18,718.95			3,150.00	5,546.32	15,307.92	58,775.76
Benefits	1,314.52	2,432.20			350.00	908.90	1,467.77	6,473.39
Travel Equipment	11,075.40	7,306.98	17,054.83	6,371.44		15,420.35	55,045.92	112,274.92
Sundry Services/ Consulting Fees	1,120.00	60,500.00	43,483.86		10,000.00		4,731.68	119,835.54
Materials, Supplies & Other Expenses	24,225.61	9,667.56	7,150.38	18,593.40	57,422.00	17,476.79	24,084.52	158,620.26
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>53,788.10</b>	<b>98,625.69</b>	<b>67,689.07</b>	<b>24,964.84</b>	<b>70,922.00</b>	<b>39,352.36</b>	<b>100,637.81</b>	<b>455,979.87</b>
Commitments	10,436.44		21,749.54			441.06	455.60	33,082.64
<b>NET RECEIPTS DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>25,775.46</b>	<b>4,125.69</b>	<b>30,561.39</b>	<b>35.16</b>	<b>9,078.00</b>	<b>7,793.42</b>	<b>8,780.22</b>	<b>62,311.12</b>

**NGO Accounts  
Account**
**International Institute for Child Rights and Development**

	200 - Guiding Spirit	300 - CAP website	500 - Legacy	TOTAL
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>40,000.00</b>	<b>26,000.00</b>	<b>81,000.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
1011 - Office Equipment	0.00	2,373.99	0.00	2,373.99
4000 - Travel expense	2,127.32	0.00	474.19	2,601.51
4001 - Transcripts expense	0.00	0.00	1,030.96	1,030.96
4002 - Supplies, postage	424.35	0.00	246.67	671.02
4004 - Contract services	8,450.00	0.00	10,400.00	18,850.00
4005 - Translation expense	0.00	0.00	696.80	696.80
4006 - Info. Advertising	2,441.38	0.00	0.00	2,441.38
4007 - Meeting expense	374.50	0.00	0.00	374.50
4009 - - Communication-tel/fax/web	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
4010 - - Honourariums	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>14,367.55</b>	<b>2,373.99</b>	<b>12,848.62</b>	<b>29,590.16</b>
<b>NET RECEIPTS DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>632.45</b>	<b>37,626.01</b>	<b>13,151.38</b>	<b>51,409.84</b>

