

# INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CHILD RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT



2008-2009

Annual Report



Dignity. Belonging. Justice.

## IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE...

- 2.2 million children experience dignity, belonging and justice.
- Every child is healthy, educated and cared for.
- Child development is reflected in community development.
- Cultural strengths are built upon in support of children's well being.
- Children's views and perspectives are considered in decisions affecting them.
- Everyone works together to address complex challenges facing children.
- Child rights and development are a lived reality in the lives of all children.

## ABOUT IICRD

The *International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD)* is a non-profit organization based in the Centre for Global Studies at the University of Victoria in Victoria, Canada, devoted to advancing *dignity, belonging and justice* for vulnerable children around the globe. We have been working on issues affecting children's lives locally, nationally, regionally and internationally since 1994.

### OUR MISSION:

To build respect for children's inherent human dignity, to nurture their sense of belonging, and reinforce justice at all levels through strength-based approaches to children's rights. We engage children's perspectives and experiences, equip professionals, policy makers and young people, and shift systems in four key areas:

- Child Protection and Well Being
- Youth Engagement and Community Resilience
- Child Justice
- Child Rights Education for Professionals

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### OUR APPROACH:

#### Developmental Rights Based

IICRD supports the full and healthy development of children, drawing on the strengths of children, their families, communities and culture.

#### Systems Change

IICRD creates multi-stakeholder 'bottom up – top down' strategies for sustainable systems change.

We ensure that children's rights become a reality both within their daily lives, and the social, economic, and political systems that affect them.

### OUR PARTNERS:

IICRD works in partnership with a broad range of child serving organizations including the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF, Save the Children, Plan International, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), national and local governments, foundations, child and youth-led organizations, and professionals from various disciplines and regions to maximize initiatives ability to support children's rights and well being.

Our work at IICRD is only as effective as the impact it has on the children and communities at the centre of all of our activities. Whether it is:

- Exploring the threat of sexual exploitation to children from Internet and Communication Technologies (ICT) in Thailand and Brazil;
- Assisting Indigenous communities reclaim their sacred responsibility to support their children and families in Canada;
- Linking vulnerable youth engagement to community development in Canada; or
- Reinforcing children’s resilience after natural disasters —

IICRD is committed to strengthening our approach by trying to better understand and measure the impact of our services.

In the past year, as a core priority in our programs supporting child rights, we have focused on strengthening our own monitoring and evaluation tools in collaboration with our partners in Canada and around the world. This has resulted in both a greater capacity for improved programming and a more effective core administrative system to support these programs. All of which will help breathe life into our mission to strengthen children’s *dignity, belonging and justice*. Tools allowing for more open and honest discussions with children and service providers on what’s working have been central to our work, and you will read more about this important process in this year’s annual report.

Much of this work, and other important child rights monitoring and evaluation research, will be showcased at IICRD’s Child Rights in Practice (CRIP) Conference which has been postponed to October 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at Whistler, B.C. We look forward to seeing many of our friends and colleagues at this important learning event. An important aspect of our practitioner learning community is our CRIP social networking site which allows us to share and receive child rights learning and insights from the field with our global community. Please visit the site at [www.childrightsinpractice.org](http://www.childrightsinpractice.org).

Fortunately, our growth this year has also allowed us to hire new team members to reinforce this core capacity and we are pleased to welcome Elaina Mack, Project Manager for YouthScape; Chris Yeomans, Project Manager for the Child Protection Partnership (CPP); Liz Morrison, Cred-Pro Project Officer; Kirsten White, YouthScape Coop student; and our new bookkeeper, Sharon Guenther. We have also had the good fortune of having Micheal Montgomery fill the directorship of Child Protection Partnership (CPP), and Elise Mallory become our new point person while both Suzanne and Renee have been away on maternity leave. Thus, we are pleased to welcome two new generation IICRD relatives, Elijah, son of Suzanne and her husband Paul, and Mathias the second son of Renee and Roy. It is also with sadness that we bid farewell to Jorge Salazar and Jen Wheeler. We wish them both well in their current endeavours.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dr. Philip Cook with Elder -May Apsassin, Nenan Elders Youth Gathering, Canada 2009

Finally, we express our deep sadness at the passing of Chief Judge Hugh Stansfield. We honour his significant contributions to the field of children’s rights and children’s participation in legal decision making in British Columbia, and we offer our condolences to Hugh’s family. His passing is a loss to us all.

We are committed to continuing his good work in supporting child justice and look forward to a successful year of supporting children’s rights and through this process contributing to a more humane world.

Respectfully,

Philip Cook

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

It has been an exciting first year at the Institute as the first Chief Operating Officer. IICRD has more than doubled its scope of work and continues to grow at a great pace.

When I started working at the Institute in March 2008, project managers and contractors were donating their time to manage core operations. Given the complexity of the challenge and the scope of work awaiting me, I was amazed at how well they had managed.

It was immediately obvious that everyone at the Institute had joined out of a sense of passion for working on child rights issues and not because they needed a job. In fact, Philip Cook, our Executive Director and Founder resigned his tenure at the University of Victoria to follow the dream of creating this Institute; Suzanne Williams our Deputy and Legal Director resigned from a successful legal career to work full time on child rights; and the stories continue. This passion and commitment has resulted in a dynamic collective of highly creative individuals who are now driving continuous growth and innovation at the Institute.

With the creation of my position, practitioners and field staff have been freed up to devote their time and expertise to make a difference for and with the worlds children. This has allowed me and our core administration team to be able to spear head the development of our core structure including the:

- Completion of our 5 year strategic plan;
- Development and launch of a new website and social networking site;
- Production of a new brochure;
- Integration of new financial management systems;
- Initiation of a contact database;
- Engagement of a dynamic and committed board;
- Revamping of fundraising proposal guidelines;
- Development of Human Resource policies and review procedures;
- Hiring of 6 new staff including myself; and
- Ongoing support for local, national, regional and international projects.

Judging by the speculative discussions framing the scope of future project opportunities, the coming year promises to be every bit as exciting.

Respectfully,



Bruce Lund



**Bruce Lund, Chief Operations  
Officer, IICRD**

*Bruce Lund joined IICRD after a long career with the Government of Canada, focusing on social justice issues including multi-culturalism, human rights, the status of women, disabled person's participation and Aboriginal issues.*



# Highlights from 2008-2009

Launch of a new social networking site - [www.childrightsinpractice.org](http://www.childrightsinpractice.org) for international practitioners and professional working on issues of child rights to share ideas and resources.

Work with First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal peoples to build a community-based and culturally grounded child welfare service delivery model.

Strengthening of IICRD's Triple "A" Child Rights and Community Development Approach to support the increasing complexity of our projects.

Co-hosting of YouthScape's Banff Gathering to celebrate youth and the role they play in building stronger communities across Canada.

Launch of Child Protection Partnership (CPP) in Thailand and Brazil.

Exploration of the meaning of monitoring and evaluation in child rights through the preparation of a background paper.

Further development of IICRD training materials on experiential, child centered facilitation, and how to support children in difficult situations.



CPP Triple "A" Training, Brazil, 2009

Addressing ICT enabled child sexual exploitation in the developing world

# IICRD Making a Difference Internationally

## CHILD PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP

### The Child Protection Partnership (CPP)

is a unique multi-sector collaboration comprised of organizations committed to protecting children from sexual exploitation enabled by worldwide use of information & communication technology (ICT).

As the executing agency, IICRD has been developing the framework for effective child centred programs. To date, projects have been launched in South East Asia and South America this year with regional expansion on the horizon.

CPP has been:

#### 1. Capitalizing on multi-level collaborations to ensure that:

- Successes in addressing ICT enabled child sexual exploitation are built upon;
- The lived experiences and views of vulnerable children anchor and inform CPP's work to ensure it is relevant and meaningful; and
- Ongoing child protection efforts are integrated into local policies, laws and practice.

**Funders:** Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and partners (in-kind contributions)

**Length of Project:** 2008-2011

**Location(s):** South America (Brazil Lead) and South East Asia (Thailand lead) with anticipated regional expansion

#### Steering Committee

**Partners:** Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD), Microsoft Corporation, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre (NCECC), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

#### IICRD Project Team:

Suzanne Williams, Micheal Montgomery, Chris Yeomans, Dr. Philip Cook, Cheryl Heykoop, Dr. Natasha Blanchet-Cohen and Michele Cook

**Volunteers:** Alba Bannman, Robin Beil, Britany Decker, Holly Courtright, Kisa MacDonald, Kara MacWilliam, Anne Mitaru and Raphael Tachie

## 2. Building on collaborative network with expertise in technology, law enforcement, children's rights and protection, human rights, and child-centred participatory development to:

- Share the latest in knowledge and tools with law enforcement and related stakeholders to better equip them to address ICT enabled child sexual exploitation;
- Connect vulnerable children and populations to relevant information, protection, reporting and recovery services; and
- Support ongoing collaboration between law enforcement and other public sectors, private sectors, civil society, and vulnerable populations.

## 3. Addressing ICT enabled child sexual exploitation through a systems change approach that entails working with multiple stakeholders (e.g., family, community, NGOs, law enforcement, private sector, etc.) affecting children and impacted by children to create a rights enabling environment for children, their families and communities.

### Activities

- Consolidation and consultation with CPP's Steering Committee, comprised of law enforcement representatives, the private sector, the U.N., Government and IICRD;
- Facilitation of a panel session on multi-and private sector partnership at the Third World Congress on the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in Rio de Janeiro in November 2008;
- Establishment of program implementation framework;
- Selection of regions;
- Project inception and initiation visits to Thailand and Brazil;
- Selection of some key implementing partners and signing of MOU's;
- Formation of regional advisory committees that link the work of front line partners working with children and the children themselves, to the systems and programs that seek to serve and protect them; and
- Launch of the project capacity and partnership building activities including planning sessions with over 20 different organizations and Triple 'A'/Children's lived realities workshops.

*"There are rare moments when we can dialogue and prepare proposals with same goals. I am happy to see the presence of universities, the judicial branch, police, [NGOs] and public prosecutors all at the same table. We have common ground and that diversity builds the final unity"*

-Silvia Losacco, Salvador de Bahia, Brazil 2009

### Outcomes

- In Thailand - Chulalongkorn University, Plan Thailand, WePeace and the Mercy Centre are using IICRD's Triple 'A' development process with children, youth and community organizations to build capacity and facilitate child led assessment activities in three project locations (Southern Thailand, Bangkok, and North Thailand). A special thank you for the support and dedication of the on-site CPP Thailand team including Cheryl Heykoop (S.E. Asia Child Protection Advisor) and Pranorm Palakarn (Took) (Project Coordinator).
- In Brazil - a broad section of 13 non-governmental organizations, 2 Universities, Law Enforcement (Judge, Federal Prosecutors and Federal/State Police Agents), and 2 other federal government agencies have come together to create a unique multi-sector partnership from across Brazil. This enthusiastic collaboration and strong political will, will form the foundation to address ICT child sexual exploitation across Brazil through a strong multi-sector systems approach.

We look forward to capturing the lived realities of children affected by ICT threats and working with the children and our partners to design and implement strategies to both address the threats and build on child and community strengths and capacities.



Jordan Unity Circle Team, 2009

**The International Child Protection and Rights Consortium (ICPRC)** was created in 2006 to bring together social scientists and Governments, UN agencies and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working to bring about broad based systems change in support of child protection.

The purpose of ICPRC is to better understand the impact of children's rights and to support the implementation of child protection policy and programming by strengthening the evidence base for good practices.

This is achieved through collaborative research, the development of capacity building and monitoring tools, and the study of innovative programming and policy. ICPRC seeks to build on the best of implementation efforts in child rights and protection, while recognizing that new approaches are needed to better ground the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in the context of a child's own lived experience within their peers, family, community and culture.

ICPRC is focused on linking research, policy and practice in four areas:

1. *Children's own experience* of childhood in relation to risk, protection, and agency;
2. Growing *social science understanding* of long term threats to child and adolescent development, and of the various means through which societies can protect their young against such threats;
3. An *ecological perspective on childhood* that includes the role of culture and other social systems in child vulnerability and protection; and
4. The presence and significance of *the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* in both policy and practice.

## INTERNATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION AND RIGHTS CONSORTIUM (ICPRC)

Innovative Rights Based Approaches to Child Protection

**Funders:** Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA), UNICEF Jordan, Relief International-Schools Online, Save the Children USA, Canadian Embassy in Jordan

**Length of Project:** 2007- 2009  
With new proposals in development

**Location(s):** The ICPRC is an international network with case studies of innovation operating in Jordan, Brazil, and Canada.

**Partners:** ICPRC is a network of individual researchers, universities, governments, UN agencies and Non-governmental Organizations (NGO's). ICPRC's open membership is currently comprised of:

- Oxford University, Centre for Refugee Studies, UK
- University of California at Davis, Department of Human and Community Development, USA
- University of Victoria, International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD), Canada
- The UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (IRC), Florence , Italy
- Catholic University of Goias, Department of Anthropology, Brazil
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Save the Children USA, Jordan
- Relief International, Jordan
- Save the Children UK, South East Asia and Pacific Regional Office, Bangkok, Thailand

### IICRD Project Team:

Dr. Philip Cook, Vanessa Currie, Martha Nelems

*“Today we have in this room the proof that when given the opportunity “beneficiaries” become agents of positive change. And it is important not to stop at the level of parents. One of the themes of the report is that children and youth are agents. They recognize themselves as such and deserve to be treated as such and helped to grow stronger.”*

-Angelita Caredda, Former Executive Director Relief International Schools Online

*“The Unity Circle Project has shown us what happens when the academia and the practitioners work together, when serious research informs practice and the two are given the possibility to learn from each other.”*

-Angelita Caredda, Former Executive Director Relief International Schools Online

## Activities

Exploration of the impact of ‘alternative’ approaches to protection across systems, cultures and contexts within:

- A regional model of indigenous child protection governance through community engagement (Canada);
- The development of a child centred protection policy through participatory action research with Iraqi refugee children (Jordan), and
- Child rights councils in promoting good practice in Municipal Guardianship Councils (Brazil).

Resulting in an understanding that:

- A well-being orientation to protection is more effective than crisis-based interventions;
- A lifespan approach from early childhood to adolescence to young adulthood is more effective than silo approaches;
- Systems change, issues of context, scale, and governance are crucial to the development of effective services;
- Community councils are central to ensuring local accountability;
- Child and youth agency and meaningful participation are integral as are participatory child centred monitoring and evaluation tools; and
- Holistic systems linking prevention to early intervention to deeper healing are needed.

Moving forward, ICPRC will be focusing on how to understand the impact of programs, services and policies on children’s lived reality and the development of monitoring and evaluation tools.

*“CIDA is very proud to support this participatory, action-oriented research, which is exploring models for effectively combining governmental resources with family, community and cultural assets to provide contextualized protection that addresses the diversity of children’s circumstances.”*

- Bianca Gonsalves, CIDA Project Officer

## Outcomes

- Partnerships with governments, UN agencies and international and national Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provided the platform to identify policy and programming activities to increase child protection within a rights framework.
- Policies and activities to increase the protection of children within a child rights framework grounded in children’s socio-cultural reality successfully identified and recommended.
- The Unity Circle report used as a catalyst for deeper analysis of child protection and specifically psychosocial responses for Iraqi children and their families in Jordan, bringing a deeper understanding of children and families own perspectives and their agency in bringing about positive change in their own lives to the fore.
- The Unity Circle project, led directly to a Phase II initiative with Relief International Schools Online, using the Triple “A” methodology to explore Iraqi and Jordanians understanding of social exclusion and build child, youth and adult partnerships in support of social inclusion between the refugee and host population.

## South East Asia Regional Cooperation in Human Development Project (SEARCH) is a

human rights and rule of law project designed to improve legal and institutional mechanisms for the promotion and protection of the rights of children, ethnic minorities and migrant workers in the Southeast Asia region: Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Laos and Timor Leste. The project focuses on:

- Protection and equality under and before the law;
- Prevention of trafficking; and
- Capacity building of regional institutions.

Gender is as a crosscutting theme as is the use of vertical and horizontal networks to ensure the meaningful participation of children, ethnic minorities and migrant workers in positively changing systems of human rights and development.

IICRD is the lead child rights organization in this 7-year CIDA program, and works, with a consortium of stakeholders and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) including, Dr. Saisuree Chutikul (Senior Advisor), UNICEF Thailand, UNICEF Timor Leste, UN Inter-Agency Project Against Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP), Save the Children Sweden, Save the Children UK, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, UN Office of High Commission for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), Chulalongkorn University, Mahidol University, Ateneo Human Rights Centre, UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and others to address issues of child rights.

### Activities and Outcomes

- Involvement in an emerging regional network of child focused organizations involved in creating a regional commission for women and children and linking child rights organizations in the region to other human rights networks.
- Establishment of a Restorative Justice Women & Children's Rule of Law Initiative to support transitional justice, restorative youth justice, family group conferencing, community peace building.
- Delivery of several pilot projects including:
  - Children's participation in Timor Leste's Peace building process in local governance;
  - Protection of migrant children in the Mekong Sub-Region;
  - Harmonization of Ethnic Minority Juvenile Justice Customary Law and the Vietnamese legal system.
- Child Rights Learning Forum bringing together over 40 United Nation (UN), non-governmental organizations (NGO's) and academic participants from the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to:
  - Share good practices and lessons learned in the protection of child rights in the ASEAN region;
  - Enhance working networks amongst child rights groups; and
  - Identify priority areas of work for the future.
- Youth leadership training with student groups and human rights activists from the Deep South of Thailand (21 women and 15 men from 9 organizations).

## SOUTH EAST ASIA REGIONAL COOPERATION IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (SEARCH)



Search Child Rights Learning Forum,  
March 2009

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

**Length of Project:** 2003-2010

**Location:** Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Timor Leste, Philippines

**Partners:** Geospatial/Salasan Consulting, Inc. and Four Worlds International, the UN Inter-Agency Project Against Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP), which supports the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative Against Trafficking (COMMIT), Working Group for an Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Human Rights Mechanism, Forum Asia, a regional network of Asian human rights organizations.

**IICRD Project Team:** Dr. Philip Cook, Cheryl Heykoop, Suzanne Williams

# CHILDREN AND PEACE BUILDING (SEARCH AFI)

## Allocations for Innovation (AFI)

**Activities** are SEARCH funds used to support local initiatives. With endorsement from the Ministry of Social Solidarity, Directorate for National Reinsertion, Child Protection Department and UNICEF Timor Leste, IICRD is working in Timor Leste in collaboration with Judicial Systems Monitoring Program (JSMP) and other organizations focused on children (e.g. Care, BaFuturu) to conduct participatory action research with children and their communities to explore violence through the perspective of children, and understand how communities resolve conflict.

This research will be used to develop contextualized tools to strengthen local capacity on the civic engagement of children and their communities in child protection and the broader promotion of human rights.



**Youth Leadership Workshop,  
Southern Thailand, 2009**

## Activities

Using the Triple “A” Child Rights and Community Development Approach, IICRD brought the voices and experiences of 90 children aged 10-15 and their communities (care providers, teachers, peers, local leaders) in three Aldeias in the districts of Dili, Lautem, and Covalima together to:

- Gain a better understanding of violence from the perspective of children;
- Better understand how violence impacts children, their family and community;
- Identify informal and formal mechanisms and support systems to address violence in the lives of children and their communities;
- Identify opportunities/risks of harmonizing customary law relating to violence prevention, child protection and the natural support networks for children;
- Identify violence prevention and protection strategies that build on the strengths and capacities of children their communities and culture; and
- Work with children, their communities, and child serving agencies to develop capacity building tools to strengthen the civic engagement of children and their communities in child protection and the broader promotion of human rights.

## Outcomes

- Ninety children in three communities engaged in providing input into services.
- Four youth leaders trained in the Triple “A” methodology.
- Support for strength based child protection services gained from Ministry of Social Solidarity and UNICEF.
- Further opportunities developed in Timor Leste.

**Funders:** South East Asia Regional Cooperation in Human Development Project (SEARCH)

**Length of Project:** 2008-2009

**Location:** Timor Leste

**Partners:** Judicial Systems Monitoring Program

**IICRD Project Team:** Cheryl Heykoop, Dr. Philip Cook



**Participatory Activity,  
Timor Leste, 2009**

**Children and Transitional Justice** is a study on children’s perspective on the Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) process in Sierra Leone. In 2007, the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (IRC), working closely with the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) and UNICEF Headquarters, initiated an Expert Paper Series on Children and Transitional Justice to encourage further research and analysis on a number of key issues related to children and transitional justice. IICRD was asked to gain evidence-based knowledge and practices to evaluate the role children and adolescents played in the truth, justice and reconciliation activities and to provide recommendations and guidance for countries to meaningfully engage with children and adolescents in future truth, justice and reconciliation processes.

### Activities

Participatory action research with children and young people and a broad selection of experts and practitioners to explore:

- Children’s experiences in the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC);
- How children’s meaningful participation was supported;
- How children’s rights were respected and protected within a broader societal, cultural and community context;
- How the TRC contributed to the reintegration and reconciliation of children and their communities, and
- Specific recommendations to create supportive and protective child participation mechanisms to: 1) restore societal imbalances via transitional justice processes and 2) foster understanding and collaboration.

### Outcomes

- Brought together the voices and experiences of 167 individuals (83 children and 84 adults) from diverse of contexts in Sierra Leone and internationally including children and communities affected by the conflict, academics, government, international non-governmental organizations, child protection organizations, and traditional and religious leaders;
- Documented children’s involvement;
- Suggested ways in which the rights of children can be better understood through notions of personal dignity, belonging, accountability and collective healing in the context of societies recovering from severe conflict; and
- Will be used by UNICEF and other implementing agencies as a foundational understanding of the TRC process.

## Children and Transitional Justice

**Funders:** UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence, Italy

**Length of Project:** 2007-2008

**Location:** Sierra Leone

**Partners:** UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence, Italy

**IICRD Project Team:** Cheryl Heykoop, Dr. Philip Cook

*“I don’t know the individual who killed my dad, but I know he was of the group called Mosquito. Maybe they should have killed me first, because killing my dad killed me slowly. If I was there maybe they would have killed both of us together. If I had the chance, I would have revenged for what he did to father. I still feel that way, but maybe if someone was there to assist it would help. If I can have someone to play the role of my father or my mother, then maybe I would forget but now I sit alone and think that they should have done this for me”.*

-Interview with boy from Kailahun, May 2008

*“I gave my testimony because I had lost my family. I thought if I said something, some assistance would come... I wouldn’t do it again because it didn’t help me.”*

-Interview with girl who gave a statement to the TRC, May 2008

# CHILD AND FAMILY WELFARE CAPACITY BUILDING

## Child and Family Welfare Capacity Building

is dedicated to the development and implementation of a child protection strategy for Timor Leste. UNICEF and, the Ministry of Social Solidarity, the lead Government Agency for Social Welfare in Timor Leste are working together to create a child and family welfare system that supports and protects children. This has begun with the capacity building of national staff that play a critical role in the delivery of professional child and family welfare services. This capacity building has been identified as a priority of the 2009-2013 UNICEF Framework and Timor Leste's National Priority Plan for Social Welfare 2008.

### Activities

Through a competitive bid process, IICRD has been working to develop a strategy to equip professionals and paraprofessionals with the knowledge, skills and capacity to engage with children and their communities to deliver contextualized, coordinated, and multi-disciplinary child protection strategies and services – all of which reflect the lived realities of children, their families, community and culture. This has included:

- Delivery of a Capacity Needs Assessment of Child & Family Welfare Professionals in Timor Leste, to assess training needs and receive feedback from Child Protection Officers and Child Protection Networks;
- Design of a comprehensive capacity development plan, including future training modules on child protection for effective delivery of a minimum/integrated package of social services for Child Protection Officers and National Ministry of Social Solidarity Child Protection Staff;
- Design and delivery of a training module focusing on holistic case management in the broader context of children's lives through the use of knowledge, skills and understanding; and
- Preparation of a Final Report on the Future Scope of work (2009) for UNICEF and the Ministry to enhance the professional capacity and existing child protection mechanisms.



Labarik Junior  
Hakarak  
Dame, 2009

**Funders:** UNICEF Timor Leste

**Length of Project:** 2008-2009

**Location(s):** Timor Leste

**Partners:** UNICEF Child Protection Timor Leste, Ministry of Social Solidarity, Department for National Reinsertion, Timor Leste

### IICRD Project Team:

Cheryl Heykoop, Dr. Philip Cook, Vanessa Currie

*"It was really valuable to identify the obstacles we face in our districts. It strengthened our relationships with each CPO and partnership with UNICEF & CPOs."*

-CPO commenting on the Needs Assessment Consultation

### Outcomes

- First Institutional Contract signed by UNICEF Timor Leste.
- 13 Child Protection Officers consulted and trained.
- Child Protection Officers now holding monthly meetings throughout 2009 and beyond.

## GENERAL COMMENT ON ARTICLE 19 – EACH CHILD’S RIGHT TO THE PROTECTION FROM ABUSE

The International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) and the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) have been selected by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child to draft the General Comment for Article 19 of the UN Convention. As well, IICRD will design and prepare selected implementation components. A GC19 Program of Development has been organized to fulfill these responsibilities, including an international body of experts as members of a Core Working Group and Expert Advisory Panel, and a GC19 Focal Group of Members of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Extensive consultations will be applied to inform this critical piece of work.

A General Comment for Article 19 (the right to protection from all forms of abuse) has the potential to transform child protection work by toward much advanced levels of effectiveness fostering a paradigm shift in its conceptualization, theory, research and practices through the infusion of a child rights approach.

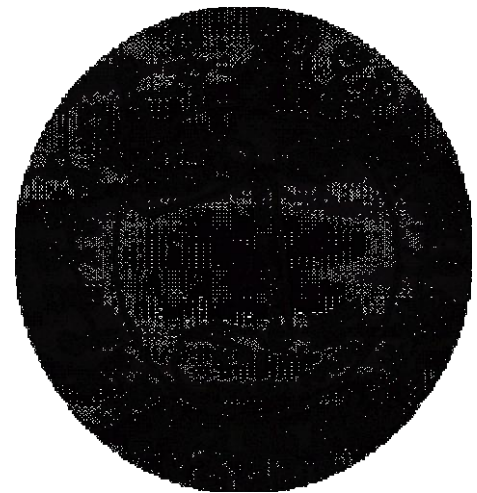
The need for change is strongly evident as:

- Protection of the world’s children from violence and maltreatment is a matter of urgency;
- Research has established the short and longer term violence and maltreatment affect the child’s life, health, development and well being into adolescent and adult life;
- Child protection work throughout the world has been generally very disappointing in its ability to protect children from violence and abuse; and
- Researchers, legislators, policy makers and practitioners are raising serious questions about the adequacy of the policies and strategies being applied in child protection efforts.

There is widespread agreement that significant changes are needed in the orientation to child protection to make it possible to secure the personal well-being, health and development of children. Business as usual and more of the same provide little hope for success. A child rights approach, flowing from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, holds promise for making the necessary advances.

IICRD and ISPCAN, with the help of all interested organizations, networks and persons, intend to foster and support a transformative process that will infuse child rights into the development and implementation of the General Comment for Article 19.

We look forward to your thoughts and comments regarding CRC Article 19. Contact the Chairs of the GC19 Program of Development for information ([Stuart Hart-shiicrd@uvic.ca](mailto:Stuart.Hart@uvic.ca)); Susan Bennett-bennett@cheo.on.ca)



**Child Protection Office (CPO) Vision: The ideal environment/community to protect and support children**



## CHILD RIGHTS EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONALS (CRED-PRO)

**Child Rights Education for Professionals (“CRED-PRO”)** is an international initiative endorsed by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. It is devoted to developing and providing educational programs on the human rights of children to professionals working with and for children in partnership with professional associations and other key agencies and organizations worldwide.

### Focus

To foster a critical mass of respect for children, their needs, their rights and their best interests among and through professionals who, by virtue of their expertise, leadership and acknowledged value, influence the lives of children, their families, and communities. CRED-PRO is currently focused on health and early child development professions/professionals and working through partnerships to develop and implement child rights education and practices in Latin America, South Africa, Tanzania, South/Central Eastern Europe, and Canada.

### Activities

In **Tanzania**, CRED-PRO is working with government and civil society to bring child rights education and practices to early child development professionals, service providers and programs.

In **Latin American**, the **Southern Cone team** has begun to implement the Spanish curriculum in Columbia, Uruguay, Argentina, and Chile, and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Latin American Pediatric Association and Inter-American Institute for Children.

**Funders:** The Oak Foundation, Switzerland & Bernard van Leer Foundation, Netherlands

**Length of Program:** 2005-2010  
Proposals in process for continuous development

**Location:** Latin America (i.e. Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Uruguay); South/Central Eastern Europe (i.e., Turkey and 7 surrounding countries); South Africa; Tanzania; British Columbia and Canada; South East Asia with options for expansion on the horizon.

**Partners:** CRED-PRO partners come from professional associations, university centers, and child focused agencies, including: 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 (ISPCAN), the International School Psychology Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the European Society for Social Paediatrics, FLACSO (Facultad Latino Americana de Ciencias Sociales), ALAPE (the Latin America Pediatric Association); International Children’s Centre (Bilkent University, Ankara, TURKEY; representing organizations in 12 nations), the Children’s Institute (University of Cape Town, South Africa), the Children's Environmental Research Group (CERG; City University of New York -CUNY), Centre for Child Rights Law (Pretoria University, South Africa), the Faculty of Medicine (University of British Columbia), and the Institute for Dispute Resolution (School of Law, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada).

**Project Team:** Dr. Stuart Hart, Gerison Lansdown, Gary Robinson, Dr. Philip Cook, Elizabeth Morrison



**María de los Dolores Aguilar Marmolejo, Director General of the INN and Dr. Stuart, IICRD Deputy Director Hart signing MOU between CRED-PRO/IICRD and the Inter-American Children's Institute. 2008**

In **South Africa** an innovative model for incorporating child consultation in the development of child rights programs for health professionals has been applied and the CRED-PRO curriculum is under revision for cultural fit and priorities through a partnership from the South African Children's Institute at the University of Cape-Town.

In **South/Central/Eastern Europe** the CREDPRO curriculum has been reviewed and a train-the-trainer workshop was held in Ankara, Turkey for nine countries: Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, Iraq, Serbia, Turkey, and Uzbekistan. Each of the country participants committed to development of a national plan. The International Children's Center in Ankara serves as the regional coordinating office.

In **British Columbia**, Canada, CRED-PRO is working with partners in pediatrics, nursing, family practice and dentistry to develop a strategic plan to incorporate child rights into health practice professional education and service delivery. Project highlights over the past year include building a strong advisory committee, publishing a successful review of the UBC medical school curriculum, and developing a funding base for long term planning.

## Outcomes (in progress)

- Production of a child rights foundational module for all professions and extended profession-specific adaptations and advanced practice, policy and research modules with the ability to be adapted to different cultural, economic and social environments;
- Development and implementation strategies and systems for ensuring the implementation of child rights education for relevant professions at pre-service preparation and continuing education levels;
- Sharing and implementation of the child rights education curricula-modules through the creation of an interdependent network of educators, professionals, governmental, and child advocacy organizations dedicated to the improvement of children's lives;
- Exploration of the possibility of an accredited higher education, doctoral, curriculum that can be implemented on a virtual, online basis; and
- Establishment of a network of co-operative centers of higher learning.

**Giving health care professionals the information they need to protect and support children's rights.**



Banff Gathering, 2009

# IICRD Making a Difference Regionally and Nationally

**YouthScape: Community Based. Youth Paced.**

**Funders:** J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, United Way of Calgary and Area

**Length of Program:** 2006-2010

**Location(s):** Victoria, Calgary, Thunder Bay, Rivière des Prairies, Halifax

**Partners:** HeartWood Centre for Community Youth Development, Boscoville 2000, United Way of Thunder Bay, Child and Youth Friendly Calgary, LifeCycles (YouthCore), YMCA Hamilton

**Advisors:** Elizabeth Barot, Denise Andrea Campbell, Honourable Landon Pearson, Barb McMillan, Che Kothari

**Project Team:** Elaina Mack, Dr. Natasha Blanchet-Cohen, Michele Cook, Dr. Philip Cook, Kirsten White

**YouthScape** focuses on engaging excluded or marginalized youth to create stronger more resilient communities and long-term, sustainable systems change. Shifting perceptions of young people as problem-solvers, instead of problems requires engaging youth with adults in shared decision-making and bringing many stakeholders together.

As the Intermediary for YouthScape, IICRD's role is to:

- Support communities in creating sustainable change;
- Create a learning community and a body of knowledge to inform others on best practices to engage disengaged youth; and
- Leverage policy and practice at the level of local government, and across provincial and federal jurisdictions in Canada.

## Activities

IICRD has been working with Community Partners and YouthScape's National Advisory to:

- Facilitate capacity development through national learning calls, technical support, regular field visits;
- Nurture national learning community through co-hosting YouthScape's first gathering with other youth-led agencies and multi-sectoral partners to advance the field of youth engagement;
- Gather critical information using developmental evaluation and participatory action research tools;
- Disseminate learning and expand the YouthScape network;
- Develop strategic relationships with policy makers and practitioners (e.g. federal departments, Boys and Girls Club of Canada); and
- Provide ongoing leadership and management support to hold communities accountable.

*"There is a Notion that the youth is our 'tomorrow', but young people are as much 'today' as adults, and adults are as much 'tomorrow' as young people."*

– Honourable Landon Pearson,  
YouthScape Advisor

*"Young people don't care about healthy communities. What they do care about is doing good, feeling they are part of something, that they are liked and comfortable."*

– Youth, Victoria 2009

*"I never understood the "moving landscapes" thing until we created YouthScape within the gathering...YouthScape gives you a chance to change something, ...and help our community become more involved with youth and what we think is important."*

– Youth participant, Banff Gathering 2009



Victoria Journey, Banff Gathering, 2009

## Outcomes - YouthScape By Numbers

- **5** diverse communities across Canada are actively engaging unengaged young people in the building of a more resilient community.
- In addition to the J. W. McConnell Family Foundation's and United Way of Calgary and Area's core funding, close to **\$1 million** was invested into YouthScape communities to support youth engagement.
- Over **275 organizations** have connected to and are supporting the vision of YouthScape including municipalities, youth-led organizations, police, schools, native friendship centres, private sector and foundations.
- Community partners allocated over **\$360,000** to **67 different projects**. These projects were inspired, involved and implemented by young people in the communities. Projects focused on:
  - Spaces and skills swapping, such as En Nuit - Late Night Resource Map in Victoria
  - Peer leadership, as seen in a Thunder Bay project to engage young Aboriginal women
  - Youth expression, from starting rock clubs and circuses in Halifax, to bouncing beats and walls (literally) in Calgary and Rivière des Prairies.
- **107 learning exchanges** were facilitated and co-facilitated by IICRD, including gatherings, community calls and site visits.
- Over **100** young people, youth organizations and practitioners and policy-makers joined the YouthScape Community in Banff to inspire a movement of creating stronger communities through the engagement of young people.

IICRD has identified 5 strategies for engage the unengaged through YouthScape:

- Youth-driven grants
- Hiring Youth Staff
- Embedding Youth Decision making within Structures
- Creating Youth Friendly Spaces and Places
- Activating Multi-sector tables

# Save the Children USA: Post Disaster Curriculum Review and Evaluation

In partnership with Save the Children USA, IICRD is revising curriculum and doing monitoring and evaluation of a series of curricula developed as a result of a heightened need for psychosocial services for young children in New Orleans and other disaster affected areas in the United States. The aim of the curriculum is to:

- Support children in understanding and normalizing emotions associated with trauma and difficult circumstances;
- Help children develop positive coping strategies to deal with their emotion;;
- Build on the innate strengths of the children, their family, school and community to further develop positive coping mechanisms; and
- Instill a sense of hope, empowering children to feel more in control.

## Activities

- Site visits
- Curriculum evaluation and review
- Curricula adaptations
- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Development of monitoring and evaluation tools

## Outcomes

Edited and revised:

- Junior Journey of Hope: Coping with and Normalizing Emotions (8 session workshop for K to 1)
- Elementary Journey of Hope: Coping with and Normalizing Emotions (8 session workshop for grades 2 to 5)
- Adolescent Journey of Hope: Coping with and Normalizing Emotions (8 session workshop for grades 6 to 8)
- Journey of Hope: Building a Supportive Community (adult psychosocial support)
- Preparing for Disaster: Ready and Resilient (1 hr workshop for grades K to 5)



Journey of Hope Team, New Orleans 2009

**Funders:** Save the Children US

**Length of Project:** 2008-2009

**Location(s):** New Orleans, California

**Partners:** Save the Children US

**IICRD Project Team:** Dr. Natasha Blanchet Cohen, Michele Cook, Jen Tang

**Project Consultants:** Rebecca Nelems, Jacqueline McAdam Crisp

*"It was not just us having fun, we were learning stuff at the same time..."*

-Boy age 12, Recovery School  
New Orleans

## Yukon - Child and Youth Advocate Office

- A Monitoring and Evaluation Framework that examines the impact of the curriculum on young children, adolescents and teachers/social workers, and its effectiveness in normalizing emotions, and developing positive coping strategies through cooperative play, creative arts, and literacy.
- A number of tools are being used to assess the impact of the curriculum across three main areas, including:
  - Skills and knowledge;
  - Emotional well-being; and
  - Social well-being.



**Journey of Hope Parachute Activity, New Orleans, 2009**

IICRD facilitated a consultation with Youth and Communities around the discussion paper for the creation of a Child and Youth Advocates Office in the Yukon (see: [http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/program/s/family\\_children/child\\_and\\_youth\\_advocate\\_act/](http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/program/s/family_children/child_and_youth_advocate_act/)) which was tabled in the Legislature in April 2009.

IICRD also provided advise to the Minister on the creation of an inclusive youth center (meeting a variety of needs) in Riverdale (outskirts of Whitehorse) that provided both structured and unstructured activity and engaged youth in the planning, design and decision making to ensure usability by diverse groups. It was anticipated that this space should be used by existing youth organizations (Blue Feather, BYTE, Boys and Girls Club) for satellite programming, rather than duplicating services with another organization.

**Funders:** Yukon Health and Social Service Ministry

**Length of Project:** 2008-2009

**Location(s):** Yukon

**IICRD Project Team:** Dr. Natasha Blanchet Cohen



Nenan Board Member with Youth,  
Saulteau First Nation, 2009

# IICRD Making a Difference Locally

## Indigenous Child Centered and Culturally Grounded Services

**Nenan Dane Zaa Deh Zona Family Services** is an organization representing and mandated by Treaty 8 First Nations, Métis and Urban Aboriginal peoples and organization of north eastern British Columbia to develop a new model of child welfare jurisdiction, governance, services and quality assurance. This historic endeavor will enable First Nations, Métis, and Urban Aboriginal peoples to reclaim jurisdiction for services and resources in a manner consistent with their inherent rights and responsibilities for their children and families.

### Activities

In the fall of 2007, Nenan representatives with the guidance of IICRD commenced the River Of Unity: Triple “A” Community Empowerment Process gathering in-depth knowledge about each community to create a new community-based and culturally grounded vision in support of the healthy development and protection of children and families.

Using IICRD’s Triple “A” methodology, extensive work has been conducted in communities throughout the North east, with children, youth, parents, Elders, leadership, community members and service providers. This holistic community engagement process is yielding profound information regarding each community’s local context and respective strengths, assets, issues, needs, as well as deeply important information regarding culture, traditional practices and ceremonies.

This information and the invaluable understanding and teachings shared will serve the critical function of informing and guiding the development of a Nenan service delivery model.

*“I am happy to help you people, not for me, but for my great grandchildren.” Max Desjarlais” - West Moberly Elder- working to support Nenan’s work for children and families*

**Funders:** Nenan Dane\_Zaa Deh Zona Family Services, BC Ministry for Child and Family Development

**Length of Project:** 2006-2010

**Location:** British Columbia

**Partners:** Deputy Minister, Regional Authorities, Nenan Dane\_Zaa Deh Zona Family Services

**IICRD Project Partners:** Dr. Philip Cook, Vanessa Currie, Sarah Sandy, Bill White

The cultural values and practices that have supported children for generations in the north east are a guiding framework for the Triple “A” process. Extensive work is being conducted with Elders and traditionally trained specialists to identify cultural terms and practices around supporting the well-being of children and families, ensuring supports for traditional childcare and protection continue to thrive in each community. The Triple “A” also engages children and youth in “activities” (e.g. photo framing, walking tours, community map-making exercise, peer group discussions) intended to provide a platform for them to safely and critically explore their lives and contribute to creating positive change in their communities. Parents and community members, as the foundation for supporting children’s healthy development and well-being, are deeply involved in the process. Other key knowledgeable people (e.g. school principals, school teachers, anthropologists, archaeologists, Aboriginal Head Start program staff, Aboriginal Service Organization staff) are also engaged in interviews, discussions and/or community activity exercises.

In conjunction with this, Dr. Philip Cook has also been assisting the Ministry for Child and Family Development to identify good practices and transition regional service delivery in North East British Columbia.

## Outcomes

Through community members’ participation, the process has:

- Built both hope for a new and positive direction in child and family services, as well as capacity and processes to contribute to the development of a new service delivery system based on Aboriginal values and principles;
- Created the community developed Protocol Agreement between the Halfway River First Nation and Ministry of Children and Family Development, articulating a new and respectful relationship laid out by community Elders;
- Developed community based and child-centred actions, emerging from the Triple “A” community Empowerment Process, to build on local strengths to address local issues; and
- Developed a community-based and locally accountable governance system that reflects the spirit and tradition of First Nations, Aboriginal and Métis peoples of the north east of British Columbia



Youth and Elder, Halfway River First Nation, 2009



Community Feast, Fort Nelson, 2008

*"Wa'ko'taw'in- It means relations, but a bit more than that, it's respect, relatives, and relations, all combined into one word....in fact, that word should be the basis of governance. You know, you can't have governance without that word."*

*-Elder, Saulteau First Nation*

# Vancouver Island Aboriginal Transition Team (VIATT)

In the spring of 2008, it was announced that enabling legislation for Regional Aboriginal Authorities was not going to be presented to the Legislature for consideration. Since that announcement, the Vancouver Island Aboriginal Transition Team (VIATT) worked with communities to carry forward the vision of developing their own child and family services systems grounded in the principles of First Nations jurisdiction and the best interests of all Aboriginal children.

## Activities

IICRD was invited to partner with VIATT, on a short-term basis, to create a systems change strategy to support that vision. Specifically, IICRD worked with VIATT to implement a methodology to create positive, sustainable change in children's and families lives. Using the Triple "A" Community Empowerment Process, IICRD worked with VIATT to actively engaging community stakeholders in the development of a service structure to meet their needs.

## Outcomes

- Strategic planning on engaging community members in the development of new child and family services system to better meet their needs.
- Development of work-books and manuals for facilitators working at the community level.
- Training of local facilitators to work with children, youth, families and leadership in a strength-based, culture-based and child-centred manner.

**Funders:** BC Ministry for Child and Family Development, Vancouver Island Aboriginal Transition Team

**Length of Project:** Jan- Mar 2009

**Location:** British Columbia

**Partners:** VIATT

**IICRD Project Partners:** Dr. Philip Cook, Vanessa Currie, Sarah Sandy

## *THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN*

*I want a future where...  
We respect each other  
We listen to each other  
We discipline each other  
We love each other*

*To create this future we must...  
Discipline our friends  
Respect our friends  
Listen to our friends  
Love our friends*

- Elder, Timor Leste

# Meaningful Child Participation in Family Justice Processes:

## Hear the Child

**Hear the Child Project** focuses on ways to support children and their participation in family law cases where they are affected by family transition. It is based on the latest research and practice, and is framed by Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (ratified by Canada) and BC legislation that contemplates hearing and considering the views of children in decisions made about their best interests. Advisors and input from the BC bar, bench, government, academic, and non-profit sectors as well as social workers, young people and mental health professions have continued to inform the work.

### Activities

IICRD has discovered that while gaps exist in BC's justice system to hear children's views, there are strengths that can be built on (see *Through the Eyes of Young People* available at [www.iicrd.org](http://www.iicrd.org)). As a result, IICRD introduced a pilot practice where children could share their views with interviewers from a roster in Kelowna in 2005 and 2006. These interviewers in turn shared the children's views with decision-makers for consideration in family court cases. Overall, the interviewers, lawyers, judges, children and parents/caregivers who participated in the 2007 (IICRD) and 2008 (Focus Consultants) evaluations found that Hear the Child interviews are a safe, cost-effective way to accurately hear from children. This non-therapeutic interview process has come to be known as Hear the Child interviews and continues to be used in Kelowna and other BC locations including Victoria and Vancouver.

*It is rare for me to find that the information provided by children is not helpful. My experience has been that the discussion with children generates not only useful information, but is frequently a powerful tool in the continuing dialogue with the parents or social workers.*

-Chief Judge Hugh C. Stansfield, Provincial Court of BC

**Funders:** The Law Foundation of BC & BC Attorney General

**Length of Project:** 2003-2008

**Location:** British Columbia

**Partners:** Continuing Legal Education Society of BC

**IICRD Project Team:** Suzanne Williams, Cheryl Heykoop, Dr. Natasha Blanchet-Cohen, Bill White, Elaina Mack

### Outcomes

- Production of a booklet and curriculum to assist legal professionals.
- Request for collaboration and asked to chair an education program on children's participation in family justice processes – November 2009.
- Ongoing contribution to a new non-profit society that will establish a roster of child interviewers and relevant trainings across BC.

## IICRD's Recent Publications

Bissell, S., Boyden, J., Cook, P., Myers, W. (2008). *Rethinking Child Protection from a Rights Perspective*. Florence, Italy: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre.

Blanchet-Cohen, N. (2008). *Children, agency and violence. In and beyond the UN Study on Violence Against Children*. Working Paper. Florence, Italy: UNICEF Innocenti Research Center.

Blanchet-Cohen, N. (2008). *Citizenship in action: the multiple dimensions of early adolescent's environmental involvement*, Environmental Education Research, 14:3, p. 257-272.

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Blanchet-Cohen, N., Hart, S. N., & Cook, P. C. (2009) *Child rights in practice: Measuring and improving our impact*. Victoria, British Columbia: International Institute for Child Rights and Development.

Blanchet-Cohen, N., Hart, S. N., & Cook, P. C. (2009). *A model of accountability to children*. Victoria, British Columbia: International Institute for Child Rights and Development. [www.iicrd.org](http://www.iicrd.org).

Cook, P. (2008). *Understanding the effects of adolescent participation in health programmes*. The International Journal of Children's Rights, 16, 121 – 139.

Cook, P. (2008). *How children contribute to community: An international perspective*. Journal of Community Development Society.

Cook, P., Bristow, S. and Currie, V. (2008). *What's Working for Children, Youth and Families in BC*. Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD). Victoria, BC: Government of British Columbia.

Cummings, A. & Currie V. (2009). *Dane\_Wajich Report 'People Telling Their Story'*, Nenane Dane\_zaa Deh Zona Children and Family Services. <http://iicrd.org/node/348>

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Hart, S. N. (in press). *Child participation – A human rights and development imperative*. Child Welfare.

Heykoop, C. & Cook, P. (in press). *Child Agency and Child Participation in the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission*, Florence, Italy: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, and International Institute for Child Rights and Development, University of Victoria.

Hart, S. N., Brassard, M. R., Davidson, H. A., Rivelis, E., Diaz-Thompson, V., & Binggeli, N. (invited, in process). Psychological maltreatment. In *The APSAC Handbook on Child Maltreatment*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE.

Lansdown, G., Heykoop, C. & Hart, S. (2008). *Child Rights Education for Professionals Curriculum*. Florence Italy: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre and International Institute for Child Rights and Development, University of Victoria.

Nelems, M. (2008). *Unity Circle: Experiences of Iraqi Children and Parents, Living in Amman Jordan* <http://iicrd.org/resources/research-reports/unity-circle>  
Svevo-Cianci, K., Hart, S. N., Rubinson, C. (in press) *Protecting children from violence and maltreatment: A qualitative protecting comparative analysis of 42 countries to assess the efficacy of CRC article 19 measures*. Child Abuse and Neglect.

Williams, S. (2008). "Perspective of the Child in Custody and Access Decisions: Implementing a Best Interests and Rights of the Child Test", Canadian Bar Review, Special Issue on Family Law, Vol. 86. No. 3.

Williams, S. and Heykoop, C. (2008). Ten tips for Legal Professionals: Meaningful Child Participation in Family Justice Processes, International Institute for Child Rights and Development, University of Victoria, 24 p.

Williams, S. (2008). *Child Curriculum and Resource Guide: Meaningful Child Participation in Family Justice Processes*, International Institute for Child Rights and Development, University of Victoria. 94 p.

Williams, S. (2008) *Bringing a Child-Perspective Lens to Canadian Family Justice Processes*, Federation of Law Societies of Canada: National Family Law Program.

## IICRD's Presentations

Blanchet-Cohen, N. *Child agency as enhancing child protection*. HELP-UVIC. International research day, Victoria. February 2009.

Blanchet-Cohen, N. *YouthScope: Becoming youth paced and community based*. Celebrating Dialogue: An International SAS2 Forum, Carleton University, Ottawa. November 2008.

Blanchet-Cohen, N. *Children and belonging*. Child Rights Academic Network, Ottawa. November, 2008.

Blanchet-Cohen, N. *Imagine engaging young people as competent community builders!* [workshop lead]. Tenth National Metropolis Conference. Expanding the debate: multiple perspectives on immigration to Canada. Halifax. April 2008.

Cook, P. C., Hart, S. N., Madrid, B., & Svevo-Cianci, K. *A child rights approach to child protection*. ISPCAN Congress, Hong Kong, China. September 2008.

Cook, P. and Heykoop, C., *Child Protection Partnership, Triple "A", Children's Lived Realities Training* (Chulalongkorn University, Faculty of Education, UNICEF, Plan International Thailand, Microsoft, Human Development Foundation), Bangkok, Thailand. March 2009.

Cook, P. and Heykoop, C., *Child Rights in Thailand's Deep South*, Trang, Thailand. February 2009.

Cook, P., *South East Asia Regional Cooperation in Human Development (SEARCH) Child Rights Learning Forum*, Bangkok, Thailand. March 2009.

Cook, P., Currie, V. and Heykoop, C., *Ecological Approaches to Child Welfare in Timor Leste* (Ministry of Social Solidarity. UNICEF Timor Leste), Tibar, Timor Leste. November 2008.

Cook, P. and Heykoop, C., *Child Protection Officer Consultation* (Ministry of Social Solidarity, UNICEF Timor Leste) Dare, Timor Leste. November 2008.

Cook, P., South East Asia Regional Cooperation in Human Development (SEARCH) Learning Forum, Bangkok, Thailand. September 2008.

Cook, P. and Heykoop, C., *Child Participation in Local Planning* (Chulalongkorn University, UNICEF Thailand) Bangkok, Thailand. September 2008.

Hart, S. N., Doek, J. & Guillemard, J. C. *A child rights approach to school psychological services*. A workshop and presentations to the International School Psychology Colloquium, Utrecht, Netherlands. July 2008.

Heykoop, C., *Child Agency and Child Participation in the Sierra Leone TRC*, Expert Meeting on Children and Transitional Justice, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence, Italy. June 2008.

Nelems, M., Currie, V. & Cook, P., *Unity Circle Report Launch: Experiences of Iraqi Children and Parents Living in Amman, Jordan*. Amman Jordan. Hosted by Canadian Embassy Relief, International Schools Online, UNICEF, Save the Children USA and IICRD. October 2008.

Currie, V. and Cummings A. *Contextual Approaches to Child Protection and the River Of Unity: Triple "A" Community Empowerment Process*, Aboriginal Policy Research Conference a Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) event,

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. March 2009.

Williams, S., *Business Platforms in IT Companies*. World Congress III Against the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, Workshop with In Hope, ICMEC, APLE, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. November 2008.

Williams, S., *Child Rights Lecture, Law 373, International Human Rights*, Faculty of Law, University of Victoria, November 2008.

Williams, S. *Implementing International Norms and Partnerships: The Child Protection Partnership*, World Congress III Against the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, Lead-Up Event on Corporate Social Responsibility, Winnipeg, Canada. September 2008.

Williams, S. *Children's Voices*, Federation of Law Societies Canada, National Family Law Program, Deerhurst, Ontario, Canada. July 2008.

Williams, S. *Child Rights: Peace and Human Security Lecture*. M.A. program, Royal Rhodes University. Victoria, BC Canada. June 2008.

Williams, S. *Listening to Children's Views in Disputed Custody and Access Cases*, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, panel with Dr. Joan Kelly, The Honourable Chief Judge Hugh Stansfield of the BC Provincial Court, The Principal Judge of the Family Court of New Zealand Peter Boshier, Vancouver, Canada. May 2008.

# IICRD's People

## *IICRD's Core Team*

**Dr. Philip Cook**, Executive Director

**Suzanne Williams**, Deputy and Legal Director

**Dr. Stuart Hart**, Deputy Director and Director of Professions and Academic Institutions

**Dr. Natasha Blanchet-Cohen**, Research and Evaluation Director

**Michele Cook**, Program and Capacity Director

**Vanessa Currie**, Child Protection Manager

**Elaina Mack**, YouthScape Project Manager

**Elizabeth Morison**, CRED-Pro Project Officer

**Chris Yeomans**, CPP Project Manager

**Cheryl Heykoop**, Child Rights & Protection Advisor, South East Asia

**Renée Lormé-Gulbrandsen**, and **Elise Mallory**, Administrative Coordinators

**Bruce Lund**, Chief Operations Officer

**Sharon Guenther**, Financial Officer

**Sarah Sandy**, Community Development Project Coordinator

**Bill White**, (*Xelimuxw/Kasalid, Coast Salish*), Traditional Tribal Advisor

## *IICRD's Board of Directors*

**Dr. Gordon Smith**, Director of the Centre for Global Studies, University of Victoria

**Martin Golder**, Architect and Conflict Management Consultant

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

**Jane Dewing**, Former Executive Director of the Victoria Cool Aid Society

**Dawn Cameron**, Health Care Professional

**Dr. Tara Ney**, Institute for Dispute Resolution, University of Victoria

**Terri Cohen**, Lawyer, Harrison & Company LLP

**Dr. Philip Cook**, IICRD Executive Director (ex-officio)

## *IICRD's Advisors - Providing IICRD with International Child Rights Advice*

**Senator Landon Pearson**, Director, Landon Pearson Resource Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights, Carlton University

**Dr. Roger Hart**, Professor, Director of Children's Environments Research Group

**Kim Recalma-Clutesi Ogwilogwa** (*Kwagiulth*), *Qualicum Reserve*

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

**Jaap Doek**, former 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

## *IICRD's Associates Currently Supporting IICRD's Work*

**Dr. Benedito dos Santos**, anthropologist focusing on protection of children, Catholic University of Goias, Brazil

**Brent Parfitt**, member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Geneva and former Deputy

Ombudsman for British Columbia.

**Derek Peterson**, Executive Director of ICARUS and leader in the youth development field

**Gary Robinson**, Ph.D.; CRED-PRO Manager: organizational, distance learning, higher education, research, and Latin America affairs

**Gerison Lansdown**, international consultant in children's rights

**Jan Mackie**, Director of Spiral Garden with 25 years experience in art garden therapeutic interventions with children at risk

**Dr. Jeff Goldhagen**, Academy of Pediatrics - Cred-Pro Advisor

**Jennifer Tang**, Research Associate

**Jon Ramer**, social networking advisor

**Julian Norris**, Director of Innovation and Development - Western Canada, Outward Bound

**Dr. Martha Erickson**, developmental psychologist and professor specializing in parent-child attachment, child abuse prevention and children's mental health, University of Minnesota, USA

**Martha Nelems**, former child protection focal point at CIDA

**Mira Dodig**, children's mental health practitioner with experience working in war affected areas

**Zosa de sas Kropiwnicki**, researching child protection and sexual issues in Africa

**Jorge Salazar**, youth facilitator, Child and Youth Friendly Calgary

*IICRD would also like to acknowledge Miller Thomson LLP for their support with our filings, Schell and Associates for completing our audit, and all of our advisors, associates, members and many volunteers that supported IICRD's work this year.*

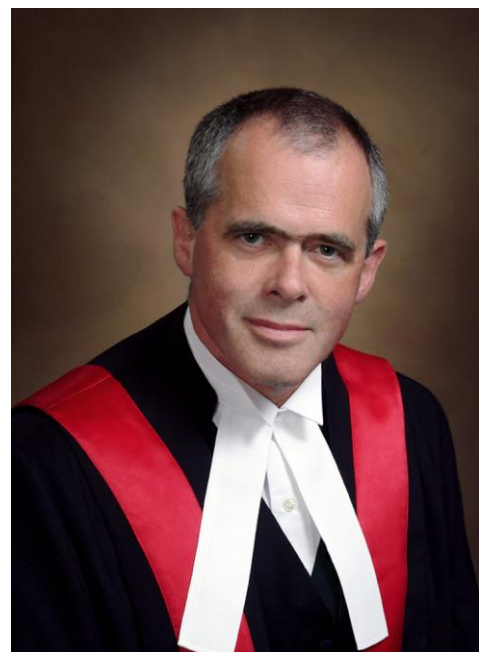
## In Memoriam of Friends Lost this Year

### Chief Judge Hugh Stanfield

IICRD was deeply saddened by the passing of the Honourable Chief Judge Hugh Stansfield on May 7, 2009 from cancer. The Chief Judge of the British Columbia Provincial Court was a friend and advisor to IICRD. While wonderfully gifted as a legal professional, Hugh (as he insisted he be called) was also profoundly compassionate, and kind.

In the late 1990's he was moved by the writing of a Supreme Court of Canada Justice on "The Plight of the Voiceless Child" and was introduced to the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* and its use in Canadian Courts. He was a strong supporter of children and their rights and generously volunteered from 2002 - 2009 as an advisor to IICRD's Hear the Child project that supports children's participation in family court cases. In a letter he contributed to the project he stated, "It is rare for me to find that the information provided by children is not helpful. My experience has been that the discussion with children generates not only useful information, but frequently is a powerful tool in the continuing dialogue with the parents or social workers". Hugh also participated in IICRD conferences including *Children as Partners* in 2002 and *Child Rights in Practice: Tools for Social Change* in 2007 where he delivered a keynote address on children's rights and the justice system.

Hugh extended the same respect to children and all others served by the justice system. His joyful presence, generosity, vision of an improved justice system, and many gifts are greatly missed by the IICRD team.







*Innovative research, education and capacity development that builds on strengths to advance peace, dignity and respect for children and our world.*

## Upcoming Events & Social Networking

IICRD launched a new web and social networking site to support practitioners in the field. Be sure to check out [www.iicrd.org](http://www.iicrd.org) & [www.childrightsinpractice.org](http://www.childrightsinpractice.org)

We welcome you as part of the IICRD community!

Also be sure not to miss the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UNCRC and our ***Child Rights in Practice: Measuring Our Impact Conference*** coming to Whistler, British Columbia, **October 25<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2009.**

## Donations & Support for IICRD's Work

Each day, IICRD works to bring dignity, belonging, and justice to children and communities around the globe. The help we receive from funders and donors continues to bring us closer to making child rights a reality.

By donating to IICRD, you too can join the effort to end injustice in children's lives. For more information on financial donations, contact us at (250) 472-4762 or email [iicrd@uvic.ca](mailto:iicrd@uvic.ca)



**IICRD**

**Dignity. Belonging. Justice.**

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