Our Journey

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Youth building a vision for a better world through YouCREATE, supported by Terre des Hommes

Dignity, belonging and justice for all children and our world.

www.iicrd.org
Dear Children and Rights Advocates,

More than 25 years ago we started our journey to bring child rights to life in our homes, schools, communities and professional institutions.

This journey has taken us to more than 45 countries to address some of the most pressing challenges for children – from natural disasters and climate change to early marriage and sexual violence and loss of culture.

While the work has not always been easy, we continue to steadfastly strive towards our destination to bring dignity, belonging and justice to all children.

This year, together with you, we made some exciting movements for child rights, particularly for Indigenous and newcomer-refugee children. Highlights include engaging the Premier of British Columbia (BC) and his cabinet in discussions related to our evaluation report of the 3Nations initiative, a collaboration between three Indigenous peoples to support child and community well-being in in Northwestern BC. We also had the privilege of involving influential Elders in our YouLEAD programming to discuss the importance of Indigenous values for child and family programming, which were integrated into a new educational framework.

We also wrapped up a major research project focused on the role of sports to help protect displaced young people. More than 1,500 youth from 26 countries were involved. Closer to home, our Child Thrive project created local-global connections through involving hundreds of children in Victoria.

We hope you enjoy learning more about this year’s accomplishments in this ‘scrapbook journal’ report, focused on the four areas of our mission: 1) leading with children, 2) facilitating child-centred learning opportunities, 3) fostering healing and accountability to children and, 4) creating connections across sectors and systems.

Our journey this past year has been busy and reflective. In particular, we put our strategic planning process on hold to address our leadership transition. After more than 25 years, Michele Cook and myself, made the decision to shift our roles from helping to manage the organization to taking on Associate terms to contribute to a smaller number of projects. We are especially grateful to our Financial Administrator, Zorah Staar, for her many contributions to help us with this transition.

Supported by many months of Board discussions, IICRD is thrilled to welcome long-time Associate Vanessa Currie to step into the role of Executive Director, starting in mid-November 2018.

We look forward to continued conversations with you over the year ahead to carve out a new path for IICRD, while staying grounded in our values and commitment to create a healthier future for children.

Thank you everyone for another amazing year of impact and insight from the International Institute for Child Rights and Development.

In friendship,

Philip Cook (Executive Director) and Katie Shaw-Raudoj (Chair) International Institute for Child Rights and Development
Our Vision

Children, their families and communities thrive in a world where there is dignity, belonging, and justice for all.

Mission

Through research, evaluation and capacity development, our mission is to focus on the protection and well-being of children, especially those living in adversity.

Focus

Through research, evaluation and capacity development, our mission is to focus on the protection and well-being of children, especially those living in adversity.

Identity

We are an innovative, bridge-building non-governmental organization that is affiliated academically with Royal Roads University and based in Victoria, Canada.

Experience

Our decades of experience connect us to a vibrant network of hundreds of child-focused practitioners and partners from more than 45 countries.

Values

Our values guide our behaviour and are the principles by which we make our decisions.

Lead with Children

Start from Strengths

Build Partnerships

Work from the Inside Out

Power of Ideas

Network

About Us

About Us
2018 - BY THE NUMBERS

**Children Engaged:**
- 10 play-based workshops facilitated and benefited
- 405 elementary students from 6 schools, resulting in
- 1,200+ children and adults spending
- 2,400 hours exploring and expressing child rights

**Practitioner Collaboration:**
- 678 practitioners (youth workers, educators, coaches government officials) from
- 14 countries engaged to support
- 2,325 young people in research and education programming

**Shared Knowledge:**
- 33 Associates share child-rights knowledge through
- 250+ Webinars, conferences, articles, courses, media reaching
- 20,000 People worldwide in 2017-2018

**Youth Participation:**
- 8 tools developed to involve
- 1,920 youth, primarily from refugee and/or Indigenous backgrounds based in
- 33 countries, leading to
- 4 research and evaluation studies to
- Better understand the lived realities and well-being of young people facing adversity

Five-year old children show puppet Giggles how to match child rights and responsibilities with IICRD's Elaina Mack

Youth and allies working together to support child well-being in Iraq
LEADING WITH CHILDREN

Really listening and understanding young people is essential to realizing child rights. IICRD recognizes that children have many skills that adults don’t have. These skills are critical to solving some of the most pressing, complex challenges of our time.

In 2018, IICRD teamed up with Terre des Hommes to establish YouCREATE. The project uses child and youth-led art initiatives to support young people’s psycho-social well-being and protection in migration and adversity settings. Participatory Action Research approaches encourage youth and IICRD researchers to work together to better understand the world around them and how they can create social change. Through drawing and clay, young people in Egypt and Iraq are gaining skills and resources to build their confidence to make a positive impact in their communities.

IICRD worked with Terre des Hommes, the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to research ways that sports and play can strengthen the wellbeing of young people who face forced displacement.

Researchers carried out participatory research with young girls and boys in Lebanon, Jordan, Rwanda, Colombia and Thailand, capturing their voices and experiences to speak into global guidelines on sport for protection of youth in displacement settings.

“We don’t have a lot to do here in the camp. Sport helps us to be busy and keeps us safe. -”
23 year old young man
Kiziba Camp, Rwanda

“...the arts offer a real opportunity to empower young people to express themselves, share their thoughts and ideas, play a meaningful role in their communities and create positive social change.”
- Vanessa Carrie, IICRD Associate (and Executive Director)
“You can’t be the beacon unless you can do the work for yourself. You can’t walk forward with your head turned. Don’t make people’s identity about victimization. Make it about resilience. We want to celebrate strength when we work with young people.”

– Kim Recolma-Clutesi/Ogwiloqua, Elder sharing teachings during the Flight of the Thunderbird course

This year, IICRD’s YouLEAD program hosted a course focused on integrating traditional Indigenous values into child and family programming. It brought Elders/Suksalesh, Chiefs, youth workers, teachers and young people together to explore how old peoples’ teachings can be applied into their own personal and professional work.

These teachings supported us to create an educational framework of the key values-in-action IICRD considers essential to support the well-being of young people.

The International Institute for Child Rights and Development engages children to learn about their own experiences, perspectives and ideas to enhance their situation - whether in their homes, schools, refugee camps or communities.

Our child-centred learning approaches use play, sport, puppets, art, theatre and other activities to shine light on what really matters to young people. These insights are compiled with the help of young people to share with community practitioners, parents, funding organizations, school principals, and other government decision makers.

IICRD’s Child Thrive program creates opportunities for children in Victoria to share their ideas for what young people need to be themselves, be healthy, be safe and to be heard. More than 450 children, educators and parents participated in workshops in 2017-2018. We partnered with six elementary schools, Royal Roads University and the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria to deliver the programming.

“Newcomer children and their families have fun skipping as part of a Child Thrive workshop.”

“I learned that it takes a lot of courage to stand up for child rights.”

– Child, 6-years old, participant in Child Thrive workshop, Victoria, Canada
We work from the inside out to touch the hearts, minds and values of the children, youth and practitioners engaged in our projects.

This involves restorative practices such as connecting to nature, re-connecting to culture and recovering from trauma. Often, this fosters a deep journey of healing and an increased sense of accountability to children.

If young people are shuffled between foster homes, how do they connect with their family history and culture? This year, IICRD supported child rights advocate and Board Director, Cheyenne Stonechild to deliver 4 the Generation - an Indigenous history and cultural program for non, current and former youth-in-care, ages 15-19 living in the Greater Vancouver Area. Elders were engaged to guide the program and to support meaningful connections with young people. This project is supported by the Vancouver Foundation.

“"It is important to find balance in our work - to take time and space for your own healing, which will help with work and our ability to build the necessary relationships with youth, parents, Elders and other community members.”

- Sarah Sandy, YouLEAD Ontario Coordinator

This year, the International Institute for Child Rights and Development collaborated with the Tahltan Nation in British Columbia to track the journey of their Socio-Cultural Working Group’s efforts to build institutional capacity for enhancing their people’s family health and well-being.

The evaluation team met with more than 100 people - including sitting fireside with Elders at fish camps and with building camp shelters with youth on the land. The report will be used in informal agreement between the Province of British Columbia, Tahltan Nation and industrial development companies.

"All we have to do is try differently instead of harder. We need to build up kids, build up their confidence.”

- Rose Gray, Indigenous Cultural Leader
Our work connects different actors across systems. Rather than focusing on issues such as child labour or trafficking, IICRD seeks to understand the root causes of challenges and how protective supports are complex and interrelated. In particular, IICRD explores how to promote positive opportunities by influencing active collaboration and constructive linkages between formal (legislated government services) and non-formal actors (kinship, child to child peer relationships).

In 2017-2018, the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR), commissioned the IICRD to conduct an evaluation of the 3Nations - a partnership between the Taku River Tlingit, Kaska and Tahltan Nations - three Indigenous peoples of Northern British Columbia. IICRD helped to track the impact of the 3Nations in implementing their own wildlife management, education and child and family programs in ways that build on the strengths of the Nations while mitigating the negative impact of colonial contact. The report was presented to the Premier of British Columbia and cabinet officials to discuss future opportunities for collaboration.

"After working for two years with the Canadian Bar Association’s National Children’s Law Committee and other legal professionals across Canada, we published a Child Rights Toolkit this year. As we celebrate this significant milestone, we will also discuss the implications and opportunities for the legal community to apply child rights into their work."

- IICRD Associate, Suzanne Williams, Lead Writer of Child Rights Toolkit

"We need to put education at the center of humanitarian responses...This provision is not only the duty of the host countries under the Convention on the Rights of the Child but also critically important to their economy and sustainable development."

Ziba Vaghri, Director of GlobalChild with the University of Victoria and IICRD Associate, speaking at CRAN

Many International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) Associates as well as a staff and Board Director contributed to the 2018 Child Rights Academic Network’s (CRAN) annual meeting, hosted by the Landon Pearson Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children’s Rights at Carleton University.

The gathering, focused on Children on the Move, brought together a broad network of academics, advocates, children’s rights and legal experts together from across Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom.
We believe that our vision can be achieved more effectively by working with others.

Working with non-governmental organizations, universities, governments, foundations and others means we combine our expertise to advance our collective efforts to create a world with more dignity, belonging and justice for children, families and communities.

We are grateful to the following organizations and practitioners for supporting and collaborating with us to strengthen the International Institute for Child Rights and Development’s programs and initiatives.

**Collaborating Organizations**  
2017-2018

- Royal Roads University – Affiliated with IICRD
- Association des Artistes du Mandoul
- Oriental/Koumra (AARMOK)
- All Nations Aboriginal Youth Workers Network
- Beausoleil First Nation
- Capital Regional District
- Child Rights Academic Network (CRAN)
- CPC Learning Network/Columbia University
- Greater Victoria School District
- Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria
- International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR)
- Ministry of Community Grants and Gaming (BC Government)
- Right to Play - International, Canada and Mali
- Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation (MIRR)
- The Counselling Foundation of Canada
- Tahtlan Central Government
- Three Nations
- Terre des Hommes
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- UNICEF
- University of Victoria
- Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services
- Vancouver Foundation

**IICRD Leadership**  
2017-2018

**Board of Directors**
- Katie Shaw-Raudoy (Chair)
- Angie Mapara-Orachok (Vice President)
- Kevin Craig, Treasurer
- Simon Jackson, Director
- Renee Lorme-Gulbrandsen, Director
- Cheyenne Stoneschild, Director
- Wendy Rowe, Director
- Nigel Fisher, Director

**Staff**
- Philip Cook, Executive Director
- Michele Cook, Capacity Director
- Micheal Montgomery, Partnerships and Practice Director
- Elana Mack, Engagement and Evaluation Director
- Stuart Hart, Deputy Director
- Zorah Staar, Administrator and Finance Officer
- Sabrina Bonfonti, YouLEAD Coordinator
- Sarah Sandy, YouLEAD Coordinator
- Chancellor Amos, YouLEAD Coordinator
- Katie Quinn, Student Volunteer

**Associates**  
2017-2018

Sue Bennett
Natasha Blanchet-Cohen
Emilia Brinton
Tim Budge
Ilan Cerna-Turoff
Vanessa Currie
Leslie Dutoit
Marisa O’Enor
Jeffrey Goldhagen
Cheryl Heykooop
Victor Karunan
Gerison Lansdown
Laura Lee
Melinda MacDonald
Maureen Maloney
Kathleen Manion
Manuel Manrique
Michael Miner
Bonnie Nastasi

Rebecca Nelems
Julian Norris
Armel Oguniyi
Rajendra Parajuli
Derek Peterson
Jon Ramer
Gary Robinson
Jeffrey Schiffer
Lee Sentes
Jean Sewanou
Ziba Vaghti
Areli Valencia Vargas
Marie Wernham
Mike Wessells
Suzanne Williams
Laura Wright
Chris Yeomans

**People & Partnerships**

Displaced Congolese youth living in a refugee camp in Rwanda
### FINANCIAL MATTERS

#### IICRD 2017-2018 Year-End Summary*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12 mths ending March 31, 2018</th>
<th>12 mths ending March 31, 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>129,343</td>
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<td>Capital/Fixed Assets</td>
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<td>130,420</td>
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<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>7,352</td>
<td>49,618</td>
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<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
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<td>125,598</td>
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<td></td>
<td>123,886</td>
<td>175,216</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Invested in Fixed Assets</td>
<td>1,078</td>
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<td>Accumulated Operating Net Assets</td>
<td>4,901</td>
<td>(-25,967)</td>
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<td>Fiscal Year Net Revenue Over Expenses (below)</td>
<td>1,004</td>
<td>30,418</td>
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<td>Minus Amortization on Capital/Fixed Assets</td>
<td>-449</td>
<td>441,128</td>
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<td><strong>Total Net Assets at End of Fiscal Year</strong></td>
<td>6,534</td>
<td>5,971</td>
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#### Revenue

- Project Funding Revenue** 367,902 440,291
- Other Income 3,103 3,837
- 371,005 444,128

#### Expenses

- Project Costs 319,211 355,033
- Administrative Costs 50,912 62,353
- 370,123 417,386

- Excess of Income Over Expenses (Surplus) 822 26,742
- Foreign Exchange Gain +122 +3,676
- Fiscal Year Net Revenue over Expenses 1,004 30,418

* based on Financial Statements as reviewed by Accountants Schell & Associates

** Key Project Funders for 2017-2018, to whom we are grateful!

- Royal Roads University
- SSHRC Research Grant (Ryerson University)
- The Counselling Foundation of Canada (YouLEAD)
- Vancouver Foundation (4 the Generation)
- Gaming Grant (Child Thrive)
- 3 Nations Monitoring Framework (Tahltan, Tlingit, Kaska)
- Tahltan Nation Social Cultural Working Group
- World Vision MEER
- Terre des hommes (Youth Sport & Youth Arts)
- YouLEAD International (Africa)
- Right to Play Thailand (ACT) and Right to Play Mali Jam Suka
The International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) is a Canadian registered charity located in Victoria, British Columbia focused on social innovation with and for children and youth. For more than 25 years, IICRD has been a bridge building organization working with a wide variety of partners in participatory, applied research, professional education, and community capacity building initiatives.

Our programs and projects catalyze change, transformation, and healing for the most vulnerable young people in our society, in Canada and in over 45 countries around the world.

Where we’ve worked

Email: info@iicrd.org
Donate: www.canadahelps.org
web: www.iicrd.org

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