Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It has been an exciting year at IICRD, marked by many important transitions. With our long serving Executive Director and Capacity Director (Philip and Michele Cook) moving into new roles as Associates, a space was opened for a new Leadership Team. Led by Laura Wright, Elaina Mack, Micheal Montgomery, Laura Lee, Armel Oguniyi, and Executive Director Vanessa Currie, we reimagined the future of the organization, guided by our vision to create dignity, belonging and justice for children and our world.

With support from our wonderful Board of Directors, we have moved through a process of ‘creative destruction’, taking stock, gathering knowledge and opportunities for new growth and ideas, and shedding what needed to be left behind. We are excited to share the fruits of this labour in early 2020, with a new Strategic Plan and a new brand identity.

This year, the landscape of child rights has been incredibly inspiring, as young people around the world demand global systems change to address the climate emergency. We have watched as unprecedented numbers of young leaders and activists stand up for vital issues locally and globally. This has challenged us to think about how we can bring the spirit of our own creative destruction process to global questions around systems change.

As we navigate this new landscape, IICRD continues with our child-centred programming. Over the past year, our work has focused on two exciting themes: community level child protection and child/youth-led approaches that are participatory, creative and play based. We invite you to learn more about our work in this 2018-2019 Annual Report.

In the spirit of collaboration, please get in touch with us to see how we may be able to work together to support young people to lead with innovation and creativity.

With warmth,

Vanessa Currie
Executive Director

Katie Shaw-Raudoy
Board Chair
IICRD: Annual Report 2018-2019

ABOUT IICRD:

Bringing Child Rights to Life

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO:

The International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) is a Canadian-based charity, affiliated with Royal Roads University, that promotes the rights and well-being of children. We amplify young people’s voices and strengths by bridging diverse generations and sectors to create a platform to foster ideas, share skills, enhance policies/practices, and generate innovative collaborations.

Our work seeks to transform the lived realities of children, especially those facing adversity. We think locally and act globally, working for more than 25 years in over 45 countries around the world, including Canada. We bring child rights to life through empathetic, evidence-informed and engaged action. Simply put, we listen, share, and mobilize by taking the lead from young people.

IICRD’s projects are guided by a small, virtual Leadership Team (6) that activates a wide-ranging network of Associates (36) that are overseen by a Board of Directors (6).

OUR VISION:

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

OUR VALUES:

All aspects of our work are grounded in:

- Leading with children to understand their lived realities by starting from their strengths instead of focusing on problems.

- Focusing on building partnerships to expand the circles of support for children and their families through human-centred approaches.

- Tapping into the power of ideas for social transformation.
OUR DIFFERENCE: At a Glance

IMPACT AREAS:
Through these efforts, we bolstered child rights in communities, schools and organizations in several impact areas.

Our programs also contributed to several Sustainable Development Goals (2015), the global blueprint for peace and prosperity for people now and in the future, including: Gender Equality (Goal 5), Climate Action (Goal 13) and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (Goal 16).

OUR PROGRAMS:
Last year, our participatory research, intergenerational learning and knowledge sharing activities engaged:

6,775 participants
including 2,895 children & youth

3,880 adults - practitioners, professionals and parents

In 10 countries: Canada, Mali, Sudan, Uganda, Iraq, Egypt, Thailand, Indonesia, Brazil, & USA

Our projects influenced the following Articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: (See full list of Articles on page 12)
- CHILD PROTECTION: [Articles 19, 31, 13, 22, 12, 21, 39, and 42
- PLAY: Articles 31
- CLIMATE ACTION: Articles 24, and 4
- CHILDREN ON THE MOVE: Articles 10 and 22
- INDIGENOUS CULTURE AND GOVERNANCE: Articles 30, 21,40
- CHILD PARTICIPATION: Article 12
- EDUCATION ON CHILD RIGHTS: Article 42
LISTEN:

Really listening and understanding young people is essential to realizing child rights. We use participatory tools to engage young people to reflect on their own experiences, perspectives and ideas to enhance their situation -- whether in their homes, schools, refugee camps or communities.

Young people share their ideas + Practitioners listen to understand = Better Data

Focus Areas this Year:

- Increasing young people’s empowerment and protection using art (clay, music, dance) and digital technologies to support child and youth-led interventions

- Tapping into the unique capacities of newcomer children, especially from refugee backgrounds, to cultivate community while contributing to their own health and wellness

- Enhancing understanding of how to improve learning and leadership programs aimed at migrant and equity-seeking young people

“Rays of Youth leaders help us draw on the best from our cultural roots while learning modern life skills.”
- Interview with Rays of Youth participant, Thailand
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: Listening to Children

KEY ACTIVITIES:

- **Understanding migrant youth peer leadership**
  IICRD developed a white paper to explore a decade of Rays of Youth leadership programming, engaging migrant youth living on either side of the Thai-Myanmar border.

- **Listening to the voices of children affected by armed conflict**
  Teaming up with Save the Children, IICRD facilitated consultations to hear children’s perspectives on how armed conflict has impacted them in South Sudan, Africa.

- **Creating intergenerational learning through play**
  To tap into the resilience of newcomer families, IICRD initiated a partnership with the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria to deliver play-based learning workshops, supported by the Victoria Foundation.

**Recognizing space to hone in on the leadership of young people in research:**
In collaboration with Terre des Hommes, IICRD supported YouCreate - a youth-led, arts-based project that trains migrant youth in participatory research to support other young people to develop projects to strengthen their wellbeing, resilience and leadership.

Our team trained **144 youth leaders from Egypt and Iraq** to engage 952 of their peers through using a new ‘Art-kit’ training manual.

“Youth face problems and YouCreate sheds a light. This helps us get together and address the challenges at the head and learn how to express our opinions.” -Youth Participant, Egypt
IICRD draws on our wide-ranging network to share our experience and expertise with youth, government, business leaders, foundations, academia and community organizations.

Our education, training and mentoring approaches are powered by deeply-driven values for mutual learning across generations, cultures and communities.

**Trusted relationships**

+ **Reciprocal Exchanges**

= **Whole System Learning**

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**Focus Areas this Year:**

- Supporting Indigenous young people to realize their right and connection to their cultural heritage
- Increasing children’s knowledge and understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Amplifying learning of international child protection programming through participatory, play-based approaches

“It’s important for me to learn about my rights so that I can be safe, happy and have love in my heart.” - 6-year old participant, Child Thrive workshops in Victoria, Canada

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Representative for Children and Youth of BC meets with puppet Giggles to produce a child rights ‘show and tell’ video.
KEY ACTIVITIES:

• **Enhancing the cultural roots of Indigenous youth**

Traditional foods, medicines and songs connected 15 Indigenous Vancouver-based youth living in and out of care. This 4 the Generation retreat - hosted by IICRD, Elders and various partners - enhanced young people’s knowledge, practical skills and self-awareness of their own heritage and cultural foundation.

• **Celebrating child rights in schools**

Close to 600 children were involved in child rights programming in four elementary schools in Victoria, Canada. Children drew postcards about what rights are important for them to thrive. The drawings were featured in a puppet ‘show and tell’ video with British Columbia’s Representative for Children and Youth, Dr. Jennifer Charlesworth.

Virtual learning exchanges about play and rights were also held between elementary-aged students in Victoria, Gatineau and Uganda.

• **Tracking learning and results from community-based child protection interventions**

IICRD conducted Right to Play’s mid-term evaluation of its Jam Suka project, a five-year project in Mali, Africa, focused on improving the wellbeing of children through play-based approaches. IICRD designed tools to involve more than 1,100 young people in the study.

“All young people, especially youth in care, have a right to know who they are and where they came from. It is critical to support the youth where they are at and to build positive, trusting, dependable relationships that can foster a sense of belonging to their own heritage.”

- Cheyenne Stonechild, 4 the Generation Project Manager
MOBILIZE:

IICRD recognizes that young people have experiences and skills that adults don’t have. These perspectives are critical to solving the defining issues of our generation. In our projects, we seek to increase accountability to young people and their ideas through partnerships, policy and practice.

Connect with the right people
+ Use strength-based strategies
= Drive positive change & better outcomes for young people

Focus Areas this Year:

- Enhancing intergenerational and cultural bonds to address climate change
- Generating innovative collaborations to strengthen the capacity of youth leaders and practitioners to realize child rights
- Participating in high profile cross-sectoral forums and conversations to amplify the perspectives of young people and advocate for positive change

"At this turning point in our relationship with Earth, we will work for an evolution: from dominance to partnership; from fragmentation to connection; from insecurity to interdependence."

- David Suzuki, Tara Cullis, Guujaw, Wade Davis, Raffi Cavoukian collaborate with IICRD at the Global Action Summit, San Francisco
**Program Highlights:** Mobilizing Engaged Action

**Key Activities:**

1. **Hosting intergenerational climate action retreat**

   IICRD brought Elders, partners and young practitioners together on Pender Island, British Columbia to explore intergenerational challenges and solutions to our changing climate.

   Representatives from partner organizations included: Suzuki Foundation Elders, Raffi Foundation for Child Honouring, Red Tide Indigenous Action, Right to Play and the Office of the Governor of California, among others.

   "We need meaningful Indigenous leadership (intergenerational) in order to restore balance amongst ALL RELATIONS and re-establish accountability to self, others, spirit and Land/Waters."

   - Erynne Gilpin, Indigenous Youth Activist

2. **Creating educational framework for child-centred practitioners**

   Through YouLEAD, we identified values-in-action that IICRD considers essential to support the well-being of young people. Supported by the Counselling Foundation of Canada, YouLEAD focused on engaging practitioners and communities through transformational leadership.

3. **Strengthening innovative collaborations**

   Last year, we explored partnership opportunities to weave our YouLEAD programming with IndigenEYEZ's impactful community-based camps for youth. We also initiated discussions with Royal Roads University and Child Frontiers to develop a graduate certificate focused on child protection and well-being.

4. **Sparking conversations about child rights**

   Through conferences, workshops, policy papers and various forms of media, our broader IICRD team raised the profile of important child rights issues such as: child protection, child migration, cultural rights, climate change & child participation.
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 with young people 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.
PEOPLE & PARTNERSHIPS:
Collective Efforts with young people

Our dedicated team of staff, Directors, Associates and students bring their energy, experience and expertise to create positive changes for children and our world.

IICRD Leadership

Board of Directors
Katie Shaw-Raudoy (Chair)
Angie Mapara-Osachoff (Vice President/Secretary)
Simon Jackson, Director
Renee Lorme-Gulbrandsen (Director/Treasurer, November 2018-March 2019)
Cheyenne Stonechild, Director
Nigel Fisher, Director

Staff
Philip Cook/Vanessa Currie, Executive Director
Sabrina Bonfonti, YouLEAD Coordinator
Michele Cook, Director
Kathryn Harnett/Zorah Staar, Finance Officer
Stuart Hart, Principal, Special Initiatives
Laura Lee, Director
Elaina Mack, Director
Michael Montgomery, Director
Arnel Oguniyi, Director
Sarah Sandy, YouLEAD Coordinator
Laura Wright, Director

Associates

Sue Bennett
Natasha Blanchet-Cohen
Emilia Bretan
Tim Budge
Ilan Cerna-Turoff
Leslie Du Toit
Marisa O.Ensor
Jeffrey Goldhagen
Cheryl Heykoop
Victor Karunan
Gerison Lansdown
Melinda Macdonald
Kathleen Manion
Manuel Manrique
Michael Miner
Bonnie Nastasi
Rebeccah Nelems
Julian Norris
Rajendra Parajuli
Derek Peterson
Jon Ramer
Gary Robinson
Jeffrey Schiffer
Lee Senters
Jean Sewanou
Ziba Vaghrhi
Areli Valencia Vargas
Richard Wamimbi
Marie Wernham
Mike Wessells
Bill White
Suzanne Williams

Practicum Students

Selina Powszedny
Sam Redmond

MAKING RIGHTS REAL

Our projects contributed to the following Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child:

Article 2 - Non-Discrimination
Article 5 - Family Guidance as Children Develop
Article 10 - Contact with Parents Across Countries
Article 12 - Respect for Children's Views
Article 13 - Sharing Views Freely
Article 19 - Protection from Violence
Article 21 - Children who are Adopted/In Care
Article 22 - Refugee Children
Article 24 - Healthy Food, Water and Environment
Article 30 - Minority Culture, Language & Religion
Article 31 - Rest, Play, Culture, Arts
Article 39 - Recovery and Reintegration
Article 40 - Children Who Break the Law
Article 42 - Everyone must know Children's Rights
IIIRD 2018-2019 Year-End Summary*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12 mths ending March 31, 2019</th>
<th>12 mths ending March 31, 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>71,330</td>
<td>129,343</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital/Fixed Assets</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>1,077</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>71,811</td>
<td>130,420</td>
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<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7,352</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>63,951</td>
<td>116,534</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>63,951</td>
<td>123,886</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Invested in Fixed Assets</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>1,078</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated Operating Net Assets</td>
<td>5,661</td>
<td>4,901</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiscal Year Net Revenue Over Expenses (below)</td>
<td>1,924</td>
<td>1,004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minus Amortization on Capital/Fixed Assets</td>
<td>(206)</td>
<td>(449)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets at End of Fiscal Year</strong></td>
<td>7,860</td>
<td>6,534</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Funding Revenue**</td>
<td>265,014</td>
<td>367,902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>11,951</td>
<td>3,103</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td>276,965</td>
<td>371,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Costs</td>
<td>233,306</td>
<td>319,211</td>
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<td>Administrative Costs</td>
<td>42,138</td>
<td>50,912</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>275,444</td>
<td>370,123</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excess of Income Over Expenses (Surplus)</td>
<td>1,521</td>
<td>882</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign Exchange Gain</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>122</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fiscal Year Net Revenue over Expenses</strong></td>
<td>1,924</td>
<td>1,004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

** Key Project Funders for 2018-2019, to whom we are grateful!

- Royal Roads University
- SSHRC Research Grant (Ryerson University)
- The Counselling Foundation of Canada
- Vancouver Foundation
- Gaming Grant (Child Thrive)
- Capital Region District
- Rays of Youth Thailand
- Save the Children International
- Right to Play Thailand and Right to Play Mali Jam Suka
- YouLEAD International
- Terre des Hommes (Arts)
The International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) is a Canadian registered charity 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 more than 45 countries around the world.