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

RIPPLES FOR CHILDREN

International Institute for Child Rights and Development

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT
Dear Friends,

It is with gratitude and excitement that we wrap up another year at the International Institute for Child Right and Development (IICRD).

Over the 2016-2017 year, IICRD has continued to provide innovative, child and youth centered programming—locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. The scope and reach of IICRD’s vision, putting children and youth at the centre, while promoting dignity, belonging and justice for all, is more critical than ever.

This past year has been busy and reflective. Reflective at the board level as we attempt to move into strategic planning processes. We have also been busy with many on-the-ground initiatives that our staff, associates and partner agencies support around the world every day.

This annual report highlights some of this work. In particular, we focus on the 'ripples' that IICRD is creating with children over this past year. This is the slow, incremental effects of our collective efforts to 'throw pebbles' into waters around the world. These ripples focus on four themes: 1) leading with children, 2) creating connections across sectors and systems, 3) facilitating child-centred learning opportunities, and 4) fostering healing and accountability to children.

As a leading-edge learning organization, this is an exciting time. A new strategic plan will be developed over the next twelve months, refining IICRD’s focus, prioritizing energy and effort as well as engaging key partners and supporters in new and innovative roles within the organization.

The board and senior management will launch this strategic planning process in January 2018 and aim to have a new strategic plan in place by fall of the same year. We invite associates, colleagues, friends and supports from across the globe to help shape a vision for the future of IICRD. We are excited for this opportunity and look forward to seeing what it yields, in the spirit of empathetic, evidence-informed, engaged action for children and our world.

Thank you everyone for another amazing year of impact and insight from IICRD.

In friendship,

Katie Shaw-Raudoy and Philip Cook
(Chair and Executive Director)
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.

1. We bring child rights to life through empathy, evidence and engaged action.

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

3. We are an innovative non-governmental organization affiliated academically with Royal Roads University, based in Victoria, Canada.

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

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

- **Lead with Children**
- **Work from the Inside Out**
- **Build Partnerships**
- **Power of Ideas**
- **Start from Strengths**

“IICRD stands as a beacon for when cooperation works. This is hard to quantify in metrics, but this is an attribute of IICRD that should be broadcasted.”

- Simon Jackson, IICRD Board Director

"Six-year old draws postcard to honour National Child Day in Canada"
Last year, IICRD gave child rights meaning and created positive change by:

Engaging more than 3,400 young people from 24 countries, including Canada

Activities range from playing with skipping ropes and puppets to participatory action research, sports, social media/technology, interviews, wood carving and community-based mentorship.

Working with close to 800 adult allies to support children to thrive

Parents, teachers, Elders, youth workers, academics, government representatives and others participated in training, household surveys, focus groups, interviews and experiential community development tools.

Focusing on the strengths of young people through harnessing culture, engaging in sport, and creating playful spaces

These efforts involved understanding the lived realities of young people, including challenges such as early marriage, forced displacement due to conflict, poverty, disconnection from culture, neglect, violence, isolation and other barriers.
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.

IICRD focuses on leading with children, starting from their strengths and then engaging diverse partners to support young people’s perspectives and ideas. We are putting this principle into practice through facilitating innovative child-led processes at the community, organizational, and international levels.

"IICRD is working with AARMOK to potentially create a new skill-based stamp focused on social cohesion and peacebuilding in Chad. This is a lasting legacy of our participatory action research findings to develop capacity at the community level, including engaging youth as trusted peers for vulnerable young people."

About 150 young people passionate about the arts are working with AARMOK to find a venue to develop their talents, benefit from training and enable them to believe more in their dreams.” - IICRD Associate Armel Oguniyi and Philip Cook

“IICRD supports a 3-day Art of Hosting training for 30 participants, primarily youth practitioners working in Indigenous communities. This training was requested by and co-facilitated by YouLEAD Advisors

Practitioners share issues and insights through webinars, based on topics identified by YouLEAD Advisors (e.g. dealing with healthy conflict, collaborative team building, storytelling)

Youth create digital stories of their experiences, with support from IICRD

“‘There are all these policies and professionalism, but sometimes you need to be a person. You need to bring a level of humanity when you are trying to build trust with a young person. It is about creating this ripple effect. We need to trust people to hold our hearts - to help us get to where we need to be.” - Cheyenne Stonechild, IICRD Board Member

4 the generation is an Aboriginal history and cultural program for non, current and former youth-in-care, ages 15-19. The project aims to fill a gap that exists for youth who come from their communities, and helps them to re-establish a link to their heritage and culture. This project is funded by the Vancouver Foundation.
Creating Connections

Our work connects different actors across child protection 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 change by influencing active collaboration and constructive linkages between formal (legislated government services) and non-formal (kinship, child to child peer relationships) actors.

“IICRD trained a cohort of census takers who conducted an ambitious 1,200 household survey. Walking door to door, the team used tablets to gather the perspectives of adolescents, vulnerable groups, caregivers and practitioners.

What was striking for me was bringing all this data together. Our conversations with children and community members helped us to understand the context. For instance, we learned that most children want to go to school but working in mines can help to protect children and their families from the vulnerabilities of living in poverty. Right to Play will need to address some of these underlying assumptions to deliver the Jam Suka project.”

- Michele Cook, IICRD Capacity Director

IICRD helps to initiate International Child Protection Network Canada (ICPNC)

A group of Canadian child-centred organizations focused on advancing children’s rights and protection. Philip Cook co-presents in first webinar.

Children and Climate Change gathering initiated

Concept note and Advisory committee developed to support a cross-sectoral gathering

IICRD staff and Associates present in many conferences

Examples include: American Education Research Association, International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

Participation in Child-centred Networks

Examples include: Child Rights Academic Network and the Child and Youth Health Network

Social Mapping with families in Mali, Africa

“I talked with my father about returning to school someday but he says I should stay in the mine as school graduation doesn’t lead to guaranteed work. He also worked in the mines and his father before him, this is our family tradition for men.

Still, I often think of what I missed in school and I would advise my peers to stay in school, the life in the mines is too hard.”

- Interview with 17-year old boy working in the informal gold mines of Mali.
Child-Centred Learning

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.

“I see sometimes girls are not given rights - they are sold and not given rights. I know a girl, she was obliged to get married to someone. I want to help them. I want to make the world better for girls. They can be even better than boys!”

Amira, 12-years old, who fled the conflict in Syria to live in Lebanon with her family tells IICRD about her perspectives

“We used participatory research tools developed from IICRD’s Child-Centred Accountability Protection Evaluation (CAPE) initiative (2010-2012) to engage young people (ages 10-24) from 21 countries. IICRD teamed up with Terre des hommes, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Olympic Committee and a wider consultative group to conduct a cross-country research study.

Through these study, we learned from more than 1,100 displaced young people about how sports can be used to protect and strengthen their wellbeing.”

– Laura Lee, IICRD Associate

“Sports is more important in the camp because it relieves stress because of our situation.”

-Young men in Rwanda engage in spidergram activity, as part of cross-country research study

“I learned about the difference between what I ‘need’ to grow, and what I really just ‘want’.”

-Child (age 6), Victoria, Canada, child rights workshop, Victoria, Canada, facilitated by IICRD’s Elaina Mack and Kathleen Manion (Associate)
Healing and Accountability

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 through psycho-social supports. Often, this fosters a deep personal journey of healing and an increased sense of accountability to children.

“This picture has so much meaning for me. The scattered pieces of shells represents my life before healing. I was a scattered broken hearted little guy with so much hurt and pain from my life. I was lost, beaten and addicted. I was living with shame and guilt. I was broken. Through healing and taking responsibility for my life, I found the courage to rebuild my heart. I put the pieces back together again. I found help and support. I learned to create value. I forgave and learned to love what I have grown through.”

- Justin Young, YouLEAD Advisor

“Through play my grades have improved and I feel more comfortable and safe in school. All Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian children should have this opportunity.”

- Syrian boy participant in Right to Play’s Lebanon program (also involved in IICRD research study)

Right to Play seeks to contribute to children and youth’s psychosocial wellness, supporting them to thrive amidst a broad array of challenges, through contextually designed play-based programs using a social ecological approach at the child, parent/caregiver, teacher, coach, and institutional level.

In 2016 and 2017, IICRD worked in collaboration with Right to Play, providing valuable insight and expertise. Together, we co-created a suite of play-based research tools as well as monitoring, evaluation and learning tools to explore the relationship between play, children’s meaningful participation, and psychosocial wellness in Right to Play’s Education in Emergencies Program for Syrian children in Lebanon.”

-Laura Wright, IICRD Associate/Right to Play

“I don’t know where I would be if I did not have this program. This program carried me. It kept the momentum to my growth going, opening up space to heal.”

- Sarah Sandy, YouLEAD Ontario Coordinator

“'When parents saw their children were changing, and losing their traumas - becoming more sociable, less afraid, active, playing - the parents started trusting the teachers and life became better in Lebanon.”

- Syrian mother, Unity Circle research activity
People and Partnerships

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
2016-2017

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 (CRD)
Child Rights Academic Network (CRAN)
The Counselling Foundation of Canada
CPC Learning Network/Columbia University
International Olympic Committee (IOC)
Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation
Ministry of Community Grants and Gaming (BC Government)
Right to Play - International, Canada and Mali
Socio-Cultural Working Group, Tahltan Nation
Social Sciences Human Research Council
Tahltan Central Government
Terre des Hommes
Three Nations (BC)
World Vision - International, East African Region, United Kingdom, and Middle East and European Region
UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
UNICEF
University of Victoria
Vancouver Aboriginal Child & Family Services
Vancouver Foundation

IICRD Leadership
2016-2017

Board of Directors
Katie Shaw-Raudoy, Chair
Angie Mapara-Osachoff, Vice-President
Kevin Craig, Treasurer
Sucha More, Secretary
Simon Jackson, Director
Cheyenne Stonechild, Director
Renée Lormé-Gulbrandsen, Director
Wendy Rowe, Director
Nigel Fisher, Director

Staff
Philip Cook, Executive Director
Michele Cook, Capacity Director
Stuart Hart, Deputy Director
 Micheal Montgomery, Partnerships and Practice Director
Elaina Mack, Engagement and Evaluation Director
Sabrina Bonfonti, YouLEAD BC Coordinator
Chancellor Amos, YouLEAD BC Coordinator
Sarah Sandy, YouLEAD Ontario Coordinator
Zorah Staar, Administrator & Finance Officer
Cassandra Paynter, Student Volunteer
Talieh Samadi, Research Assistant

Associates/Advisors
2016-2017

Associates
Sue Bennett
Natasha Blanchet-Cohen
Emilia Breton
Tim Budge
Ilan Cerna-Turoff
Vanessa Currie
Leslie Dutoit
Marisa O. Enor
Jeffrey Goldhagen
Cheryl Heykoop
Victor Karunanan
Gerison Lansdown
Laura Lee
Melinda MacDonald
Maureen Maloney
Kathleen Manion
Manuel Manrique
Michael Miner
Bonnie Nastasi
Rebeccah Nelems
Julian Norris
Armel Oguniyi
Rajendra Parajuli
Derek Peterson
Jon Ramer
Gary Robinson
Jeffrey Schiffer
Lee Sentes
Ziba Vaghri
Arel Valetina Vargas
Marie Wernham
Mike Wessells
Suzanne Williams
Laura Wright
Chris Yeomans

YouLEAD Advisors
Dawn Lindsay Burns
Hannah Clifford
Dorothy McKay
Mike McKenzie
Cheyenne Stonechild
Bill White
Justin Young

We would like to particularly thank outgoing Board Director Sucha More for his skill and commitment to IICRD.
## IICRD 2016-2017 Financial Summary*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12 mths ending March 31, 2017</th>
<th>12 mths ending March 31, 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>179,667</td>
<td>118,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital/Fixed Assets</td>
<td>1,527</td>
<td>2,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>181,194</strong></td>
<td><strong>121,122</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>49,617</td>
<td>44,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan Payable</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>125,598</td>
<td>74,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>175,215</strong></td>
<td><strong>145,569</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invested in Fixed Assets</td>
<td>1,527</td>
<td>2,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Operating Net Assets</td>
<td>(-25,974)</td>
<td>(-35,633)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Year Net Revenue Over Expenses (below)</td>
<td>30,426</td>
<td>9,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Net Assets at End of Fiscal Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,979</strong></td>
<td><strong>(24,447)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Revenue

- **Project Funding Revenue**: 413,549
- **Other Income**: 30,579
- **Total Revenue**: 444,128

### Expenses

- **Project Costs**: 355,033
- **Administrative Costs**: 63,640
- **Total Expenses**: 417,378

**Excess of Income Over Expenses (Surplus)**: 26,750
**Foreign Exchange Gain**: +3,676

**Fiscal Year Excess of Revenue over Expenses****: 30,426

* Based on IICRD’s 2016-2017 Audited Financial Statements (available on request)

### Project Funding for the 2016-2017 year

- 3 Nations
- Terre des hommes
- Capital Regional District
- The Counselling Foundation of Canada
- Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation
- UNICEF Chad/Burundi
- Right to Play Mali Jam Suka
- Vancouver Foundation
- Right to Play Lebanon
- World Vision
- Royal Roads University
- YouLEAD Course Revenue
- Social Sciences Human Research Council

---

Financial statements audited by Schell and Associates.

Registered charity #860807866RR001
The International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) is a registered charity located in Victoria, British Columbia (BC) 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.