



INTERNATIONAL AND CANADIAN CHILD RIGHTS PARTNERSHIP (ICCRP)

Join Us for the IAC's Next Roundtable – May 30, 2025

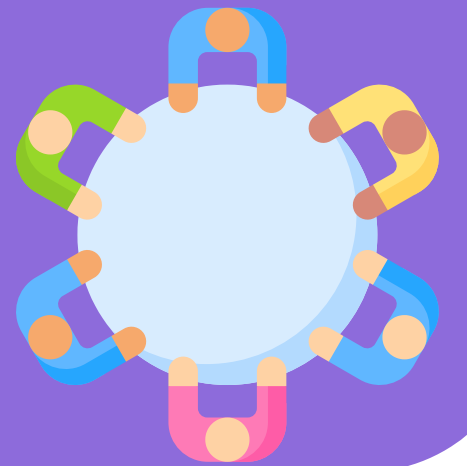
We are excited to announce our next roundtable event **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI): What Does this Mean Across Contexts for Children's Rights?** taking place **Friday, May 30, 2025**. Hosted by the ICCRP Intergenerational Advisory Committee (IAC), these roundtables bring people from different contexts and perspectives together to share their insights, questions, and advice on various topics. Real-time translated closed captioning will be available during the event. The session will feature opening remarks from **Kwakhanya**, an IAC young person from South Africa, and **Robert**, an adult from South Africa, followed by **presentations from our panelists**:

- **Lilitha**, an IAC young person from South Africa
- **Benyam**, an IAC adult from South Africa
- **Sama**, an IAC young person from New Brunswick, Canada
- **Vicky**, an IAC adult from Scotland
- **Thando**, an IAC young person from South Africa

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Closing remarks will be delivered by **John Lee**, an IAC young person from South Africa, and **Bill**, an adult from the United States. If you have any questions, please contact Child and Youth Participant Coordinator, **Sachi Shukul**, at sachi.shukul@torontomu.ca. We look forward to having you join us!

Sacramento: 8:00 AM
Toronto: 11:00 AM
Moncton: 12:00 PM
Rio de Janeiro: 12:00 PM
Edinburgh: 4:00 PM
Geneva: 5:00 PM
Cape Town: 5:00 PM
Bangkok: 10:00 PM



Join Us for Dr. Tara Collins' Exciting Book Launch – June 2, 2025

Join us in celebrating the **launch of Dr. Tara Collins' new book, Children's Rights in Professional Practices with Children and Youth**. Drawing on her extensive expertise and passion for advancing children's rights, Dr. Collins offers fresh insights and thought-provoking perspectives. Her work is a testament to her dedication to creating meaningful change and empowering others to advocate for the rights of children globally. **Tara Collins** will be in conversation with **Gerison Lansdown**, International Child Rights Consultant. The event is hosted by the **Landon Pearson Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights**. Real-time translated closed captioning in different languages will be available via Zoom. RSVP is required for both in-person and online attendance.



Gerison Lansdown
International Child Rights Consultant



Tara Collins
International & Canadian Child Rights Partnership

HYBRID EVENT

Virtual (Zoom): 12:00 – 1:00 PM ET

IN-PERSON EVENT

Ottawa, Landon Pearson Centre: 1:00 – 1:30 ET

REGISTER HERE

Sacramento: 9:00 AM
Toronto: 12:00 PM
Moncton: 1:00 PM
Rio de Janeiro: 1:00 PM
Edinburgh: 5:00 PM
Geneva: 6:00 PM
Cape Town: 6:00 PM
Bangkok: 11:00 PM

Join Us for the ICCRP Policy Working Group Webinar – June 18, 2025

The International and Canadian Child Rights Partnership (ICCRP) Policy Working Group is pleased to invite you to an upcoming webinar, **"Intergenerational Partnerships in Law and Policy for Children's Rights"**, taking place on **Wednesday, June 18, 2025**. This **90-minute virtual session** will feature an interdisciplinary, international, and intergenerational panel, including **Hala Mreiwed** (Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children), **Mona Paré** (University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law), **Albert Lalonde** (Future Generations Tribunal, Canada), and **Vicky Johnson** (Centre for Living Sustainability, UHI Inverness, Scotland). Panelists will discuss how intergenerational partnerships advance children's rights through law and policy, highlighting initiatives such as climate change litigation and participatory action research. The webinar will be conducted in English with AI-assisted translation captioning. To register, please click the link below and for any questions, please contact Amy Cooper at amy.cooper@mail.concordia.ca.

Toronto/Montreal/La Paz: 10:00am
Rio de Janeiro: 12:00pm
Edinburgh: 3:00pm
Johannesburg: 4:00pm
Sydney: 12:00 am *June 19*

REGISTER HERE



Hala Mreiwed
Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children, Canada



Mona Paré
University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Canada



Albert Lalonde
Future Generations Tribunal, Canada



Vicky Johnson
Centre for Living Sustainability, UHI Inverness, Scotland



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INTERNATIONAL AND CANADIAN CHILD RIGHTS PARTNERSHIP (ICCRP)

Great News! The ICCRP's Mid-Term Report Was Approved: Our Research Continues for 4.5 More Years

The International and Canadian Child Rights Partnership (ICCRP) is thrilled to announce that our **Mid-Term Report has been approved, securing our research for another 4.5 years!** Originally a seven-year SSHRC-funded project, the ICCRP received an automatic one-year extension until March 31, 2029.

Over the past four years, we've built a strong foundation, deepened partnerships, and made significant contributions to children's rights research.

We extend **our deepest gratitude to our research assistants, children and young people, partners, co-applicants, collaborators, and staff.** Your dedication makes this work possible! **Stay tuned for more updates as we continue our mission to advance children's rights worldwide! Please see the below textboxes for some of our key achievements** over the past four years:

Year 1 (April 2021 – March 2022)

Throughout **Year 1 of the Partnership Grant (April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022)**, the ICCRP focused on building a strong foundation for the project. Key achievements included hiring new staff, such as the fantastic Child and Youth Participant Coordinator Sachi Shukul, and fostering collaboration across teams through newsletters, virtual meetings, and community events. The project continued to influence international children's rights efforts, with organizations seeking the partnership's advice on child and youth participation. The team also prepared for major initiatives like case studies, ethics protocols, and working groups, while enhancing communication through website updates, newsletters, and a new LinkedIn page. The successful Launch Meeting in January 2022 and ongoing engagement from partners worldwide, highlighted the project's momentum, with strong interest in knowledge sharing, leadership opportunities for young people, and future ICCRP working group involvement.



Year 2 (April 2022 – March 2023)

During **Year 2 of the Partnership Grant (April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023)**, the project advanced in several key areas. Monthly Steering Committee meetings support decision-making and efforts, and recruitment for the Intergenerational Advisory Committee (IAC) expanded to include new organizations and locations. A major grant application was submitted to the Ontario Research Fund (ORF-RE) leverage the project. New staff, including a postdoctoral fellow and a graphic designer, enhanced research coordination, ethics protocol development, and project branding. Key meetings, such as the first joint gathering of case study, working group, and steering committee members, aligned timelines and research frameworks. Ethics approvals progressed, including clearance for our largest Case Study 2b: Child and Youth Activism Project (CYAP) case study in Canada, Brazil, Scotland, and South Africa. The IAC became operational with active child and youth recruitment supported by valued partner organizations. Partnerships were strengthened and travel planning began for two valued Canadian research assistants to travel to the Children's Institute, Univ. of Cape Town. Progress in outcome mapping with Matter of Focus also enhanced impact tracking. The fiscal year concluded with preparations for the ICCRP's first in-person conference and recognition of the valuable contributions from young participants and staff.

Year 3 (April 2023 – March 2024)

In Year 3 of the Partnership Grant (April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024), the ICCRP formed a Travel Planning Working Group to support logistics for 12 IAC youth and their chaperones attending the postponed in-person conference, now set for Year 4. Key partnerships were deepened through successful decolonial-themed webinars held in May 2023. The ICCRP also expanded its outreach through the launch of a new Twitter account. New research assistants (RAs) were hired, and Brazilian student Laís Ramos joined the team through CBIE's Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP). The ORF-RE project was launched with provincial funding, and RAs Sheldon and Sachi gained valuable experience in Cape Town. Despite ongoing ethics and administrative challenges, the project secured additional partner contributions and welcomed two new partner organizations. A successful virtual intergenerational keynote was delivered in October for the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Care. The project advanced the CYAP curriculum map and held inaugural meetings of both the Steering Committee and IAC youth group. A virtual roundtable on adult-youth engagement also received positive feedback. Coordination continued on international logistics, including visas and funding transfers, while ethics work progressed across several case studies.

Year 4 (April 2024 – March 2025)

Throughout **Year 4 of the Partnership Grant (April 1, 2024-October 31, 2024)**, the ICCRP has made significant progress while overcoming several challenges. Key successes include securing visas for international researchers and young participants. In July 2024, the partnership hosted its first in-person Partnership & Engagement Event at the Elephant Thoughts Eco Resort, welcoming 52 members, including research assistants, partners, and youth participants. This event marked a pivotal transition from virtual collaboration to in-person interaction, fostering stronger connections and dynamic knowledge exchange. Despite logistical challenges, such as travel complications, poor weather affecting the rustic accommodations, the event was a resounding success, featuring activities like the "Gallery Poster Walk" and a "Decolonization Circle" that deepened engagement and highlighted the value of face-to-face collaboration. The ICCRP enhanced its operations by introducing a new email address, protocols for data security, creating standing banners with social media links for greater visibility, and refining project management processes, including RA task delegation and budget alignment between the PG and Ontario Research Fund grant. While challenges such as GDPR compliance, ethics approval delays, and travel logistics remained, the partnership continues to make meaningful strides in promoting children's rights globally.



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INTERNATIONAL AND CANADIAN CHILD RIGHTS PARTNERSHIP (ICCRP)



Join the ICCRP: Partner with Us to Advance Children's Rights



The ICCRP is **always looking to collaborate with new partners** who share our commitment to advancing children's rights. We warmly welcome non-governmental organizations, governmental organizations, and academic institutions of all sizes, locations, and capacities to join our growing network of 30 partner organizations. Whether your focus is policy, research, advocacy, or direct engagement with children and young people, there's a place for you in our partnership. If you're interested in joining our global network, we'd love to connect — let's work together to create meaningful change!



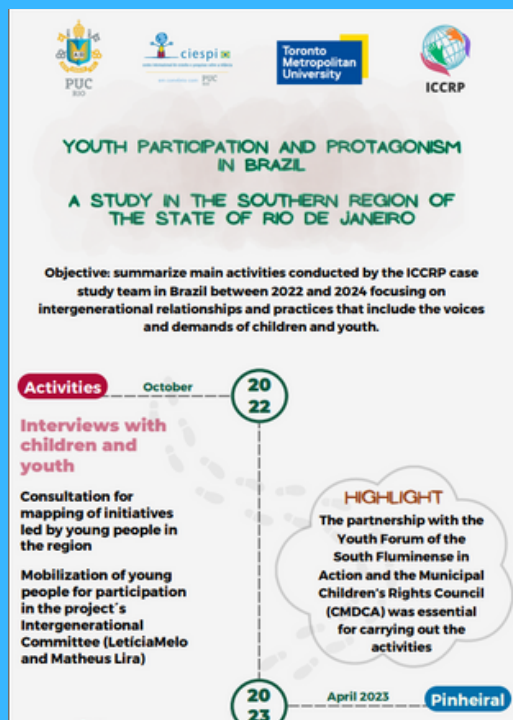
Email iccrp@torontomu.ca to join today!

New ICCRP Partner Organization



We're **thrilled to welcome** the **Dallaire Institute for Children, Peace, and Security** as our **newest ICCRP partner**. This collaboration strengthens our shared commitment to advancing child protection and peacebuilding efforts around the world. Together, we aim to foster positive change and support initiatives that promote the rights and well-being of children in conflict-affected areas. Stay tuned for more updates on this important partnership and the impactful work we will accomplish together.

Youth Participation in Brazil: New Poster Highlights Key Findings



Our valued colleagues at Centro Internacional de Estudos e Pesquisas sobre a Infância (**CIESPI**), have **released a new poster** summarizing the findings and outcomes of their ongoing **ICCRP case study on "Youth Participation and Protagonism in Brazil"**. From 2022 to 2024, the Brazil case study team conducted numerous intergenerational activities, including interviews, seminars, and participatory workshops, involving over 1,400 children and youth. These initiatives led to increased visibility of youth demands, tangible improvements in school infrastructure, and enhanced dialogue between youth and municipal councils. Key challenges, such as the lack of institutional support and continuity, were also identified. The poster showcases the collaborative efforts to strengthen youth voice in public policy and highlights recent publications that promote youth rights and civic engagement. **To read the exciting new poster CLICK HERE!**

ICCRP Research Facilitator Receives Graduate Scholarship to Honour Nelson Mandela

Emilia Gonzalez is a PhD student in Social Policy at Toronto Metropolitan University, under the **mentorship of Dr. Ruiz-Casares**. As a **researcher and facilitator**, Emilia has been building bridges between research and the social sector for over eight years. She is interested in **participatory evaluation processes** that centre the perspectives of young people from diverse backgrounds. Her previous research focused on newcomer youth wellbeing and participation. Emilia holds an MSc in Social and Cultural Psychiatry from McGill and is the proud recipient of the **Canada Graduate Scholarship to Honour Nelson Mandela**.



First IAC Cohort of Children and Young People Transitioning

As we approach June 2025, we are filled with **gratitude and pride** as the **first cohort of Intergenerational Advisory Committee (IAC) children and young people** come to the **end of their two-year term**. From the very beginning, they have been trailblazers—shaping this partnership with their passion, creativity, and determination. Their journey has been one of growth, learning, and meaningful connections. They've overcome challenges, supported each other, and made an indelible impact on the IAC community and ICCRP. We are deeply thankful for their dedication and the contributions that they've made. While their time is coming to a close, we know the lessons and memories they've created here will continue to guide them in the future. We wish them all the best as they move on to new adventures and opportunities including other areas of the ICCRP if they so choose.

Thank you to the first cohort for being such an inspiring part of our IAC family and ICCRP.



All of the children and young people in this photo, as well as their parents or guardians, have consented to having their image shared.



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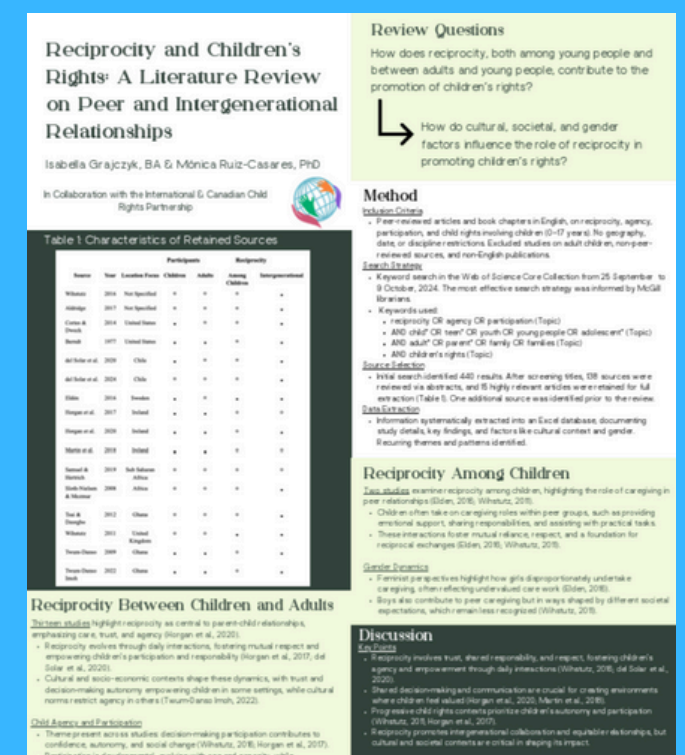


Exciting New Posters From Two ICCRP/McGill Interns

Decolonizing Children's Rights is an academic poster developed by Vanessa Cuiuri [CLICK HERE](#) on how can we reimagine children's rights by centering Indigenous and marginalized voices? Vanessa Cuiuri explores how decolonizing children's rights can shape national and international health and social policies.



"Reciprocity and Children's Rights: A Literature Review on Peer and Intergenerational Relationships" by **Isabella Grajczyk** [CLICK HERE](#) is an academic poster that explores how mutual respect and shared decision-making between young people and adults can empower children, foster equitable relationships, and promote their rights across diverse contexts.



New Blog: Children's Participation in Policy Making: A Global Perspective

In her latest blog from March 5th, Dr. Kay Tisdall, Professor of Childhood Policy at the University of Edinburgh and valued ICCRP Steering Committee member, **explores Scotland's groundbreaking approach to children's participation in policy-making**. With the 2024 Act, incorporating the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) into Scottish law, Scotland is leading the way in ensuring children's voices are heard in policy decisions. The Annual Cabinet meeting is central to this process, offering a meaningful process where children's views influence decisions. Key features include: Sustainability, inclusivity, and child-led. Tisdall also emphasizes the importance of resources and practical support to ensure all children, especially those typically excluded, can participate fully. The Annual Cabinet meeting shows how meaningful child participation can lead to real impact. Congratulations to our Scottish friends and colleagues who continue to work towards a world where children's voices truly matter! To learn more, visit the Children's Parliament blog series, which includes insights on **Journey to the Annual Cabinet Meeting, Young Ambassador's Report**, and **Hopes for the Future of the Cabinet**.

New ICCRP SSHRC Collaborators & Partner Organization

We're excited to welcome **Sam Frankel from Learning Allowed**, who brings a wealth of experience in children's participation and voice. Sam is collaborating with Lucy Jamieson on Case Study 3d: RX Radio – Children as Change Makers, exploring how young people use media to drive social change.

We're also thrilled to have **Christa Leeder an independent researcher** with vast expertise in children's rights and education join the ICCRP as a collaborator. Christa will be working alongside Aurelia Di Santo on Case Study 4b: Children's Right to Education and Well-Being, focusing on how systems can better uphold and support children's rights in educational contexts.

We're absolutely **delighted** to have **Sam** and **Christa** join the team and contribute their unique perspectives and expertise!

ICCRP Recent Publications

Cuiuri, V. (2024, December 12). **How can decolonizing children's rights influence national and international health and social policies?** [CLICK HERE](#) [Poster presentation]. McGill University's Department of Equity, Ethics and Policy Poster Session, Montreal, Canada.

Grajczyk, I. (2024, December 12). **Reciprocity and the rights of children: A literature review on peer and intergenerational relationships**. [CLICK HERE](#) Department of Equity, Ethics and Policy, McGill University. (Supervisor: Monica Ruiz-Casares)

Intergenerational Advisory Committee (IAC) Children, Young People, and Adult Members. (November, 2023). [Report on Virtual Roundtable]:

How adults can listen & engage with young people. (ENGLISH) [CLICK HERE](#)

Cómo los Adultos Pueden Escuchar y Colaborar con los Jóvenes SPANISH [CLICK HERE](#)

Como os adultos podem ouvir e colaborar com os jovens PORTUGUESE [CLICK HERE](#)

Nanima, R. (March 7, 2025). **Problematising concepts & terms in children's rights in the african children's rights system: a form of decoloniality?** [In-person and live-streamed presentation]. [CLICK HERE](#)

Youth Voices on Decolonizing Evaluation!

In their **new blog post**, ICCRP members Mahnoor (Intergenerational Advisory Committee young person and Youth Gravity member), Sal-Sabila (Intergenerational Advisory Committee chaperone and Youth Gravity founder), and participatory evaluation lead Emilia Gonzalez (Toronto Metropolitan University/ICCRP) reflect on the **vital role of intergenerational relationships and youth inclusion in decolonizing evaluation**. In their recent blog post, they highlight key lessons, including the importance of centering youth perspectives, using inclusive language, and translating theory into action. Their message includes that young people must be active participants in shaping evaluation practices, not just token voices at the table. Read their exciting reflections and explore practical strategies for making evaluation more inclusive and impactful: **Youth-Focused Evaluation Blog by clicking here!** [CLICK HERE](#)



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