

Children's Rights in Canada: Be Part of the 2018 – 2020 Review

Can you help to promote greater implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Canada? The Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children wants to work with you.

We can use the official review process to raise the profile of issues that matter to you! Together, we can make gains for children in Canada, as well as reporting to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Change needs to come in Canada in order to achieve our common goals. We ask you to consider being part of this process, which could align with your own strategic plans.

The Process in Brief

Before July 2018

- Raise issues related to children's rights
- Focus on recommendations from the last review that relate to your work.
- Communicate what we hope to see in the next report

July 2018

- Deadline for the Government of Canada to submit its official report to the UN.

July 2018 First Hearing (Six months to two years)

Two-pronged strategy:

- Create discussion in Canada, in cooperation with the Coalition
 - Submit reports to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
- More details on timelines and strategies following official report.

Sometime in 2019-2020 Hearing Process at the UN Committee:

- Present alternative reports together / separately
- Some will choose to participate in hearings in person

Follow-up after Official Review

- Follow-up in Canada is critical to make progress

This is a brief overview, which will be updated as the process continues.

For more detailed information, see resources published by Child Rights Connect, an NGO network that assists in the UN process: <http://www.childrightsconnect.org/>

THE CCRC IS HERE TO HELP

- Help you identify recommendations from the last review that relate to your work.
- Provide information on each step of the process and how you can be part of it.
- Post your report or add your information to a joint report to raise the profile of your issues.
- Be a go-to resource for analysis based on the Convention and networks in Canada.

How the Pieces Fit Together

The CCRC will prepare an umbrella report that addresses general principles, measures to implement all rights, links between specific reports, and gaps. Groups can choose to prepare individual reports, work with a thematic group, or provide information for the CCRC to use in its reports.

Content: Information, Analysis and Recommendations

- Analysis of the situation of children, drawing on your experience
- Views of children with whom you work on how their rights are fulfilled in Canada
- Information related to actions taken on recommendations from the last review
- Gaps in information that you can fill, after the official government report is released
- Comments on the government's official report
- Recommendations to address issues that relate your work to the Convention

Fitting your issues into the review process

We need analysis of specific issues and broad approaches. Organizing your information to fit with the way the UN organizes its review will help, if you wish to submit your report directly to the UN Committee. For an outline of the clusters of issues used in UN reports, you can use a guide prepared by Child Rights Connect: http://www.childrightsconnect.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EN_GuidetoCRCReportingCycle_ChildRightsConnect_2014.pdf

More Information

Contact the CCRC at info@rightsofchildren.ca or kathyvandergrift@rogers.com.

Check the CCRC website for resources on children's rights in Canada and updates on the review: www.rightsofchildren.ca.

Resources about the UN Process at www.childrightsconnect.org

Learn more about children's rights through the Child Rights Information Network: www.crin.org.