



OTTAWA

21-22 November 2018

RAISE THE BAR: CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN CANADA

Join us in Ottawa from November 21-22 to work together for the rights of Canadian children and youth!

You are invited to join NGOs, Parliamentarians, government officials, researchers, and advocates together with children and youth from across Canada to share your priorities, successes and challenges at ***Raise the Bar: Children's Rights in Canada***, November 21-22, in Ottawa.

Hosted by the [Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children](#) (CCRC), this forum will offer opportunities to share, learn and engage to influence and advance fulfillment of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child in Canada* as we head into the United Nations Review of Canada's respect for children's universal human rights.

[Wisdom2Action](#) (W2A) will facilitate this event on behalf of CCRC. W2A hosts community knowledge sharing events across Canada and internationally. The goal is to bring everyone – researchers, service providers, youth, educators, health care professionals and more – to meet face-to-face to discuss critical children's rights issues and build networks so that together we can advance work on children's rights in Canada. A youth host team, supported by W2A, will lead the development of the agenda and facilitate the event.

* In the spirit of inclusivity and accessibility, CCRC will waive the registration fee for any youth or other individual for whom the fee is a barrier to participation. To request to have the registration fee waived, please e-mail info@childrights.org.

[>> Register Now <<](#)

DAY ONE

8:30am – 5:30pm WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER*

TABARET HALL, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

8:00 **Registration**

8:30 **Opening Circle and Introductions**

Kathy Vandergrift, Chair, CCRC

First Nations Elder, W2A Youth Host Team

9:45 **World Café**

Facilitated by W2A Youth Host Team

Share what is happening in children's rights in your community and learn from others about priorities and challenges they see. Some of the topics will include discussion on:

- Teaching children about rights
- Realizing the full potential of every child
- Prevention of violence against children
- Making best interests of children a top priority

A detailed list of topics will be announced after release of the official government report.

10:15 **Break** (30 minutes)

10:45 **World Café Continued**

Facilitated by W2A Youth Host Team

12:00 **Lunch** (60 minutes)

1:00 **Learning Sessions**

Facilitated by W2A Youth Host Team

Presentations on critical and current children's rights issues, including:

- Good practices in youth participation
- Using the Convention in your work
- Children and Canadian Law
- Child welfare
- Participation and minimum age in legislation
- Children's Rights in Family Law
- Cannabis
- Children's Rights and Canada's federal system

A detailed list of topics will be announced after release of the official government report.

3:00 **Travel to Centre Block, Parliament Hill**

CENTRE BLOCK, PARLIAMENT HILL

4:00 **Keynote & Reception:**

Marie-Claude Landry, Ad.E., Chief Commissioner, Canadian Human Rights Commission

DAY TWO

9:00am – 5:00pm THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER*

TABARET HALL, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

8:45	Arrival	
9:00	ProAction Café	
	Presentations on critical and current children's rights issues, including:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immigrant and refugee children – detention• Justice issues• Youth engagement initiatives• Access to health care• Education including access to sexual health education• Mental health	
	<i>A detailed list of topics will be announced after release of the official government report</i>	
10:15	Break (30 minutes)	
10:45	Child Rights Connect	UNICEF Canada
	Skype in with CR Connect to learn and ask questions about how to make the most of the UN Review of Canada's Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child	
11:00	Government Engagement	Facilitated by W2A Youth Host Team
	Discussions with Government of Canada officials on specific children's rights issues	
12:30	Lunch (60 minutes)	
1:30	Open Space	Facilitated by W2A Youth Host Team
	Participants will be able to imagine the follow-up actions to these two days of exchange, reflect upon what was shared, and formulate recommendations	
3:00	Closing Panel and Circle	Kathy Vandergrift, Chair, CCRC

***THIS IS A PROVISIONAL PROGRAM:**

- Updates to the program will be posted at www.rightsofchildren.ca
- Exciting activities still to be scheduled include a potential National Child Day breakfast on the Hill Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children and launch of *Journal of Children's Rights*, Landon Pearson Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights (TBC)
- [Please contact CCRC](#) if you have an issue you want included in these discussions.

[**>> Register Now <<**](#)