



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 children, youth and organizations 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 bring together a diverse range of NGOs, parliamentarians and government officials, researchers and advocates together with youth, as Canada heads into the UN review of our respect for children's universal human rights.

We are planning opportunities to share, learn and engage to influence and advance fulfillment of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child in Canada*.

[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](mailto: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:

- Child well-being indicators – Lisa Wolff, Policy Director, UNICEF Canada
- What does each Article in the Convention Mean? – Dr. Ziba Vaghri, Executive Director of GlobalChild
- Violence against children in Canada – Dr. Debra Pepler, PrevNet Canada
- Access to justice – Dr. Mona Pare, Professor of Law, Director of Research Laboratory for Children Rights, University of Ottawa
- Age and the evolving capacity of children – Kathy Vandergrift, Chair of CCRC

*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 Welcome, Senator Victor Oh

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

4:45 Children's Rights and Environments: Launch of the 5th issue of the Canadian Journal of Children's Rights, in cooperation with the Landon Pearson Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights.

Reception to follow.

# DAY TWO

9:00am – 5:00pm THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER\*

TABARET HALL, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

---

8:45	<b>Arrival</b>	
9:00	<b>ProAction Café</b>	
	Presentations on critical and current children's rights issues, including:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immigrant and refugee children – detention</li><li>• Justice issues</li><li>• Youth engagement initiatives</li><li>• Access to health care</li><li>• Education including access to sexual health education</li><li>• Mental health</li></ul>	
	<i>A detailed list of topics will be announced after release of the official government report.</i>	
10:15	<b>Break</b> (30 minutes)	
10:45	<b>Child Rights Connect</b>	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	<b>Government Engagement</b>	Facilitated by W2A Youth Host Team
	Discussions with Government of Canada officials on specific children's rights issues	
12:30	<b>Lunch</b> (60 minutes)	
1:30	<b>Open Space</b>	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	<b>Closing Circle</b>	Kathy Vandergrift, Chair, CCRC
3:30	<b>Annual General Meeting, Canadian Coalition of the Rights of Children</b>	

**\*THIS IS A PROVISIONAL PROGRAM:**

- Updates to the program will be posted at [www.rightsofchildren.ca](http://www.rightsofchildren.ca)
- Exciting activities still to be scheduled include a potential National Child Day breakfast on the Hill.
- [Please contact CCRC](#) if you have an issue you want included in these discussions.

**>> Register Now <<**