

Summer 2018

[View this email in your browser](#)



GlobalChild

www.globalchildnetwork.com

Dear team members, collaborators, supporters, and friends of GlobalChild,

As GlobalChild advances in its second year, we are excited to share some highlights of this busy phase of the project as we develop GlobalChild: A comprehensive child rights monitoring platform.

Following our team building in year one, year two has focused on developing indicators, working towards engaging children in conversations about their rights, planning for a BC child rights symposium, and writing publications.

This year our network has continued to increase and our large GlobalChild team has expanded further as a result of initiating a few offshoot projects of the main GlobalChild project. We are humbled yet honoured by the level of enthusiasm each partner and collaborator expresses for the project, the need for it, and the hope for its efficiency in bettering children's lives and realizing their rights. A global undertaking of this magnitude indeed requires a remarkable growing team of this caliber!

Sincerely,

Ziba Vaghri, MSFHR Scholar and GlobalChild Principal Investigator, and the GlobalChild team at the Secretariat,

University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada



Update meeting of GlobalChild



On February 2, a GlobalChild meeting was held at Carleton University to update team members on the progress of the project and to discuss upcoming plans for consultations with children. Then the floor was opened for discussion and brainstorming. This meeting was held prior to the Child Rights Academic Network (CRAN) meeting of the [Landon Pearson Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights](#).

Indicators Development Team (IDT) presents at the Belgium National Commission on the Rights of the Child conference



All five members of the GlobalChild IDT were honoured to receive an invitation from the [Belgian National Commission on the Rights of the Child](#) to participate in their February conference in Brussels. Dr. Ziba Vaghri presented an overview on the transformative GlobalChild platform that is under development, and invited the global community to pledge to take a rights-based approach to child development and health. Two other members of the IDT, Gerison Lansdown and Dr. Roberta Ruggiero, also made presentations during this conference.

A team led by the Belgium National Commission on the Rights of the Child is working with a few of the conference participants on a publication series in which GlobalChild will be featured in a key article.

Completion of the Phase 1 work of the Indicators Development Team (IDT)

We are pleased to share that Phase 1 of the development of indicators for the substantive articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) -identification of the attributes of each article- has come to its fruitful completion. The attribute papers of some clusters were reviewed by a few of the members of the GlobalChild team who have expertise on the subject matter of the cluster. Then an independent external team of experts reviewed the work of the IDT for each cluster of articles. Last, the work was subjected to the careful review by the members of the GlobalChild Reference Group (RG) before embarking on Phase 2: Building indicators for the identified attributes.

The meeting of the IDT and the RG took place at Palais Wilson in Geneva on June 8, and was chaired by the Honourable Jean Zermatten, who is chair of the GlobalChild Steering Committee. Currently, the IDT is doing the final touch ups on the attributes. The finalized attributes will serve two important purposes:

1. the IDT will continue their work and develop indicators of each right, building upon the identified attributes; and
 2. the attributes will be converted into child-friendly (CF) versions. The CF attributes will be used as a tool to initiate consultation with children to solicit their feedback (see the Global Child Rights Dialogue, below).
-

Child Rights Symposium in BC

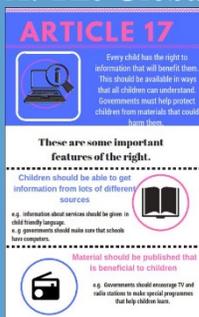
GlobalChild is planning a child rights symposium in Victoria, in partnership with the [Office of the Representative for Children and Youth of BC \(RCYBC\)](#) and [Island Health](#). The symposium is funded by a knowledge translation grant from the [Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research](#) (MSFHR) and a supplementary fund from RCYBC. The objectives of this symposium are to: inform provincial stakeholders about the outcome of the BC pilot project of the [Early Child](#)

Rights Indicators (ECRI), and to raise awareness of child protection issues in BC. This symposium is based on a pilot of ECRI which was conducted in 2016-2017 with a special focus on Indicator #8: the right to protection from violence, neglect, and abuse. The BC pilot was the last pilot of this tool after being piloted in Tanzania (2009-2012) and Chile (2011-2012). Further information about the symposium is available on our [website](#) and on [Twitter](#).



Consultations with children

A. The Global Child Rights Dialogue (GCRD)



In partnership with the Centre for Children's Rights (CCR) at Queens University, Belfast, Save the Children International, and "Initiative for Article 12 (InArt12)" of Greece, we are planning to conduct a Global Child Rights Dialogue (GCRD), which will be a series of dialogues with children to seek their input on their rights. Children from all five United Nations regions of the globe (4-14 countries from each region, proportionate to the fraction of the children of the globe living in that region) will be invited to give their opinions on the child-friendly (CF) versions of the CRC attributes. The attributes of the substantive rights of the CRC have been identified by the GlobalChild team. In consultation with a youth advisory group, Child Friendly versions of these attributes are being created by the CCR for GlobalChild. These CF versions will serve as the discussion documents of the GCRD. The consultation is planned to be completed by early 2019. GlobalChild is currently looking for volunteers to translate the CF versions (42 pictorial one-pager documents) into Chinese and German. Translations into French, Arabic, Spanish, and Greek have already been initiated.

B. Canadian Child Rights Dialogue (CCRD)

A complementary project to the GCRD is the Canadian Child Rights Dialogue (CCRD). A new grant application was submitted in March 2018 to the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) to conduct CCRD. The plan is to replicate GCRD in all regions of Canada to show a stronger participation of Canadian children in these dialogues, as Canada is the host and funder of the GlobalChild project.



A vast and remarkable team, comprised of researchers and scholars of child rights and child participation from all 13 regions of Canada was mobilized to build a pan-Canadian team for CCRD and to put this application forth. The proposal may or may not be put forth to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), depending on the outcome of the CIHR application which will be announced in July 2018.

The second Steering Committee (SC) meeting



The 2nd meeting of the GlobalChild Steering Committee(SC) took place on June 24th in Moncton, New Brunswick. The event happened on the weekend prior to the opening of the [7th Child Rights Summer School of NB](#), and was co-chaired by Justice Renate Winter, the current chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Travel of Justice Winter to Canada during the year that Canada is due to submit its periodical review to the UNCRC received some publicity and Justice Winter was [interviewed by Radio Canada](#) (in French, 6:34). Justice Winter acknowledged the efforts of the GlobalChild team and its significance as a tool to track our actions in fulfilling children's rights.

New staff and trainees

GlobalChild is pleased to announce the new addition to the team, Cara Pearson, who has joined us in the capacity as Program Manager. Cara comes to us with MPH training from UVic and varied experience with coordination and involvement in different research projects at UVic.

Additionally, as Robin Humble, the GlobalChild Trainee, has graduated and completed her practicum with the GlobalChild program, the program is pleased to welcome three new trainees: Taban Behin, Elizabeth Comeau, and Lauren De Souza. Taban and Elizabeth will conduct their doctoral dissertation and master's thesis work, respectively, within the GlobalChild program under the supervision of Dr. Ziba Vaghri. Lauren is an MPH student from Simon Fraser University. She

will complete her practicum with the GlobalChild program (May - August 2018).

We extend a warm welcome to these new members of the GlobalChild team!

Announcements

Honouring Cindy Blackstock

We wish to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Cindy Blackstock, who has been appointed as an Officer of the [Order of Canada](#). The Order of Canada is awarded to those who have shown "outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation." She is commended "[f]or her leadership as a champion of Indigenous children and for her efforts to build a culture of reconciliation." Cindy works tirelessly to promote culturally based equity for First Nations children and families and to engage children in reconciliation. Cindy is a member of the GlobalChild Steering Committee. She will advise on the adaptation of children's rights indicators for Indigenous children, and on the development of the Indigenous-GlobalChild platform. Congratulations, Cindy!



Honouring Gerison Lansdown

Last month Carleton University honoured Gerison Lansdown with an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. Gerison, who serves as the [Scientific Coordinator of the IDT of GlobalChild](#), has received a number of honorary degrees and awards in the UK. This new honorary degree is another acknowledgement of Gerison's impressive contribution to the field of children's rights internationally and celebrates her long successful career that spans over four decades. Congratulations, Gerison!



2019 Symposium of Fondation du Dr. Julien



[Dr. Julien Foundation](#) (DJF), one of GlobalChild's co-investigators, is planning its biennial symposium for the fall of 2019. The foundation, in recognition of the 30th anniversary of the CRC, will focus on children's rights during their 2019 conference. GlobalChild is honoured to be collaborating with the foundation in planning this important symposium.

Publications

Vaghri, Z. (2018). Climate change, an unwelcome legacy: The need to support children's rights to participate in global conversations. *Journal of Children, Youth and Environments*. 28(1), 104-114. Abstract available [here](#).

Vaghri, Z., Flores, R., & Mojtabavi, S. Promoting healthy child development: A child rights perspective. In B. Nastasi, S. Hart, & S. Naser (Eds.), *International Handbook on Child Rights and School Psychology*. (in press).

Opportunities/search

GlobalChild is searching for:

1. **a skilled writer familiar with human rights or children's rights** as well as with academic writing to assist with a number of manuscripts and reports; and
2. **a professional editor** to review and adjust the literacy level and writing style of the report of the BC pilot of the Early Childhood Rights Indicators (ECRI).

Interested parties can contact our Program Manager at:

globalchild@uvic.ca

Upcoming events and presentations

- *Aug 26, 2018: Dr. Vaghri presents on children's rights, obligations of the states to children under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and a tool to monitor the accountability of states parties. The 16th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics (APCP). Nusa Dua, Indonesia.*
- *Sep 2018: Dr. Vaghri presents on Early Childhood Rights indicators: A tool to promote effective data collection and facilitate the monitoring of the implementation of children's rights during the early years. The International Society on Social Pediatrics (ISSOP). Bonn, Germany.*

Contact us:

Email: globalchild@uvic.ca

Phone: 1-250-472-5405

Follow us:



The GlobalChild team is a multi-agency alliance, led by the Secretariat from the University of Victoria, Canada, and generously funded by provincial and federal funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research.

Copyright © 2018. GlobalChild. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Faculty of Human & Social Development
School of Public Health and Social Policy
University of Victoria
P.O. Box 1700 STN CSC
Victoria, B.C., V8W 2Y2
Canada

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)