



# CRCF NEWS

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CENTRE FOR RESEARCH  
ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  CENTRE DE RECHERCHE  
SUR L'ENFANCE ET LA FAMILLE

*CRCF NEWS* provides a monthly update about calls for papers and proposals, conferences and trainings, job opportunities, new research and other news of interest to the CRCF community. We encourage our subscribers to submit postings to [pamela.weightman@mcgill.ca](mailto:pamela.weightman@mcgill.ca) to help us stay relevant to the broad range of CRCF research interests. Spread the word! Forward this email to colleagues and students.

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[Conferences & Trainings](#)

[Events](#)

[Job/Scholarship/Funding Opportunities](#)

[News & Notices](#)

[Publications & Presentations](#)

## Conferences & Trainings

### **5<sup>th</sup> Community Social Pediatrics Symposium: Children's Vulnerability – Understanding and Addressing Health Inequities May 25 & 26**

The Community Social Pediatrics Symposium is a [Fondation du Dr Julien](#) initiative that is part of a collective effort to build on what we have learned from practice. It is a biannual event bringing together practitioners, scientists, academics, researchers and political decision-makers who wish to influence the ways in which we can help children at risk.

This year, the Symposium will focus on the many faces of vulnerability and will encourage discussions on various action plans. Indeed, society, the law and legislation, communities and families represent as many different realities as there are solutions. What does society think about vulnerable children? How do human rights and public policy help to reduce inequality in healthcare? Where are vulnerable communities located and how can we take into account their unique characteristics for optimal intervention? What frameworks and processes can we establish to ensure the long-term viability of our approach? What are the interventions that are adapted to at-risk communities and how can we measure their impact? Here are just some of the questions that will be raised during the 5<sup>th</sup> Symposium.

CRCF members Franco Carnevale, Delphine Collin-Vézina, Tonino Esposito and Catherine Roy will be presenting. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Events

### **Research Seminar - "How we see it": Studying the well-being of girls and young women in the context of media making to addressing sexual violence by Claudia Mitchell**

**March 8 12:00 – 13:00**

**Wendy Patrick room (room 118), 3506 rue University, Montreal, QC**

“What would it really mean to study the world from the standpoint of [adolescent girls] both as knowers and as actors?” asks sociologist Anne Oakley (1994, p. 23) Her question has been an important one for framing and re-framing research to take account of the perspectives of girls and young women, and in so doing provides the foundation for a six year study working with Indigenous girls and young women in Canada and South Africa who are engaged in discussion, cellphilm production, photovoice and various forms of art-making to address sexual violence. But alongside possibilities for deepening an understanding of the issues for researchers and potentially policy makers, the most important question must surely be related to what this work might mean to the participants themselves? To date there are few studies that ask this question even though there is often an implicit sense that participation and media production is inherently good, as we see in work that uses terms such as ‘voice’, ‘agency’ and ‘empowerment’. But is this the case for work in the area of sexual violence? How might we look at this work in the context of the health and well being of girls and young women?

Prof. Mitchell, whose work in girlhood studies and participatory research has included major research sites in Ethiopia, South Africa and all over Canada, is a founder of the Faculty of Education’s [Participatory Cultures Lab](#). This year, SSHRC is recognizing the impact of her quarter-century of SSHRC-funded research and other achievements by awarding her the SSHRC Gold Medal, the agency’s highest honour. The Gold Medal recognizes sustained leadership, dedication and originality of thought by a SSHRC-funded researcher. Claudia Mitchell is the third researcher from McGill University to win a SSHRC Gold Medal.

For more information on CRCF's research seminars, please click [here](#).

### **McGill Qualitative Health Research Group**

**March 20 15:00 – 17:00**

**Faculty of Dentistry, #547-2001 McGill College Avenue**

Our presenter will be **Liam Curran**, INDI PhD(c), who is doing his doctoral work in the Department of Psychology at Concordia University & the Centre for Research on Children and Family at McGill University.

Liam will be presenting his proposed doctoral study, *Yes, We Need to be in There from the Get-Go: A Constructivist Grounded Theory Study of Social Work Response in Case Interventions to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in Child Welfare Settings*.

### **Wisdom2Action: From Trauma to Resilience co-lead by Delphine Collin-Vézina**

**March 24 9:00 – 16:30**

**Element High School, 425 Marché Way, Unit 201, Ottawa, ON**

Do you...

- work with young people who have experienced sexual violence?
- want to learn and share best practices to prevent and respond to sexual violence?
- want to connect with others from across the country who are working in your field?

Sharing promising practices to prevent sexual violence and support young people who have experienced it. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Child Welfare Journal Club**

**March 27 12:00-13:30**

**Center for Research on Children and Families, suite 106, 3506 rue University, Montreal, QC**

The [Child Welfare Journal Club](#) is a joint McGill / University of Toronto initiative supported by funds from the Royal Bank of Canada. It is a monthly journal club for faculty and graduate students interested in child welfare research. We review empirical studies published in the leading child welfare journals and select the most salient and rigorous studies to be summarized and distributed in monthly e-newsletters disseminated through the [Canadian Child Welfare Research Portal \(CWRP\)](#).

For any PhD student at McGill potentially interested in joining the Research Watch team or to receive more information, please contact [Jaime Wegner-Lohin](#).

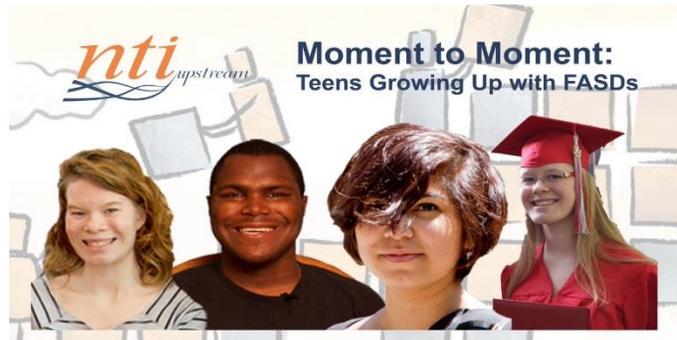
### **Film Screening of Moment to Moment: Teens Growing Up with FASDs (Screened Under License)**

**March 29 16:00 – 17:30**

**Wendy Patrick room (room 118), 3506 rue University, Montreal, QC**

**RSVP by March 22<sup>nd</sup> to**

**[pamela.weightman@mcgill.ca](mailto:pamela.weightman@mcgill.ca)**



Growing up is never easy! Hitting the adolescent stage of life is challenging, even for those fortunate to have all the resources at hand to navigate this difficult developmental life stage. Adolescents living with the neurodisability of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) encounter multiple additional challenges in navigating this stage of life. Living with an FASD is a life-long challenge, but perhaps is most acute and challenging during the choppy waters of adolescence. *Moment to Moment: Teens Growing Up with FASDs* (screened under license) documents the lives of four teenagers living with an FASD.

All adolescents face challenges associated with reaching and maturing into young adulthood. The normal development of slowly developing independence, sexual identity, and career trajectories are complex tasks. Adolescents living with a brain impairment related to prenatal alcohol exposure (PNE) face significant difficulties in both executive functioning and adaptive behaviors. A substantive body of empirical literature documents the potential painful slide into the criminal justice system, school failure, homelessness and mental health illness when supports and services are not available. As the adolescent get older, mood disorder, anxiety

and depression further exacerbates their ability to successfully navigate a successful path to independent adulthood. Building collaborative systems of care for this vulnerable population is a critical step in decreasing the societal burden of FASD and its personal and fiscal costs to families, and increasing the likelihood that those living with an FASD can lead productive and fulfilling lives.

*Moment to Moment: Teens Growing up With FASDs* offers a very personal, thought provoking and intimate eye-opening journey into the lives of four teenagers living with an FASD and their families. The movie accurately documents how these teens are failing in our social support system, which does not provide the knowledge, skills, and resources to guide young people living with an FASD. Narrated by Dr Ira Chasnoff, an international expert on the psychosocial aspects of living with an FASD, the movie is valuable learning tool for ALL involved in health & social services delivery.

The movie will followed by a 30 minute discussion period, facilitated by Liam Curran, INDI Ph.D. Candidate, currently researching the impact of FASDs on child welfare and on social work practice.

Munchies & drinks will be served!

### **Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) National Action Table**

**March 28-29 8:30 – 16:30**

**Lord Elgin Hotel, 100 Elgin St. Ottawa, ON**

The MHCC is hosting a national action table on improving mental health service planning for immigrant, refugee, Ethnocultural and racialized people in Canada.

The Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) is working with IRCC and PHAC to support the improvement of mental health supports by and for immigrant, refugee, ethno-cultural and racialized (IRER) groups. IRER populations face particular challenges that put their mental health at greater risk and they often come up against significant barriers to seeking or obtaining help.

In efforts to see better co-ordination of policy, knowledge and accountability, the MHCC will convene an Action Table to improve mental health service planning for IRER populations on March 28 and 29, 2017. Attendance is open to individuals interested in improving mental health services for IRER populations, with priority given to people with lived experience and those already working to advance this work in different fields (mental health, settlement, education, government, etc.).

Charles Bergeron from the CMA suggested ACCÉSSS may be interested in this Action Table event and specifically provided us with your email.

In this Action Table, participants will hear from Canadian and international experts in equity and population based planning and will be invited to provide input into the development of a

toolkit to improve mental health service planning for IRER populations. Attendees can also join a Canadian community of practice for service planning for 12 months following the conference.

To apply to attend the event, please follow the link and complete the [EXPRESSION OF INTEREST](#)

Please note: There is no registration fee for the event, but participants may be required to cover the cost of travel and accommodation. A limited number of travel bursaries are available. Completing the expression of interest does not guarantee attendance at the event. Spaces are limited and the MHCC reserves the right to decline final registration to ensure fair representation from all regions.

For more information contact Bonita Varga, Knowledge Broker at [bvarga@mentalhealthcommission.ca](mailto:bvarga@mentalhealthcommission.ca).

### **Indigenous Child Welfare Research Group**

**April 6            12:00 – 14:00**

**CRCF conference room (suite 106), 3506 rue University, Montreal, QC**

A monthly discussion group of graduate students, faculty and researchers as well as professionals from university affiliated organizations. Aimed at building empirical knowledge on topics related to Indigenous child welfare and to facilitate knowledge translation of Indigenous child welfare research. Click [here](#) for more information.

## **Job/Scholarship/Funding Opportunities**

### **Call for Volunteers - Acfas**

The annual congress of the Association francophone du savoir (Acfas) is the largest multidisciplinary research event in the Francophonie and McGill is proud to be hosting it this year. From May 8-12, some 6,000 participants from Quebec, Canada and abroad will descend on lower campus to take part in more than 200 colloquia and hundreds of oral and poster presentations. Participants are primarily researchers, but also include grad students and post docs. In order to guarantee its success, we will need your help. In return, get a free pass to the Congress! Click [here](#) for more information.

**AGENT(E) DE PLANIFICATION, DE PROGRAMMATION ET DE RECHERCHE- Coordonnateur à la recherche**

**Centre jeunesse de Montréal - Institut universitaire**

**Deadline        March 7**

Click [here](#) for more information.

**Offre de bourse postdoctorale - Institut universitaire du Centre jeunesse de Québec**

Click [here](#) for more information.

**Job opportunity: Director of the McMaster Indigenous Research Institute**

**Deadline        March 31**

McMaster University is accepting applications for Director of the McMaster Indigenous Research Institute. See the job posting online: <http://www.csn-rec.ca/job-postings/12199-director-mcmaster-indigenous-research-institute-miri-mcmaster-university>

L'Université McMaster est à la recherche d'un(e) directeur (directrice) de l'Institut de recherche autochtone de McMaster. Voir l'offre d'emploi en ligne (la demande a été postée en anglais seulement): <http://www.csn-rec.ca/job-postings/12199-director-mcmaster-indigenous-research-institute-miri-mcmaster-university>

### **Affichage du poste de professeur-e à l'École de travail social à l'UQAM**

**Deadline June 1**

Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Funding opportunities for doctoral students**

**Deadline April 1 & November 1**

Click [here](#) from more information.

## **News & Notices**

### **CRCF Huddle**

A few CRCF members decided to join together in a Huddle - a gathering of people who wish to define next steps, and envision how to transform the energy shown at the Women's Marches into local and national action. Please contact [Jennifer Nutton](#) if you would like to join the Huddle. During the initial meeting, CRCF Huddlers identified two issues they would like to act on:

1. Pre-clearance bill (Bill C-23) would give U.S. border agents in Canada new powers
2. Parents of autistic children form united front to call for better services

#### **1. Bill C-23**

Briefly, under this Bill, U.S. border guards would get new powers to question, search and even detain Canadian citizens on Canadian soil under a bill proposed by the Liberal government.

A Canadian going to the U.S. through a pre-clearance area [on Canadian soil] can say: 'I don't like the way [an interview is] going and I've chosen not to visit your country.' And they can just turn around and walk out.

"Under the new proposed bill, they wouldn't be able to walk out. They can be held and forced to answer questions, first to identify themselves, which is not so offensive, but secondly, to explain the reasons for leaving, and to explain their reasons for wanting to withdraw," -- Michael Greene, Q.C. Click [here](#) for more information.

Below are a list of actions you can take if you would like to join CRCF Huddlers in voicing concerns about this Bill.

- Sign & circulate the [petition](#) (also find more info on the Bill here)
- Contact [Ralph Goodale](#), the MP responsible for this Bill; 1 613 947-1153
- Contact your MP, since MPs tend to put much more stock in communication they receive from their own constituents. (Follow this link to find out who your MP is: <https://openparliament.ca/politicians/ralph-goodale/contact/> )

## 2. Autism Coalition of Quebec (ACQC)

The Autism Coalition of Quebec (ACQC) is a group of about 300 parents who are joined together to promote timely and efficacious treatment for children who are on the Autism Spectrum. Four representatives of this group have been seen in the [media](#) lately, trying to bring their shared issues to the public so their concerns are better understood. As part of the CRCF Huddle, we have reached out to this group to offer our support and find out from them how they think we could help them.

In speaking with one of the mothers in the group we found out that the Minister of Health and Social Services is expected to table a project related to services for children with Autism within the next few weeks. The ACQC is concerned that the tabled project will focus on a "one size fits all" approach to treatment/support for children and their families, but this groups believes that although all their children have Autism, each child is different, with different abilities and different needs and so they are pushing for a more open and "customizable" approach to supporting children that takes into account the expertise of the parents re: their knowledge of what works and does not work for their own child. They want their children to "...not only survive, but to thrive". In anticipation of the Ministry's tabling their project, the ACQC want to prepare themselves to be able to respond to the project. They want to have a better understanding of what approaches/programs are currently being used in treatment/support of children with Autism (Applied behavior analysis (ABA), occupational and physical therapy, speech and language therapy, Relationship Development Intervention (RDI)), but they need literature that can demonstrate that these types of programs and therapies have been proven effective. Also, they want to know what else might be out there that they are not aware of. As the CRCF Huddle, we have begun collecting literature that will be summarized for this group. If anyone is interested in helping out, either with collecting literature or summarizing it, please contact Sacha Bailey ([sachanicole.bailey@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:sachanicole.bailey@mail.mcgill.ca)) or Gina Glidden ([gina.glidden@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:gina.glidden@mail.mcgill.ca)).

### **CRCF Fall workshop: Data Organizations -- Things I wish I didn't do to my data**

In the Fall, Biru will be organizing a workshop on "Data Organizations -- Things I wish I didn't do to my data". If you have any suggestions on topics to be covered in this workshop within the realms of data organization and basic data cleaning, please e-mail [Biru](#) your suggestions before April 1st, 2017.

### **Contacts for evaluation of suicide prevention initiatives**

NAMHR is currently putting together a list of researchers and consultants interested in doing (or already engaged in)

- program evaluation

- accompanying communities in community mobilisation and implementation of programs
- participating in knowledge transfer activities through virtual communities of practice in suicide prevention in Nunavik and Nunavut

The two first require frequent travel and commitment, the third is punctual.

Please write to [Sarah Fraser](#) if you are interested or know individuals who should be on this list. The list will submit to partners in Nunavik and Nunavut currently coordinating suicide prevention efforts.

Also please let Sarah know if you or your team have previous experience in this area of work.

### **Congratulations to Melissa & family!**

Melissa Van Wert's beautiful baby boy, Henry, was born on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Welcome Henry!



### **Welcome to new CRCF member Dominic Bell!**



Dominic is in his final year of law school at McGill and is passionate about nation-nation building and reconciliation between the Canadian state and Aboriginal peoples' *via* cross-disciplinary studies. This semester, he is clerking for the Superior Court of Québec, working as a teaching assistant for political theory, and conducting research towards a First Nations Incidence Study. In his spare time, he enjoys watching soccer, reading speculative fiction, and trying new recipes

## **Publications & Presentations**

**Community sidelined: The loss of community focus in differential response**

[Ashleigh Delaye](#) and [Vandna Sinha](#)

Click [here](#) for more information.

**The Placement Trajectories of Youth Served by Child Protection for Sexual Abuse**

**[Tonino Esposito](#), [Ashleigh Delaye](#), [Martin Chabot](#), [Nico Trocmé](#), [Delphine Collin-Vézina](#) and Megan Simpson**

Click [here](#) for more information.

***ON THE RADAR* Volume 3, Issue 1 – Recommendations for integrating evidence into funding decisions**

*On The Radar* is a dissemination initiative from the Centre for Research on Children and Families that promotes its members' research work. Click [here](#) to see the latest issue

