

# Elizabeth Fast, Ph.D.

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## Research Interests

Indigenous youth; youth engagement; youth leaving care; urban Indigenous identities; Métis identities; child welfare policy; decolonization; community-based prevention; intergenerational traumas; Indigenous methodologies.

## Education

**Post-doctoral researcher (May 2014-ongoing)**, École Nationale d'Administration Publique, CREVAJ (Canada Research Chair in Evaluating Public Actions among youth and vulnerable populations), Montréal, Québec

**Ph.D. Social Work**, McGill University, Montréal Québec. Degree granted summer **2014**. Dissertation Title: An exploration of cultural identity among urban Indigenous youth in Montreal, *in conjunction with an urban Indigenous advisory committee*.

**Master of Social Work**, McGill University, Montréal, Québec. Degree granted **2007**.

**Bachelor of Social Work**, McGill University, Montréal, Québec. Degree granted **2001**.

## Work Experience

**Facilitator**, Urban Indigenous youth committee, Montréal, Québec, **2010-2014**

**Facilitator**, Inuit pride and empowerment program, Ulluriaq Centre, Montréal, Québec, **2010-2011**

**Student supervisor for B.S.W. students**, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, Montréal, Québec, **2006-2007**

**Staff trainer and curriculum developer for intervention in cases of child sexual abuse**, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, Montréal, Québec, **2005-2009**

**Staff trainer and curriculum developer for clinical progress notes training**, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, Montréal, Québec, **2007**

**Human Relations Agent**, Evaluation and Orientation, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, Montréal, Québec, **2003-2007**

**Housing worker for youth leaving care**, Pape Adolescent Resource Centre (PARC), Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, **2002-2003**

**Intake Worker**, Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, **2001-2002**

**Individual and family counselor (student practicum)**, Institute of Community and Family Psychiatry, Jewish General Hospital, Montréal, Québec, **2000-2001**

**Community outreach worker (student practicum)**, N.D.G. Senior Citizen's Centre, **1999-2000**

**Group facilitator for de-institutionalized women living with mental health diagnoses (student practicum)**, Douglas Hospital, Montréal, Québec, **1998-1999**

**Respite workers for adults with severe neurodevelopmental delays and Individual worker for young adults with FASD**, Manitoba child and family services, Winnipeg, Manitoba, **1995-1997**

## Publications & Presentations

### Articles, book chapters and government reports

**Fast, E., Trocmé, N., Fallon, B., Ma, J.,** (2014). Adolescents in the Canadian child welfare system: A troubled group? Analyses from the Canadian incidence study-2008, *Children and Youth Services Review*, 46, 47-54.

**Fast, E., Trocmé, N., & Ives, N.** (2014). The Inuit of Nunavik: Urbanisation as product of colonization. In H. Michell & C. Wheaton (Eds.), *KITASKINO: Key issues, challenges and visions for northern Aboriginal communities in Canada*. Vernon, B.C.: JCharlton Publishing Ltd. Retrieved from: <http://www.jcharltonpublishing.com/kitaskino.html>

**Fast, E., Trocmé, N., Ives, N., Montgomery, H.M., Bertrand, S., Bertrand, N., Mitchell, J.** (Accepted). Definitions and barriers to cultural identity among urban Indigenous youth in Montreal: Resistance and negotiation. In E. González Castillo & Carton de Gramont, N. (Eds.) *Politics, economy and popular culture in the Americas*.

Nutton, J. & **Fast, E.** (in press). Historical trauma, substance misuse and Indigenous peoples: Seven generations of harm from a 'Big Event'. *Journal of Substance Abuse and Misuse*.

**Fast, E., Trocmé, N., Bertrand, N., Bertrand, S., Mitchell, J.** (submitted November 2014). Cultural identity among urban Indigenous youth in Montreal: Strategies of identity building or cultural preservation? *Journal of Transcultural Psychiatry*.

Goyette, M., **Fast, E., Pontbriand, A.** (submitted November 2014). Entre mobilité et ancrage: Rapport aux territoires et transition à la vie adulte chez les jeunes Autochtones. *Enfance, Famille & Générations* (article submitted for special edition).

**Fast, E. & Goyette, M.** (in progress). Belonging and displacement: Do urban Indigenous youth and youth leaving care share common ground? To be submitted December 2014 to *Journal of Youth Studies*.

Hélie, S., **Fast, E., Turcotte, D., Trocmé, N.** (submitted July 2014). Major findings from the Québec incidence study of reported child abuse and neglect. Accepted for special issue of *Canadian Journal of Public Health*.

Collin-Vézina, D. **Fast, E., Hélie, S., Pelletier, S. Cyr, M. & Fallon, B.** (accepted December 2014). Sibling and nonsibling sexual abuse cases under child protection investigation: Characteristics and service decisions: Analyses from the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect -2008. *Journal of Child Sexual Abuse*.

Rothwell, D., **Fast, E. & DeBoer, K.** (in progress) Child and family characteristics associated with economic hardship in Aboriginal families: Analyses from the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect – 2008.

**Fast, E., Sinha, V. & Trocmé, N.** (2012). *The health and well-being of First Nations youth: Household environment*. In The First Nations Information Governance Centre (Ed), First Nations Regional Health Survey (RHS) Phase 2 (2008/10) National report for adults, youth and children living in First Nations communities (pp. 241-247). Ottawa: The First Nations Information Governance Centre. Retrieved from: [http://fnigc.ca/sites/default/files/First\\_Nations\\_Regional\\_Health\\_Survey\\_2008-10\\_National\\_Report.pdf](http://fnigc.ca/sites/default/files/First_Nations_Regional_Health_Survey_2008-10_National_Report.pdf)

**Fast, E., Diabo, T., Sinha, V., Collin-Vézina, D. & Delasablonnière-Griffin, M.** (2011). Underlying trauma research in First Nations communities: A New outlook to help understand Aboriginal overrepresentation in the criminal justice system. Research and Statistics Division, Justice Department of Canada, Ottawa. 40pp.

Sinha, V., Trocmé, N., Fallon, N., MacLaurin, B., **Fast, E.**, Thomas Prokop, S. et al (2011). *Kiskisik Awasisak: Remember the children. Understanding the overrepresentation of First Nations children in the child welfare system.* Ontario: Assembly of First Nations. Retrieved from: <http://cwrp.ca/fn-cis-2008>

Sinha, V., **Fast, E.**, Trocmé, N., Fallon, B. & MacLaurin, B. (2010). La composante Premières nations de l'Étude Canadienne sur l'incidence des signalements de cas de violence et de négligence envers les enfants: Une approche axée sur le renforcement des capacités dans le cadre d'une recherche nationale appliquée aux Premières nations. *Nouvelles Pratiques Sociales*, 23, 83-98. Retrieved from: <http://www.erudit.org/revue/nps/2010/v23/n1/1003169ar.pdf>

Trocme, N., Fallon, B., MacLaurin, B., Sinha, V., Black, T. & **Fast, E.** Et al. (2010). *Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect – 2008: Major Findings, chapters 1-5.* Public Health Agency of Canada (eds.). Ottawa, 2010. Retrieved from: <http://cwrp.ca/cis-2008>

**Fast, E.** & Collin-Vézina, D. (2010). Historical trauma, race-based trauma and resilience of Indigenous Peoples: A literature review. *First People's Review*, 5 (1), 126-136. Retrieved from : <http://journals.sfu.ca/fpcf/fr/index.php/FPCFR/article/view/181/150>

**Fast, E.**, Felstiner, C. & Black, T., (Fall, 2007). 2008 Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect: Preparing for the third cycle. *Canada's Children*, 7-12. Retrieved from: <http://www.cwlc.ca/sites/default/files/file/Canada's%20Children/CC%20Fall%202007.pdf>

#### **Peer Reviewed & Invited Presentations (\* indicates peer-reviewed)**

\***Fast, E.** (2014). *Urban Indigenous youth and youth leaving care: Do they share common ground?* Presented at the Prairie Child Welfare Consortium, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

\***Fast, E.** (2014). *Engaging Indigenous youth in research: A way of honoring Indigenous epistemology?* Presented at the Qualitative Inquiry Conference, Indigenous Inquiries section, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

**Fast, E.** (2014). *Identité culturelle parmi les Autochtones et les services de la protection de la jeunesse.* Centre Universitaire de Santé McGill, Programme réseau et partenariats et la Programme de santé du Nord, Montréal, Québec.

**Fast, E.,** Bertrand, N., Bertrand, S. & Mitchell, J. (2013) *The role of culture in the lives of urban Indigenous Youth in Montreal.* CKUT Radio Station, Radio interview with Youth Advisory Members, Montreal, Quebec.

**Fast, E.** (2013). *The role of culture in the lives of urban Indigenous Youth.* Presented as an invited community lecturer as part of a series on empowerment education for adult learners at Forward House, Montreal, Quebec

**Fast, E.** (2013). *Indigenous Social Policy.* Presented as a guest lecturer for the course Social Policy in the McGill School of Social Work.

**Fast, E.** (2012). *Qualitative Research Methods: Using grounded theory and O.C.A.P. principles with Indigenous young adults*. Presented as a guest lecturer for the course Research Methods (SWRK 423) in the McGill School of Social Work.

\***Fast, E.,** Ma, J., Fallon, B., Trocmé, N. (2012). *Maltreatment of youth in Canada: Analyses from the Canadian Incidence Study-2008*. Presented at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

\***Fast, E.,** Sinha, V., Trocmé, N., Fallon, B., MacLaurin, B. (2010). *A Capacity-building approach to national level First Nations research*. Presented at the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii.

\***Fast, E.** (2010). *Aboriginal youth empowerment*. Poster Presentation, Network for Aboriginal Mental Health Research, Vancouver, B.C.

\***Fast, E.,** Sinha, V., Trocmé, N., Fallon, B., MacLaurin, B. (2010). *The First Nations component of the Canadian incidence study: A capacity building approach*. Presented at the Canadian Association of Social Work Education Conference, Montreal, Québec.

\***Fast, E.,** Petti, T., Thomas Prokop, S., Chabot, M. Sinha, V. (2010). *The First Nations component of the Canadian incidence study: A capacity building approach*. Presented at the National Indian Child Welfare Association Conference. Portland, Oregon.

**Fast E. & Sinha, V.** (2010). *The Strengthening Black families project*. Presented findings of Phase I evaluation to trainers and staff at the Cote-des-Neiges Black Community Association. Montréal, Québec.

**Fast, E.** (2009). *The Youth protection system in Canada : Critical thought and ethics*. Guest speaker Critical Thought and Theory and Knowledge, Values and Ethics (SWRK 525), McGill University School of Social Work. Montréal, Québec.

**Fast, E.,** Sinha, V., Trocmé, N. (2009). *The First Nations Component of the Canadian Incidence Study-2008*. Presented at the Centre for Research on Children and Families Research Seminar. Montréal, Québec.

**Fast, E.** (2008). *The Development of a Best Practice Model in cases of Child Sexual Abuse*. Presented findings from Master's thesis to social workers at Batshaw Child and Family Centres. Montreal, Québec.

\***Fast, E.** (2008). *The Development of a best practice model in cases of child sexual abuse*. Presented at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

\***Fast, E.** (2008). *The Development of a best practice model in cases of child sexual abuse*. Poster presentation, Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Program's Current Issues in Child Maltreatment, Toronto, Canada.

#### **Article, book reviews & web-based dissemination**

**Fast, E.,** Simpson, M. & Trocmé, N. (2014). Saskatchewan's child welfare system: CWRP Information Sheet #128E. (2014). Montreal, QC: McGill University, Centre for Research on Children and Families. Retrieved from: [http://cwrp.ca/sites/default/files/publications/en/SK\\_final\\_infosheet.pdf](http://cwrp.ca/sites/default/files/publications/en/SK_final_infosheet.pdf)

Simpson, M., **Fast, E.**, Wegner-Lohin, J & Trocmé, N. (2014). Québec's child welfare system: CWRP Information Sheet #126E. (2014). Montreal, QC: McGill University, Centre for Research on Children and Families. Retrieved from: [http://cwrp.ca/sites/default/files/publications/en/QC\\_final\\_infosheet\\_0.pdf](http://cwrp.ca/sites/default/files/publications/en/QC_final_infosheet_0.pdf)

Nutton, J., **Fast, E.**, Sinha, V. (2014). CWRP Information Sheet #124E. (2014). Montreal, QC: McGill University, Centre for Research on Children and Families. Retrieved from: [http://cwrp.ca/sites/default/files/publications/en/NS\\_final\\_infosheet.pdf](http://cwrp.ca/sites/default/files/publications/en/NS_final_infosheet.pdf)

**Fast, E.** (2010). (Book review of: Pedophilia and sexual offending against children: Theory, assessment and intervention, by Seto, M., 2008). *Children and Youth Services Review*, 32, 306-307.

**Fast, E.** (2009). Study finds group homes increase risk of delinquency (Review of article *Delinquency in child welfare: Investigating Group Home Effects*). Retrieved from: <http://www.cecw-cepb.ca/researchwatch/1091>

**Fast, E.** (2009). Study of two American Indian tribes finds addictions programs and social support could improve parenting outcomes (Review of article *Childhood abuse and later parenting outcomes in two American Indian tribes*). Retrieved from: <http://www.cecw-cepb.ca/researchwatch/665>

**Fast, E.** (2009). Study finds support for kinship care placements (Review of article *Impact of kinship care on behavioral well-being for children in out-of-home care*). Retrieved from: <http://www.cecw-cepb.ca/researchwatch/780>

**Fast, E.** (2008). Study suggests long-term foster care does not worsen children's behavior problems over time (Review of article behavioral problems following reunification of children in long-term foster care). Retrieved from: <http://cwrp.ca/researchwatch/758>

**Fast, E.** (2008). Systematic review finds more rigorous studies needed to assess impact of independent living programs for youth (Review of article *Independent living programs for improving outcomes for young people leaving the care system*). Retrieved from: <http://www.cecw-cepb.ca/researchwatch/762>

**Fast, E.** (2008) Study points to importance of careful consideration in reasons for placement of youth (Review of article *Differences in the factors associated with out-of-home placement for children and youth*). Retrieved from: <http://www.cecw-cepb.ca/researchwatch/750>

**Fast, E.** (2007). Longitudinal study confirms previously victimized children at higher risk of future victimization (Review of article *Re-victimization patterns in a national longitudinal sample of children and youth*). Retrieved from: <http://www.cecw-cepb.ca/researchwatch/724>

## Research Experience

**Co-facilitator:** *Exploring structural violence in the lives of Métis youth: An Arts-based approach* (part of a CIHR grant; in partnership with Dr. Catherine Richardson at University of Montréal), **2014-2015**

**Lead researcher:** *Understanding the trajectories of child welfare involvement among Indigenous women using shelter services (file review)*, part of the Building Research Capacity among mainstream and First Nations child welfare agencies SSHRC partnership grant; **2014-ongoing**

**Principal Investigator:** *Native Women's Shelter of Montreal and Batshaw Youth and Family Centres: A better vision for Aboriginal families in Montreal* (\*this is proposed research under ethics and scientific review at Centres Jeunesse Montréal – Institut Universitaire), **2014-2017**

**Co-investigator:** *Le Devenir des jeunes en placement*, SSHRC-funded longitudinal study of youth leaving care (mixed methods, surveys and interviews) and *principal investigator* of proposed Aboriginal over-sample (mixed methods, surveys, interviews, sharing circles and Aboriginal advisory oversight), **2014-ongoing**

**Principal investigator:** *An Exploration of cultural identity among urban Indigenous youth in Montreal*, dissertation research with 20 urban Indigenous youth using grounded theory, oversight provided by a youth advisory committee, **2011-2014**

**Coordinator:** *Kiskisik Awasisak: Remember the Children. Understanding the Overrepresentation of First Nations Children in the Child Welfare System*, Trained child welfare workers on data collection procedures; made site visits and verified data in B.C., Manitoba, Ontario and Québec; oversaw data entry and cleaning; provided financial oversight; coordinated First Nations advisory meetings and supervised M.S.W. placement in Manitoba, **2007-2010**

**Coordinator:** *Strengthening Black Families Project*, Data analysis and coordination of evaluation project in 4 Montreal sites funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, **2009-2011**

**Graduate Research Assistant, Human Rights Tribunal:** Conducted literature review for Expert Witness Testimony of Dr. Nico Trocmé for the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society Human Rights Complaint for underfunding of First Nations children on-reserve, **2008-2009**

## **Teaching, Training & Supervision**

### **Teaching**

**Instructor:** *Méthodes Qualitatives* (Doctoral course), École Nationale d'Administration Publique, (ENP 9103), **Winter 2015**

**Instructor:** *Contemporary Social Issues Among First Peoples* (Undergraduate), First Peoples' Studies, Concordia University (FPST 402), **Fall 2013**

**Co-instructor:** *Indigenous Field Course* (Mixed undergraduate and graduate), Multi-disciplinary course, McGill University, (IDFC 500), **Spring 2013**

**Instructor:** *Social Policy*, School of Social Work (undergraduate), McGill University, (SWRK 428), **Fall 2010 & Fall 2011**

**Teaching Assistant:** *Research Methods*, School of Social Work, McGill University, (SWRK 423), **Winter 2010**

**Teaching Assistant:** *Introduction to Quantitative Research for Child Welfare staff*, **Spring 2008 & Spring 2009**

**Trainer:** *Introduction to Child Sexual Abuse*, Kahnawake Shakotia'takehnhas Community Services, **2006**

**Student Supervision**

Graduate Student Mentor, *Building Research Capacity Among First Nations and Mainstream Child Welfare Agencies*, McGill University, **2013-ongoing**

M.S.W. Research Practicum Supervisor, *The Native Women's Shelter of Montreal research on safe and secure housing for Indigenous women in Montreal*, McGill University, **2013-2014**

M.S.W. Research Practicum Supervisor, Program Evaluation - On Our Own Transitional Housing for young parents, McGill University, **2010-2011**

M.S.W. Research Practicum Supervisor, First Nations Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect, University of Calgary – distance education, **2008-2009**

B.S.W. Practicum Supervisor, Evaluation and Orientation, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, **2004-2005**

**Funding & Awards (\*under review or grant application in progress)**

**\*SSHRC Insight Development Award**, *Defining "successful" outcomes for Indigenous youth leaving care, SSHRC post-doctoral award (application to be completed February 2015), \$70,000, proposed timeline 2015-2017*

**\*Post-doctoral funding**, *Defining "successful" outcomes for Indigenous youth leaving care, SSHRC post-doctoral award (application completed September 2014), \$40,000, proposed timeline 2015-2017*

**Post-doctoral funding**, *Building Research Capacity in First Nations and mainstream child welfare agencies, a SSHRC-funded project, \$42,000, 2014-2015*

**Research Award** for fieldwork, participant engagement funds, *National Network for Aboriginal mental health research, \$5,000, 2010-2014*

**Doctoral funding**, *Fonds de recherche sur la société et la culture, \$63,000, 2011-2014*

**Principal Investigator**, *Justice Canada: A new framework for understanding trauma in the Criminal Justice system, \$20,000, 2010*

**Doctoral funding**, *National Network for Aboriginal Mental Health Research, \$42,000, 2009-2010*

**Graduate Research Fellowship**, *Faculty of Arts community engagement in First Nations communities, \$5,000, 2008*

**Most Outstanding M.S.W. Thesis**, *School of Social Work, McGill University, \$400, 2007*

**Lotte Marcus Sheldon Award for Innovation in Research**, *School of Social Work, McGill University \$500, 2007*

## **Affiliations, Volunteer & Community Involvement**

**Special Guest Editor**, *Indigenous Inquiries in the Academy in the Journal of International Review of Qualitative Research*, **2014-2015**

**Member**, *Indigenous Inquiries Circle*, group of international Indigenous scholars that organize the annual Indigenous Inquiries Circle of the Congress of Qualitative Inquiry (QI), **2014-ongoing**

**Member of Organizing Committee**, *Children and Youth in Challenging Contexts: Wisdom 2 Action Event Montreal*, an ART of HOSTING event, **2014**

**Member of Board of Directors**, *Native Women's Shelter of Montreal*, **2014-ongoing**

**Researcher**, *Indigenous child welfare group*, graduate students with shared interest in Indigenous child welfare collaborate to share resources and work on publications, **2014-ongoing**

**Research Consultant**, *Development of an Aboriginal Team, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres*, **2013-ongoing**

**Committee Member**, *Circle of Care of the Urban Aboriginal Health Strategy Network*, **2013-ongoing**

**Committee Member**, *Social service committee of the Urban Aboriginal Health Strategy Network*, **2010-ongoing**

**Committee Member**, *Child Welfare Policy Group of the Centre for Research on Children and Families*, **2011-ongoing**

**Manuscript Reviewer**: *First Nations Child and Family Caring Society Online Journal, the International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction, Francophonie et Éducation*, **ongoing**

**Founding Member & Communications Coordinator**, *Social Work Association of Graduate Students, McGill University*, **2009-2011**

**Volunteer consultant**, *Inter-tribal Youth Centre of the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal, for development of an Aboriginal youth employment and training program*, **2011-2012**

**Volunteer research consultant**, *Gesgapegiag First Nation social services for the development of English addiction treatment facilities*, **2010-2011**

**Committee member & chair**, *Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, Clinical integration group for child sexual abuse*, **2005-2007**