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### **Current Research Projects**

**Co-Investigator** **2020-2027 / \$2,500,000**  
**SSHRC Partnership Grant**

**Project:** *Canadian Consortium on Child Trauma & Trauma-Informed Care (C3T&TIC): Developing cohesive intersectoral practices and policies to support trauma-impacted children and youth.*

The overall goal of this partnership is to establish a Canadian Consortium on Child Trauma & Trauma-Informed Care to leverage TIC practice and policy initiatives that are currently implemented across Canada into a unified Canadian TIC movement. Proposed activities to be carried out with the support of dozens of partners and collaborators across Canada include: (1) knowledge transfer and advancement; (2) Intersectoral partnership development and collaboration; (3) enhancement of university-agency partnerships; (4) training and professional advancement for students and emerging scholars, and (4) sensitization of the public on the issues of complex trauma and TIC. PI Dr. Delphine Collin-Vézina (McGill).

**Principal Investigator** **2020-2021 / \$21,466**  
**SSHRC Partnership Engage Grant**

**Project:** *Foundation-building for a trauma-informed approach to improving the well-being of adolescents and workers in group care contexts.*

This research supports a 1-year collaboration between the University of Regina Faculty of Social Work, the McGill Centre for Research on Children and Families, and Child and Family Services of Western Manitoba (CFS-WM). The project is designed to support CFS-WM in their pursuit of group care program redesign to reflect principles of trauma-informed care. The objectives of this partnership are to co-construct relevant, context-specific, evidence-based training material and support strategies to increase group care worker knowledge and practices in responding to childhood trauma, and to pilot-test its implementation in three diverse adolescent group care settings within CFS-WM. Co-Investigator (CI) Dr. Delphine Collin-Vézina (McGill).

**Co-Principal Investigator** **2020 / \$47,342**  
**CIHR Knowledge Synthesis Grant: COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity in Mental Health and Substance Use**

**Project:** *Translating knowledge for child welfare organizations across the Canadian Prairies: Managing the impacts of COVID-19 on the mental health of children, families, and workers.*

Funds will support a 6-month knowledge translation initiative to rapidly compile, vet and synthesize research and resources related to COVID-19 and its impact in the child welfare sector (children, families, and workers), with a specific focus on the prairie provinces. The initiative aims to further develop a URegina CTRC Digital Connections Hub website to have one point of access to resources, including a knowledge synthesis, newly acquired published research, research summaries, infographics, and concrete tools. Co-PI Dr. Nathalie Reid (URegina CTRC).

**Co-Principal Investigator** **2020 / \$10,000**  
**Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Research Connections COVID-19 Rapid Response Program**

**Project:** *Creating a Digital Connections Hub to support children in care in Saskatchewan during COVID-19 and beyond.*

To ensure service providers have the knowledge and resources to meet the complex health, social, psychological, educational, and environmental needs of children in care during COVID-19, we will conduct a socio-ecological scan of existing and emerging research and resources to establish a dynamic Digital Connections Hub through the University of Regina Child Trauma Research Centre (CTRC). This will facilitate the mobilization of important resources to relevant stakeholders, including caregivers. Co-PI Dr. Nathalie Reid (URegina CTRC).

**Principal Investigator (2 grants)** **2019-2021 / \$9,675**

**1-SSHRC/University of Regina President's Fund Research Seed Grant (\$4,975)**

**2-McGill Centre for Research on Children and Families RBC Training Fellowship (\$4,700)**

**Project:** *Determining the supports needed for group home workers to provide trauma-informed care to children and adolescents.*

This study seeks the perspectives of 300 group care staff working in units with a diverse group of children and adolescents across Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec. Through online and paper surveys we examine general knowledge and attitudes towards trauma-informed care, perceived support by organizations for its provision, personal and professional experiences that may impact their work, and resilience characteristics. The findings will indicate targets for staff support and training, organizational advocacy for such support and training, as well as potential strategies for worker resilience enhancement. Sole investigator.

**Principal Investigator** **2019-2020 / \$5,000**

**McGill Centre for Research on Children and Families Seed Grant**

**Project:** *Seed funding for a Tri-Council Agency grant application on implementing and testing the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics in a group care facility.*

This seed funding facilitates two main activities in the grant application process: (1) An intensive, year-long training program - *Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics* - an innovative, trauma-informed approach to working with at-risk and/or traumatized children and adolescents; and (2) Support in preparing the grant application through the hiring of a student research assistant. The funding will serve to leverage funds in a larger grant application. Sole investigator.

**Co-Investigator** **2017-2021 / \$155,193**

**SSHRC Insight Grant**

**Project:** *In Search of Promising Approaches: Canadian Child Protection Responses to Cases of Intimate Partner Violence*

This four-year project aims to develop a better understanding of new policies and practices that have been implemented by Canadian CPS authorities in response to children exposed to violence in the home, as well as to identify policy and practice gaps. Four provinces will serve as the primary sites of investigation – Manitoba, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, where varying policy and practice changes have been developed. Specific recommendations for policy and practice will be developed for each of these provinces. PI Dr. Kendra Nixon (UManitoba).

**Co-Investigator****2019-2020 / \$50,000****SSHRC Connection Grant****Project:** *A one-year series of outreach activities on childhood complex trauma: Developing a cohesive intersectoral approach to trauma-informed child & youth services.*

This initiative aims to create opportunities for knowledge exchange, new partnerships, and sources of mutual support to further promote the cross-sector development and sustainable integration of trauma-informed care in child-serving systems in Canada. Three outreach activities include: (1) a Complex Trauma Journal Watch; (2) "Research2Practice" Knowledge Bulletins; and (3) Communities of Practice facilitated by the PI to promote outreach, supervision, and knowledge exchange among workers and support staff in child protection agencies in six regions across Québec. A half-day Communities of Practice Summit was hosted on June 19, 2019 in Montreal uniting all six regions, following a Bilingual Symposium on Complex Trauma and trauma-informed care. PI Dr. Delphine Collin-Vézina (McGill).

**Co-Principal Investigator****2018-2020 / \$8,000****University of Regina - Distributed Distance Learning****Project:** *Evaluating learning for Social Work and Justice Studies Practicum Seminars.*

The objectives of this research are to develop a deeper understanding of the experiences of undergraduate practicum students in the Faculties of Social Work and Justice Studies completing their seminar in face-to-face, blended and online forums; to compare the experiences of students using classroom-based and live online formats, and to use this information to enhance online practicum seminar experiences for future undergraduate students by ensuring the integration of appropriate pedagogical design, thoughtful integration of student collaboration opportunities, and evaluation into online courses. CI Dr. Kara Fletcher (URegina).

**Principal Applicant (decision July 2020)****2020-2022 / \$54,452****SSHRC Insight Development Grant****Project:** *Supporting workers to build resilience in trauma-impacted children: A Saskatchewan pilot study in a residential program.*

Funds were requested to support a 2-year knowledge-building collaboration between the University of Regina Faculty of Social Work, McGill Centre for Research on Children and Families, and Eagles Nest Youth Ranch in Saskatchewan who provide services to over one hundred children and adolescents in a group living environment. The project will take place across two phases in order to: (1) develop, implement and evaluate a trauma-informed training program for Eagles Nest group home staff; and (2) based on this program, to implement and test intervention activities with children in two group home settings. The overarching goals are to support workers and enhance their skills, and to build resilience in trauma-impacted children through emotional and behavioural self-regulation interventions. Co-Applicants (CAs) Dr. Delphine Collin-Vézina (McGill) and Dr. Kara Fletcher (URegina).

**Co-Applicant (decision July 2020)****2020-2022 / \$74,935****SSHRC Insight Development Grant****Project:** *Stories to tell: A pilot podcast project for youth with lived experience of crystal meth use in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.*

The objective of this pilot research project is to respond to the current crystal meth crisis in the city of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan by establishing a podcast produced and developed by youth with lived experience of crystal meth and polysubstance use, and to document this process through informal interviews as well as through community listening events and listener surveys to better understand the impact of the project. PA Dr. Kara Fletcher (URegina).