

# BRINGING CHILDREN IN FROM THE MARGINS: SYMPOSIUM ON CHILD RIGHTS IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## AGENDA

14 - 15 May 2013

Alumni Auditorium  
Jock Turcot University Centre  
85 University Private  
University of Ottawa  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

### Informal Reception

Monday 13 May

5:30 – 7:00 pm

Faculty of Social Sciences (FSS) Room 4004

*Please join us for light refreshments.*

### Day one (May 14): Panel Presentations (8:30 am – 5:00 pm)

	Time	Room
Registration	Opens 8:00 am	Alumni Aud
<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>	8:30 am – 8:45 am	Alumni Aud

### Welcoming remarks

#### **Introduction by Senator Mobina Jaffer, Chairperson, Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights**

*Senator Mobina Jaffer represents the province of British Columbia in the Senate of Canada, where she chairs the Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights. Appointed to the Senate on June 13, 2001 by the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, she is the first Muslim senator, the first African-born senator, and the first senator of South Asian descent. Senator Jaffer chaired a Senate study on the sexual exploitation of children in Canada and the same committee recently produced a study on cyberbullying. Senator Jaffer served as Canada's Special Envoy for Peace in Sudan from*

2002 to 2006. From 2002 to 2005, she chaired the Canadian Committee on Women, Peace, and Security. As a grandmother, women's rights and children's rights are central to Senator Jaffer's advocacy. An accomplished lawyer, Senator Jaffer has practiced law at the firm Dohm, Jaffer and Jeraj since 1978. Appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1998, Senator Jaffer was the first South Asian woman to practice law in Canada and she has a distinguished record of service to the legal profession. The Women's Executive Network named Senator Jaffer among Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women in 2003, 2004, and 2005. In 2003, she received an Honorary Doctorate from Open Learning University. Senator Jaffer earned a Bachelor of Laws from London University in London, England in 1972. She has also completed the Executive Development program at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. Born in Uganda, Senator Jaffer speaks six languages and is married with two adult children and one grandson.

### Keynote Address

8:45 am – 9:00 am Alumni Aud

#### [Rachel Hodgkin, Children's Rights Advocate](#)

Rachel Hodgkin is a children's rights consultant and children's advocate. She has been active in the field of children's rights advocacy since 1979, the International Year of the Child, when she helped set up a UK "Children's Legal Centre" where she worked for 13 years. Between 1993 and 1998 she was head of policy at the National Children's Bureau and clerk to the All Party Parliamentary Group for Children. During this period she also worked with UNICEF and the Council of Europe, and wrote various books and reports, including (with Peter Newell) "Effective Government Structures for Children". Other publications include "Advocacy for Children" for the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (1998), "Child Impact Statements 1997/98 - an experiment in child-proofing UK Parliamentary Bills" (Gulbenkian/NCB 2000) and "Rethinking child imprisonment – a report on young offender institutions" (CRAE 2002). With Peter Newell she is co-author of UNICEF's "Implementation Handbook for the Convention on the Rights of the Child", now in its fourth edition. Currently she works as an independent expert on children's rights, most recently for the "Children are unbeatable!" campaign against physical punishment, for the Council of Europe on the rights of children in care and for AFRUCA (Africans Unite Against Child Abuse) on the issue of "witch branding". She is also a guest lecturer on the children's rights course at the London School of Economics.

### PANEL 1: Child Rights Impact Assessment: A tool for advancing children's rights

9:00 am - 10:30 am Alumni Aud

#### [Child Rights Impact Assessment: The NGO perspective](#)

[Lisa Payne, Interim Public Affairs Director](#)  
[UNICEF United Kingdom](#)

This presentation will give a description of how the NGO sector in the UK piloted Child Rights Impact Assessment with the Westminster [UK] Government. Based on that experience, Lisa will take a practical look at 'what, why, how, who and when' in relation to undertaking Child Rights Impact Assessment.

Lisa Payne has worked in child advocacy in the UK for more than 20 years – the majority of those as Head of Policy at the National Children's Bureau (NCB) in London where she was responsible for overseeing NCB's Policy Unit (the public affairs team) as well as acting as the organization's core adviser and strategist on working with Government and Parliament. She was policy adviser on a number of areas including children's rights, education, skills development, participation, children in care, mental health and youth justice. During that time, she piloted Child

*Rights Impact Assessment on behalf of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Children. She also managed a range of policy research projects and managed the Children and Youth Board (CYB), a panel of 25 under-18s who, between April 2005 and March 2011, provided policy advice to Department for Education (DfE) officials and their ministers. Since May 2012, Lisa has been leading on UNICEF UK's domestic policy and parliamentary work, and is now Interim Public Affairs Director. She is working with the Office of the Children's Commissioner for England on CRIA, and is supporting the Department for Education as it develops its own model and training programme for CRIA.*

### **Child Rights Impact Assessment: Issues and challenges**

**Carmel Corrigan, Independent Researcher**

This presentation is based on an exploratory study, *The Development and Implementation of Child Impact Statements in Ireland* (2006). The study included a review of models of Child Rights Impact Assessment employed in various jurisdictions and other forms of policy impact assessment, such as poverty proofing, environmental impact assessment and gender proofing used in Ireland and internationally. A number of key issues in Child Rights Impact Assessment identified by the study, including a focus on the development of tools and templates, and the need for an evidence-base that Child Rights Impact Assessment works in effecting change, will be outlined. Challenges in developing and introducing Child Rights Impact Assessment as a central means of influencing policy, legislation or administration will also be presented, such as the need for sufficient and necessary resources, including expertise and appropriate data on children and their lives, as well as the need to consider who should undertake Child Rights Impact Assessment, at what level and at what stage.

*Carmel Corrigan is a sociologist with extensive experience in the area of children's rights. She has undertaken an exploratory study on the development of child impact assessment in Ireland. This study also looked at issues of definition, rationale, composition and methodologies used in other jurisdictions (Developing and Implementing Child Impact Statements in Ireland. Dublin: The National Children's Office. 2006). She has also undertaken a second study on developing a model of child impact assessment for the Irish-born children faced with potential deportation due to the non-national status of their parents (All Our Children: Child Impact Assessment for Irish Children of Migrant Parents. Dublin: The Children's Rights Alliance. 2006). Other research projects include an evaluation of the impact of the EU Instruments affecting children's rights and the compilation of Ireland's joint third and fourth periodic report on the implementation of the UNCRC for examination by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Carmel is currently contracted by the Irish Ombudsman for Children's Office and is a member of the Board of the Irish Children's Rights Alliance. She is undertaking her PhD in the School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin.*

### **Do Kiwis Love Hobbits More than Children?**

**Nic Mason, Research Opportunities Manager**

**Faculty of Education, University of Auckland, New Zealand**

New Zealanders love Hobbits - the fictional diminutive human race who inhabit Middle-earth in Tolkien's books. Kiwis are very proud of Peter Jackson, Fran Walsh and Philippa Boyens' achievements for putting their beautiful country on global screens and for winning Oscars. However, this kiwi love affair for fictional small people does not wholly extend to embracing NZ's very real 'small humans'. NZ child poverty rates are appalling and the latest UNICEF Innocenti report highlights substantial NZ data gaps: central government was too busy pressing-the-flesh with Hollywood to get the statistics together. This presentation will therefore focus upon advances for NZ children in local government. Child impact assessments (CIAs) were piloted in two large NZ cities: one sought to understand the experiences of children who lived in the inner city; the other wished to diminish the endless amounts of rubbish between convenience stores and schools. These case studies identified constructive points of

learning to effectively progress CIAs in local government. Substantial political reform occurred in 2011 whereby these two cities amalgamated with other cities and districts to form NZ's largest metro council: the new Auckland Council now delivers a myriad of services for 1.5 million citizens. Sustained calls for the best interests of children to be integrated into local government policy and practice were heard by Auckland Councillors: the collective wisdom (and courage) of 21 local politicians has placed children and young people as Strategic Priority #1. Will this strategic advancement enable hobbits *and* children to win New Zealanders' hearts and minds?

*Nic Mason has undertaken project management roles, and also specializes in qualitative and quantitative analysis and report writing, for a wide variety of audiences. Nic has a varied professional background that includes working in central and local government, with non-government organizations, and as a research consultant. Broadly, this work has had a social justice and development focus that has traversed youth, health, mental health, suicide prevention, human rights, sustainability and wellbeing issues. Her current role as Research Opportunities Manager with the Faculty of Education at the University of Auckland, New Zealand enables her to have aspirational conversations with Faculty colleagues about their research interests and to then convert these ideas into funded research projects – domestically and internationally. With her two gorgeous children, she lives amongst native flora and fauna on the fringe of Auckland – New Zealand's largest city.*

### **Making Children Visible in Policy Making in Northern Ireland**

Goretti Horgan

University of Ulster

Equality legislation in Northern Ireland mandates that all policies from public bodies must have an equality impact assessment (EQIA), to ensure that there are no differential impacts on particular groups covered by the legislation. One of the grounds on which discrimination is forbidden is age, so EQIAs should include assessment of the impact of the particular policy on children and young people. At the end of 2011, an EQIA was published of the proposed welfare reforms which were about to come before the Northern Ireland Assembly. The EQIA failed to take any account of the impact of the welfare reforms on children and young people. The NI Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) commissioned a Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) of the proposed legislation. The CRIA showed that children's rights would be seriously harmed; its publication proved controversial, with the Minister who was introducing the legislation saying it was inaccurate and partisan (although he was unable to point to any inaccuracies, apart from challenging estimates based on his own Department's statistics). The CRIA led to political debate in the region having to take account of what the welfare reforms will mean for children and some concessions have already been made to the legislation as a result of making visible the impact of this policy on children.

*Goretti Horgan is a lecturer in Social Policy in the School of Criminology, Politics and Social Policy of the University of Ulster. A former community worker who studied part-time to become a researcher, she specializes in poverty and children's rights issues. Before joining the University, she was a Senior Research Officer with the National Children's Bureau, and then Save the Children. Her interest in child poverty led to an exploration of welfare to work policies and their impact on family poverty. Goretti moved to the University in 2003 where she lectures and is a member of the Institute for Research in Social Sciences and Deputy Director of Policy with ARK ([www.ark.ac.uk](http://www.ark.ac.uk)). She researches and writes about child poverty and children's rights generally; welfare to work and the interaction of poverty and Northern Ireland's legacy of conflict, as well as women's rights. She was Chair of the Northern Ireland Anti Poverty Network 2005 – 09 and remains a member of NIAPN's Board of Directors.*

Break

10:30 am – 11:00 am

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**PANEL 2: Impact Assessments in Canada: Lessons and congruencies**

11:00 am – 12:30 pm Alumni Aud

**Lessons Learned from Privacy Impact Assessments**

Lara McGuire Ives, Manager, Privacy Impact Assessment Review  
Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada

Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) have been a formal policy requirement for Canadian federal government institutions since 2002. Since then, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC) has evaluated over 700 PIAs, making recommendations to federal institutions on how to align their practices with legal and policy requirements to ensure the privacy rights of Canadian citizens are protected during program design and implementation. This presentation will provide an overview of PIA requirements for Canadian federal government institutions, outline the role of the OPC, and discuss some of the strengths and weaknesses associated with the current system, offering insights for Child Rights Impact Assessment.

*Lara McGuire Ives is Manager, Privacy Impact Assessment Review in the Audit and Review Branch of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC), where she has worked since 2007. She is responsible for evaluating government programs and initiatives for compliance with privacy-related legislation and policy and providing guidance to institutions on how to build privacy requirements into their practices. In addition, Lara oversees the OPC's external affairs relating to PIAs, coordinating educational sessions and resources for federal institutions. Prior to joining the OPC, Lara worked with the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society in the areas of professional responsibility and legal ethics and with the federal Office of the Minister of Canadian Heritage. A native of Prince Edward Island, Lara holds an LL.B. from the University of Ottawa and a B.A. in Political Science from Saint Mary's University.*

**Lessons from Gender Equality Impact Assessment**

Rieky Stuart  
Gender at Work

Gender impact assessment has a long history in the “family” of policy and regulatory impact assessment, in Canada and abroad. Like Child Rights Impact Assessment, an aim is to ensure a balance of interests in the decision-making process. Rieky Stuart will discuss what Child Rights Impact Assessment can learn from gender impact assessment.

*Rieky Stuart is a consultant in international development, and promotes gender equality through evaluations, strategies and programmes. She has worked and lived in Africa, Asia and Canada as a teacher, development programmer, consultant and manager. She was Executive Director of Oxfam Canada from 1999 to 2005. She previously served as Deputy Director for the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, and also taught at St. Francis Xavier University's Coady International Institute. She is currently a senior associate of Gender at Work and has participated in numerous voluntary sector boards.*

## Looking at the use of Indicators in the Fight against Poverty

Vincent Greason, Coordonnateur

Table ronde des OVEP de l'Outaouais (TROVEPO)

In 2002, the Québec Government became the first jurisdiction in Canada to adopt a Law to Fight Poverty and Social exclusion. After 10 years, conclusions can be drawn as to how this law has impacted upon poor people in Québec. Indeed the Québec Government had already drawn its own conclusions: *Le Québec Progresse* is the name of a flyer distributed to all Québec welfare recipients in 2008. In claiming that progress is being made, the Government is relying upon its indicator-based approach to measuring poverty and the indicators are signifying that progress is being made. However the experience of poor people tells another story. Stories are one form of truth; indicators are another. When indicators are used to define what is real and public policy is formulated primarily to meet indicator-based targets, everyone loses. While the indicator-based approach to fighting poverty may have some use, poverty is ultimately not a phenomenon to be studied and measured. It is a political injustice to be remedied. These lessons in the use of indicators will offer CRIA practitioners insights in the use and misuse of indicators.

*Since 2001, Vincent Greason has worked at the Table ronde des organismes volontaires d'éducation populaire de l'Outaouais (TROVEPO), a regional coalition of popular education groups in Western Québec. From 1993 until 2001, he worked at the TROVEPO's provincial movement where he was coordinator. He is also on the Executive Council of the "Ligue des droits et liberté"s. Mandated by the Ligue, he represented Québec's NGOs during Canada's periodic review under the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2006) and during Canada's first review under the Universal Periodic Review process (2009). In 2010-11, Vincent was the holder of the Law Foundation of Ontario's "Community Leadership in Justice" Fellowship and was a guest researcher at the University of Ottawa's Human Rights Education and Research Centre. In 2009-10, as a Fellow of the Carold Institute, he spent a "sabbatical" year researching and writing on the state of Québec's community movement. In a previous life, he was active in the field of trade union popular education, working at the Metro Labour Education Centre, a project of the Toronto Labour Council. From 1985-87, he worked at the Canadian office of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU) where he was involved in the anti-apartheid struggle.*

## [Presentation description to come]

Margo Greenwood, Academic Leader

National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health

*Dr. Margo Greenwood is an Indigenous scholar of Cree ancestry with more than 25 years' experience focused on the health and well-being of Indigenous children and families. Margo is an Associate Professor in both the First Nations Studies and Education programs at the University of Northern British Columbia. Her current research interests include social determinants of health with particular emphasis on colonization and children's rights; children's cultural identity formation and the exploration and articulation of Indigenous epistemologies and ontologies. She has worked as a front line caregiver of early childhood services, designed early childhood curriculum, programs, and evaluations, and taught early childhood education courses at both the college and university levels. Margo received the Queen's Jubilee medal in 2002 and was recognized in 2010 as the 'Academic of the Year' by the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC. Most recently she was honoured with the National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Education in 2011. As a mother of three, she is personally committed to the continued well-being of children and youth in Canada.*

Lunch

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

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**PANEL 3: Child Rights Impact Assessment: A growing global practice**

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Alumni Aud

**Child Rights Impact Assessment in Wales**

Martin Swain, Deputy Director, Children, Young People & Families  
Welsh Government

The Welsh Government is clear in its continued commitment to improving the lives of children and young people in Wales. The introduction of the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011 was a demonstration of this commitment and we are determined that it will have a positive impact on children, young people and their families. The Measure embeds consideration of the UNCRC, and the Optional Protocols, into Welsh law. The Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) developed by the Welsh Government is a six step approach which acts as a tool for officials when developing or reviewing policy and/or legislation. External stakeholders with expertise in the UNCRC and children and young people's issues have helped develop the tool as part of our consultation process. In developing a Children's Rights Impact Assessment we felt it was vital that it was a model that was workable and easy to understand. All the training in place will introduce the CRIA as an essential tool to support staff in considering and having due regard to the UNCRC when developing or reviewing policy and or legislation.

*Martin was educated in Chepstow in Wales and went on to study at the University of Wales and the University of Glamorgan, both in Wales. Martin has a Higher National Certificate in Business, a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration and a Masters in Business Administration (focussing on innovation and organisational change theory). Martin also holds a Post Graduate qualification in teaching and has lectured (part time) in Further Education on Organizational Development, Strategic Marketing, Complexity and Change Management. Martin has worked in central government for nearly 21 years following a short spell in private industry. He has worked in various departments including Industrial Development, Inward Investment Policy and Inward Investment Promotion, Education, Public Health, Culture, Sport and Children and Families. He was also one of the Project Managers who worked on the new Welsh Senedd (Assembly) building project. Martin is currently Deputy Director for Children, Young People and Families. Delivering programmes with an annual budget of over £100 million, Martin is also responsible for policy in relation to children's rights and participation, advocacy, family support, childcare, play and key policy and programmes in the early years.*

**A Short History of Child Right Impact Assessments in Scotland**

Tam Baillie, Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People  
Scotland Commission for Children and Young People

The Commissioner will provide a short history of the approach to Child Rights Impact Assessments (CRIA) in Scotland. It will cover the development and production of the publication *Children's Rights Impact Assessment: The SCCYP model, 2006*; an outline of the uptake in the model following publication; the interaction with statutory duties under the Equality Act 2010; and the recent re-emergence of interest and activity around CRIA. The presentation will include some examples of where the CRIA has been used, illustrating potential areas for development.

*Tam Baillie has worked as a manager and practitioner with children and young people for 30 years, primarily with young offenders; young people in and leaving care; and young homeless people. Tam has worked in Scotland and England and in both the statutory and voluntary sectors. He worked as the Director of Policy for Barnardo's Scotland from 2003 and worked extensively on children's policy and rights issues. In May 2009, Tam took up the post of Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People. As the Commissioner, Tam's remit is: to have regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; to encourage the involvement of children and young people in the work of the Commissioner; and to promote and safeguard the rights of children and young people in Scotland. These rights are set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which the UK Government signed up to in 1991.*

### **The Child and Youth Impact Report in Flanders (Belgium)**

**Dr. Ellen Desmet**

**Human Rights Centre, Ghent University / Law and Development Research Group, University of Antwerp**

In Flanders (Belgium), a child and youth impact report (JoKER) must accompany all legislative proposals based on an initiative of the Flemish Government, that have a direct impact on the interests of persons under the age of 25. An in-depth evaluation of this impact assessment instrument was carried out by the Children's Rights Knowledge Centre (KeKi). Based on multiple data collection techniques (including an electronic survey and focus group discussions), JoKER was critically evaluated as to its scope, quality, process, support and control, effectiveness and impact. The evaluation required maintaining a balance between various perspectives and tensions. A major challenge concerns the tension between mainstreaming JoKER in the more general regulatory impact assessment (RIA), on the one hand, and preserving the specificity of a youth and children's rights perspective, on the other.

*Ellen Desmet is a post-doctoral researcher at the Human Rights Centre of Ghent University and the Law and Development Research Group of the University of Antwerp (Belgium). Before, she was a senior research and policy staff member at the interdisciplinary Children's Rights Knowledge Centre (KeKi), and she taught anthropology of law at the KU Leuven. She complemented her law studies with a master in Cultures and Development Studies (KU Leuven) and a master in Development Cooperation (UGent), and holds a PhD in Law from the KU Leuven. Her research interests are situated in the areas of human rights, children's rights, indigenous peoples' rights, legal anthropology and research methodology. Publications include: "Indigenous Rights Entwined with Nature Conservation" (2011, Intersentia); "Implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child for 'youth': who and how?" in the International Journal of Children's Rights (2012); and "European and International Policy Agendas on Children, Youth and Children's Rights. Comparison and Possible Synergies" (Kenniscentrum Kinderrechten, 2010).*

**Break**

**3:00 pm – 3:30 pm**

**PANEL 4: Child Rights Impact Assessment in Canada: Opportunities and entry points**

**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Alumni Aud**

### **Child Rights Impact Assessment in New Brunswick: A new experience**

**Hubert Cormier, Senior Policy Analyst**

**Executive Council Office, Province of New Brunswick**

The presentation will focus on the recent implementation of the Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) methodology in the decision making process for the Province of New Brunswick. CRIA evaluations are now done through a two-part assessment tool implemented in February 2013. This assessment is now applied to all proposals related to new or amended government policies and legislative proposals for consideration by the Executive Council. The presenter will share insights on the challenges and successes of the experience as well as the ongoing partnership with the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate, UNICEF Canada and the Université de Moncton.

*Hubert Cormier is a Senior Policy Analyst with the Executive Council Office of the Province of New Brunswick. In this capacity he provides advice and direction to a number of social policy oriented departments in the preparation of proposals for consideration by the Policy and Priorities Committee of Cabinet. He is also involved in the direct or indirect coordination of a number of horizontal projects such as the Integrated Services Delivery Model, Learning Agenda and Child Rights Impact Assessment. Hubert holds a Bachelors of Social Sciences from the University of Ottawa and a Masters in Public Administration from the Université de Moncton. In his off time he enjoys cheering for his son at the soccer fields and is an avid kayaker.*

### A Child Friendly Lens: Growing pains

Shelley Kwong, Child Friendly Coordinator  
The City of Edmonton

Shelley Kwong of Child Friendly Edmonton will present on the existing child friendly lens and how it was brought into The City of Edmonton's policy framework in 2005. We will share how it has migrated into different tools since then along with the other child-friendly governance conditions needed to make this work, such as creating a city council committee – Youth Council, having a Child Friendly coordinator, having a regular state of children report, and our newest link to Kids at Hope (building a culture of hope.)

*Shelley Kwong is the Child Friendly Coordinator and has been with the City of Edmonton for over 25 years. She has experience in community recreation, aquatics, dry land and everything in-between. She currently sits on the City of Edmonton Kids At Hope Implementation Committee as well as the Alberta Recreation Parks Association, Child and Youth Committee.*

## Day two (May 15): Concurrent Workshops (9:00 am – 3:00 pm)

	Time	Room
Registration	Opens 8:30 am	Alumni Aud
<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>	9:00 am – 9:30 am	Alumni Aud
<b>WORKSHOP SERIES A (concurrent breakout workshops)</b>	9:30 am -10:30 am	
<b>A.1 Just ASK: Simple to sublime</b>		Alumni Aud

Stoney McCart, Executive Director, The Students Commission of Canada, Centre of Excellence for Youth Engagement  
Maddy Ross, Youth Co-presenter

When is child engagement rocket science and when is it not? We'll take a look at a range of child consultation models: simple, complex, one-off and sustained, in a variety of settings ranging from correctional institutions to open fields. Where's the science, where's the art, and where's the plain old just being you? We'll talk about costs and return on investment. We'll look at a blend of theory, evidence, and practical tips. Young people who have been involved in some of the models will co-present.

*Stoney McCart is co-founder and Executive Director of the Students Commission of Canada; a national youth-serving charity that focuses on supporting young people in putting their ideas into action. In 2000, the Students Commission was named lead to the Centre of Excellence of Excellence for Youth Engagement, a national consortium of youth, academics and youth-serving organizations that focuses on evaluating, researching and sharing the story on best practices for youth engagement. Stoney has over 30 years of experience working with and listening to young people.*

## **A.2 Rights to Action**

FSS 6032

Martin Swain, Deputy Director, Children, Young People & Families  
Welsh Government

The Welsh Government is clear in its continued commitment to improving the lives of children and young people in Wales. The introduction of the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011 was a demonstration of this commitment and we are determined that it will have a positive impact on children, young people and their families. The Measure embeds consideration of the UNCRC, and the Optional Protocols, into Welsh law. This workshop will offer a practical application of our consideration of the UNCRC and Child Rights Impact Assessment using 'real' world examples of application: Organ Donation; and Flying Start, a programme for all 0 - 3 year olds in Wales.

*Martin was educated in Chepstow in Wales and went on to study at the University of Wales and the University of Glamorgan, both in Wales. Martin has a Higher National Certificate in Business, a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration and a Masters in Business Administration (focussing on innovation and organisational change theory). Martin also holds a Post Graduate qualification in teaching and has lectured (part time) in Further Education on Organisational Development, Strategic Marketing, Complexity and Change Management. Martin has worked in central government for nearly 21 years following a short spell in private industry. He has worked in various departments including Industrial Development, Inward Investment Policy and Inward Investment Promotion, Education, Public Health, Culture, Sport and Children and Families. He was also one of the Project Managers who worked on the new Welsh Senedd (Assembly) building project. Martin is currently Deputy Director for Children, Young People and Families. Delivering programmes with an annual budget of over £100 million, Martin is also responsible for policy in relation to children's rights and participation, advocacy, family support, childcare, play and key policy and programmes in the early years.*

## **A.3 Child Rights Impact Assessment and the Impact of Business on Child Rights**

FSS 14001

Subajini Jayasekaran  
Corporate Social Responsibility Specialist, UNICEF Headquarters

In February 2013, the Committee on the Rights of the Child adopted its General Comment No. 16 on State obligations regarding the impact of the business sector on children's rights. In doing so, it became the first UN human rights treaty body to address directly the impact of business. Together with the *Children's Rights and Business Principles*, it has contributed to the development of norms and standards on child rights and business. As the Committee noted, the impact of the business sector on children's rights has grown in past decades because of factors such as the globalized nature of economies and of business operations and the on-going trends of decentralization, and outsourcing and privatizing of State functions that affect the enjoyment of human rights. Business can be an essential driver for societies and economies to advance in ways that strengthen the realization of children's rights through, for example, technological advances, investment and the generation of decent work. However, the realization of children's rights is not an automatic consequence of economic growth and business enterprises can also negatively impact children's rights. States have obligations regarding the impact of business activities and operations on children's rights.

The General Comment gives interpretation and guidance for States in key areas:

- a. preventing adverse impact on children's rights by business;
- b. creating an enabling environment for business to respect children's rights across their local or global operations; and
- c. ensuring access to remedy for children whose rights have been violated.

In particular, the Committee recommends that States use Child Rights Impact Assessments to evaluate the impact on children of business related legislation and policy development and delivery – at all levels of government. This presentation will provide an overview of the General Comment and the role of the business sector in children's rights. The session will seek to facilitate discussion on the use of impact assessment methodologies in the context of business impact on children.

*Subajini Jayasekaran works on child rights and business with UNICEF's corporate social responsibility unit in New York. She played an instrumental role in the development of the Children's Rights and Business Principles, which were released in March 2012. Suba has a background in child rights, child protection and emergency programming. She has worked with UNICEF for over a decade in Asia, Africa and at headquarters. Prior to joining UNICEF, she spearheaded an award-winning youth empowerment programme for new immigrants in Canada. Suba has a Masters Degree in Social Policy and Planning from the London School of Economics.*

#### **A.4 Child Impact Statements and Child Rights Impact Assessment in Ireland: Past considerations, current practice**

FSS 14005

[Carmel Corrigan, Independent Researcher](#)

Despite a commitment under Ireland's first National Children's Strategy, *Our Children – Their Lives, 2000-2010*, the systematic use of child impact statements by government departments has not been introduced in Ireland. This workshop will briefly consider some of the issues and challenges that arose in the consideration of child impact statements in Ireland. It will then move on to consider whether work carried out by the Irish Ombudsman for Children's Office under its remit to advise government on any matter relating to the rights and welfare of children, including the probable effect on children of the implementation of any proposal for legislation, and also as a result of systemic change brought about through its complaints investigation function, can be seen as effective forms of Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA). The potential of the NGO sector to contribute to Child Rights Impact Assessment will also be briefly addressed through an example of work by the Irish Children's Rights Alliance. The workshop will be participative and ask participants to consider questions such as:

- What are participants' understandings of 'Child Rights Impact Assessment'?
- Is CRIA the most effective means of influencing policy, legislation and administrative decisions?
- Do forms of CRIA already exist in Canada?
- Is the development of a template, toolkit, etc. necessary if the use of CRIA is to become widespread?
- Who should be responsible for undertaking CRIA and in what form?
- What resources will be required to support the practical and effective introduction of CRIA in Canada?

*Carmel Corrigan is a sociologist with extensive experience in the area of children's rights. She has undertaken an exploratory study on the development of child impact assessment in Ireland. This study also looked at issues of definition, rationale, composition and methodologies used in other jurisdictions (Developing and Implementing Child Impact Statements in Ireland. Dublin: The National Children's Office. 2006). She has also undertaken a second study on developing a model of child impact assessment for the Irish-born children faced with potential deportation due to the non-national status of their parents (All Our Children: Child Impact Assessment for Irish Children of Migrant Parents. Dublin: The Children's Rights Alliance. 2006). Other research projects include an evaluation of the impact of the EU Instruments affecting children's rights and the compilation of Ireland's joint third and fourth periodic report on the implementation of the UNCRC for examination by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Carmel is currently contracted by the Irish Ombudsman for Children's Office and is a member of the Board of the Irish Children's Rights Alliance. She is undertaking her PhD in the School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin.*

#### **A.5 Talk it Through, Work it Out, Move it Along: Make a positive difference NOW for local children**

FSS 4013

Nic Mason, Research Opportunities Manager

Faculty of Education, University of Auckland, New Zealand

Step 1: Bring your local government policy or project plan to the workshop that you want assistance in identifying the best interests of children (*Bring an unconventional policy /project plan e.g., transport infrastructure, stormwater management, animal welfare*)

Step 2: Share your one research question which reflects the particular policy/project strand you want guidance/discussion/ideas from at this workshop (*What is a simple and important question that local children would want to know the answer about?*)

Step 3: Gather pertinent child-specific information and data with colleagues and on the WWW. Identify where new information needs to be found to answer your research question, including information directly from local children (*How will your agency meaningfully and sensitively integrate marginalised children's perspectives and experiences?*)

Step 4: Identify road-blocks and backlashes: how will you mitigate negative determinants with positive improvements? Consider win-win options (*What does a 'win' look like for local children?*)

Step 5: Consider how your agency will creatively communicate the Child Rights Impact Assessment findings to children and adults, including conflicts, alternatives and how the best interests of children will be met (*Which communication methods will reach diverse groups of children so that they may receive and respond to this new information?*)

Step 6: Identify how to track policy/project progress and children's outcomes (*What is really essential to demonstrate and achieve in local children's lives now and into the future*)

To Bring: Laptop (so as to use WWW) and brief policy statement (one paragraph) outlining who, what, where, when, why.

*Nic Mason has undertaken project management roles, and also specializes in qualitative and quantitative analysis and report writing, for a wide variety of audiences. Nic has a varied professional background that includes working in central and local government, with non-government organizations, and as a research consultant. Broadly, this work has had a social justice and development focus that has traversed youth, health, mental health, suicide prevention, human rights, sustainability and wellbeing issues. Her current role as Research Opportunities Manager with the Faculty of Education at the University of Auckland, New Zealand enables her to have aspirational conversations with Faculty colleagues about their research interests and to then convert these ideas into funded research projects – domestically and internationally. With her two gorgeous children, she lives amongst native flora and fauna on the fringe of Auckland – New Zealand's largest city.*

#### **A.6 The Benefits of Children and Youth First Principles in Providing Government Services - and the Link to Child Rights Impact Assessments**

FSS 5023

[Roxane Schury, Manager Legislation, Policy and Planning](#)

[Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, Corrections and Policing, Custody, Supervision and Rehabilitation Services](#)

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is a 54-article international treaty which provides minimum human rights standards recognizing the vulnerability and developmental needs of children and youth. The Saskatchewan Children and Youth First Principles were developed by the Advocate for Children and Youth in 2007 as a means to provide a simplified guide to assist government and community in understanding and promoting child rights. Endorsed by the Saskatchewan Government in 2009, the Principles are adhered to within the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, Corrections and Policing, in the supervision and rehabilitation of youth serving custody and community orders. A rights and principles based philosophy in providing correctional services supports evidence based practice, enhances public safety, decreases recidivism and respects the best interests of the youth we work with. This presentation shares the successes of working from a rights and principles based philosophy and explores how systemically entrenching this philosophy can benefit government legislation, policy and practice for children and youth. Children and Youth First Principles is an effective tool to introduce legislators and policymakers to the CRC and the fact that they have the obligation to consider the rights of children and youth in their work. This presentation explores how this easy tool can contribute to a positive outcome when legislation or policy is analyzed using Child Rights Impact Assessment.

*Roxane Schury has worked in virtually every child and youth serving system in her home province, bringing a rich background to her current work as Manager of Legislation, Policy and Planning for the Ministry of Justice, Corrections and Policing in Saskatchewan. While working at the Saskatchewan Advocate for Children and Youth, Roxane participated in the development of the Saskatchewan Children and Youth First Principles which are founded on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Roxane co-presented these Principles provincially and at the 4<sup>th</sup> Biannual Symposium of the Prairie Child Welfare Consortium. She also presented at the World Congress on Children and Adolescent Rights, Barcelona, Spain in 2007. Additionally Roxane co-authored a book chapter with then Provincial Child Advocate Marvin Bernstein about the development of the Principles in 2009. Roxane received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Humanitarian Service from the University of Regina (U of R) for her*

child rights work. She holds Bachelor Degrees in Indigenous Studies and Social Work from the U of R. She also holds a M.S.W from the University of Calgary, culminating with a placement at the NGO Group on the CRC in Geneva, Switzerland as Researcher and Liaison to the CRC Committee.

### A.7 Child Welfare Services for Indigenous Children on Reserve in Canada: A human rights violation (30 minutes)

FSS 11003

Melinda Andrews and Vanessa Beaton

Students

In this presentation, we tell a story bringing together political, legal and personal responses to the human rights complaint made against Canada to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal brought by the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society in 2007. The complaint alleges that Canada is systemically discriminating against Indigenous children by providing less government funding for child welfare services on reserves than is provided to non-Indigenous children. This inequitable funding means that lesser services are available on reserves to help correct care related issues. With fewer services addressing the conditions causing Indigenous children on reserves to be reported to child welfare agencies, these children are at greater risk of being apprehended from their families and placed in out-of-home care. We argue that current federal underfunding of child welfare services on reserves perpetuates a historical legacy of systemic discrimination against Indigenous children in Canada. This situation is being presented as context to guide a discussion in considering Child Rights Impact Assessments in an Indigenous, Canadian context.

### Governing Encapsulated Universes (30 minutes)

Mina Sennek

Student

Canada is a grand social experiment of weaving 7000 encapsulated universes<sup>1</sup> from 196 nations into a single nation and this poses a challenge for designing policy to suit the ambition<sup>2</sup> of our cross-cultural experience. The socio-legal programs offered to our citizens do not match the diversity of encapsulated universes. Our social programs are based on the WEIRD (western educated industrialized rich democratic) biases<sup>3</sup> of our social science research. Any time we have a failure of our socio-legal systems to prevent the harming of young women by members of their own family (especially when those women actively sought protection) we need to conduct a post-mortem, determine causation, and prevent future such failures. A thorough Child Rights Impact Assessment of every law, policy, and regulation that touched upon that failure will determine the specific social conditions in which our socio-legal systems fail. A cursory glance discloses that they met none of the core principals of the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* (non-discrimination; best interests of the child; child survival and development; and elicitation and consideration of the views of children) in part because they ignored the specific encapsulated universe in which that family existed.

Break

10:30am – 11:00am

Alumni Aud

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<sup>1</sup> Lena Boroditsky, *Encapsulated Universes* (2013).

<sup>2</sup> Greg Downey, *We agree it's WEIRD, but is it WEIRD enough?* «*Neuroanthropology* (2010).

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Henrich, Steven J Heine & Ara Norenzayan, "The Weirdest people in the world?" (2010) 2010 Behavioral and Brain Sciences 1.

**B.1 Child Rights Impact Assessment in England**

Alumni Aud

Lisa Payne, Interim Public Affairs Director  
UNICEF United Kingdom

This workshop will provide a detailed overview of a Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) pilot led by the National Children's Bureau and Children's Legal Centre in England between 2004 and 2007, the lessons from which influenced the development of the Scottish Commissioner for Children and Young People (SCCYP) CRIA template, and the current Office of the Children's Commissioner for England CRIA activities. This workshop will also include a CRIA practice run for participants.

*Lisa Payne has worked in child advocacy in the UK for more than 20 years – the majority of those as Head of Policy at the National Children's Bureau (NCB) in London where she was responsible for overseeing NCB's Policy Unit (the public affairs team) as well as acting as the organization's core adviser and strategist on working with Government and Parliament. She was policy adviser on a number of areas including children's rights, education, skills development, participation, children in care, mental health and youth justice. During that time, she piloted Child Rights Impact Assessment on behalf of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Children. She also managed a range of policy research projects and managed the Children and Youth Board (CYB), a panel of 25 under-18s who, between April 2005 and March 2011, provided policy advice to Department for Education (DfE) officials and their ministers. Since May 2012, Lisa has been leading on UNICEF UK's domestic policy and parliamentary work, and is now Interim Public Affairs Director. She is working with the Office of the Children's Commissioner for England on CRIA, and is supporting the Department for Education as it develops its own model and training programme for CRIA.*

**B.2 Lessons in Making Child Impact Assessment into a Tool Simple Enough for Everybody in Government to Use**

FSS 6032

Michael Schmidt, Associate Professor & Director, The University of Memphis Center for Multimedia Arts  
Julie Coffey, Executive Director, Building Bright Futures

Learn about SHELBY Child Impact Assessment, a process for conducting child impact assessments built within a Web-based suite of tools. Created for a large metropolitan county government, SHELBY is designed to be a flexible and understandable framework that helps elected officials and employees of government consider the potential impacts of safety, health, education, and land use proposals on children's health, safety, and development within their homes, schools, and neighbourhoods. SHELBY also includes features that enable youth and community stakeholders to co-write impact assessments with their local officials. Our presentation will provide impact assessment case examples and our discussion will cover critical barriers we encountered in our five-year endeavour to implement the process of child impact assessment within all divisions of a metropolitan government. The workshop will be structured to include visual presentation, demonstration and group discussion.

*Michael Schmidt is a graphic design professor, social and behavioural sciences public health doctoral student, and director of the Center for Multimedia Arts at The University of Memphis. Michael engages in community partnerships to promote child and youth rights through interventions involving exhibit, print, interactive media and software development. Michael designed SHELBY Child Impact Assessment, a Web-based application for researching and writing child impact assessments, for the government of Shelby County, Tennessee.*

*Julie Coffey is a professional advocate for children, youth and families. As founding director of the Shelby County, Tennessee Office of Early Childhood and Youth (OECY), she co-designed SHELBY Child Impact Assessment and oversaw its implementation in all divisions of county government. Additionally as OECY director, she built strategic partnerships with community agencies and local, state, and federal governments to collectively impact infant mortality, teen pregnancy, child maltreatment, and intimate partner abuse. Julie is currently executive director of Building Bright Futures, a public/private partnership dedicated to ensuring the health and success of all Vermont children.*

### **B.3 Child Rights Impact Assessment in Development Cooperation Programming**

FSS 14001

Rada Noeva, Program and Planning Manager  
UNICEF Headquarters, Gender and Rights Section

The importance of ex-ante impact assessments for evidence-based decision-making has been recognized and practiced by key development partners such as the European Union, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Bank. Several donors already include questions concerning children in their social impact assessment and project appraisal processes. Very little guidance, however, exists to date on how comprehensive assessments of the possible impacts on children can be meaningfully carried out. UNICEF has been partnering with the EU over the last 3 years to develop a Child Rights Toolkit which aims at strengthening capacities among development partners, European Commission staff, EU bilateral donors, and other stakeholders to integrate a child rights approach throughout development programming, budgeting, policy and law-making. Child Rights Impact Assessment is one of the priority areas identified as part of this work. The CRIA module developed as part of this process provides an overview and a step-by-step guide to carrying out a CRIA for staff of donor agencies, including staffs of the EU and governments who are not specialists in children's issues.

*Rada Noeva is a program and planning manager with the Gender and Rights Section at UNICEF HQ. She leads efforts to develop and implement tools and guidance on the effective integration of child rights in different aspects of development cooperation.*

### **B.4 Business and Children's Rights: The role of Child Rights Impact Assessments**

FSS 14005

Tara M. Collins, Assistant Professor  
School of Child and Youth Care, Ryerson University

While the relationship of business and human rights is beginning to be elaborated in international affairs, there continues to be a significant lacuna of understanding and analysis about the role of business and children. Consequently, this workshop considers the key question of how child rights can influence the role and efforts of business. This workshop will identify the international roles and efforts in relation to business and children's rights of states, international organizations, international non-governmental organizations and MNCs. Some successes and challenges of their efforts will be discussed. The following contributions will be considered: the *Children's Rights and Business Principles* produced by UNICEF, Save the Children, and The Global Compact, and released in 2012; and the UN's "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework. It is argued that children's rights must be respected by business and that CRIAs should be developed and advanced in order to influence all business structures, processes and results related to children.

*Tara M. Collins holds a Ph.D. in law, focusing on international child rights, from the University of London. She has worked on children's rights, particularly the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), since 1996. Her professional experience includes work for: Child Studies Program at Carleton University; the Egalitarian World Initiative (EWI) at the School of Social Justice, University College Dublin, Ireland as the*

*Marie Curie Transfer-of-Knowledge Fellow in Child Rights; the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa; a national-level non-governmental organization; the Canadian federal government (Department of Foreign Affairs and CIDA); and Canadian Parliament. She has been invited as a child rights expert by the Council of Europe to a consultation and has presented project results to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. She is a member of the monitoring committee and former board member of the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children and also an advisory committee member of the Landon Pearson Resource Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights, Carleton University.*

**B.5 Child Rights Impact Assessment and Good Governance for Children's Rights:  
Enhancing the effectiveness of the General Measures of the Convention on the Rights of the Child**

FSS 4013

**Vanessa Sedletzki, International Consultant, Human Rights, Governance, Policy & CEO Rights On  
Rights On**

Child Rights Impact Assessments represent a critical tool to foster good governance for children's rights. They constitute a significant avenue to give visibility to children's rights and best interests in political decision-making. How to make the best out of the potential they offer to influence policies for children? The workshop aims to give some insights and build an understanding of the role of CRIA in national governance systems. The framework for the implementation of the CRC is defined through the General Measures of Implementation, as articulated in CRC Committee General Comment No. 5 (2003). The workshop discusses how CRIA intersects with General Measures beyond measures directly related to children in order to strengthen their effectiveness, drawing on practical examples. Using a governance lens, it further focuses on the respective roles and responsibilities of actors in carrying out and drawing attention to CRIA in policy-making. The workshop is meant to be highly interactive and draw on participants' experience to advance the reflection.

*Vanessa Sedletzki is a human rights and governance expert providing consultancy services in support of organizations' needs for evidence-based advocacy. She is the CEO and founder of Rights On, a Paris-based company, conducting studies, advocacy and sensitization activities, strategic documents, and funding proposals for human rights and development organizations. A seasoned project manager, published author, and public speaker and facilitator, she builds on over 11 years of experience in policy advocacy and research at UNICEF Headquarters in New York and at the Office of Research Innocenti in Florence, Italy. Her work has covered a large range of child rights, governance and child protection topics, with a focus on CRC implementation at the national level through law reform, independent institutions, and social inclusion, as well as international advocacy with UN bodies. Vanessa is guided by her commitment to advancing children's rights and best interests in politics, governance systems, and policy.*

**B.6 Cultural Diversity: New factors in Child Rights Impact Assessment**

FSS 5023

**Alison M. Johnston, Principal  
A.M. Johnston & Associates, Policy & Planning Consultants**

The workshop will address emerging issues for Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA), linked to cultural diversity. Evolving international standards vis a vis cultural diversity will be discussed and the implications for CRIA will be evaluated. The scope will include recent provisions for cultural diversity in the evolving human rights framework, plus developments in other realms of international law, which clarify the standards. Examining these intersections and their implications for CRIA will give a stronger foundation for concrete discussion of meaningful CRIA within Canada. It also will highlight actions necessary for Canada to become a leader in CRIA globally.

Alison Johnston has worked as a consultant on community visioning and social transition across a broad spectrum of sectors and cultural landscapes, both urban and rural. Her areas of expertise include human rights, governance, and healthy communities. She has provided leadership for a number of initiatives concerning social and cultural sustainability, in Canada and worldwide. Her contributions at the ground level, especially in challenging multi-stakeholder scenarios, have brought ongoing advisory positions and speaking invitations internationally. Since 1997 Ms. Johnston has organized and facilitated numerous expert panels and workshops on cultural diversity within a variety of United Nations (UN) forums. She also has authored several policy papers presented at the UN. Through this work she has been privileged to contribute to standard setting, as well as breakthroughs in corporate social responsibility. However, her passion remains community-based work bridging cultures and generations. Ms. Johnston holds a M.A. in Community & Regional Planning.

Lunch

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Alumni Aud

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## WORKSHOP SERIES C (concurrent breakout workshops)

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

### C.1 Health Impact Assessment: The Canadian experience

Alumni Aud

François Benoit, Lead, National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy

This workshop will briefly present the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) process, its diffusion in Canada at the local, regional and provincial levels, and some adaptation possible to different contexts including the Aboriginal context. The participants will be asked to reflect on the promises and pitfalls of this process in Canada and its application to children. Among some of the key questions explored will be: given the accumulation of impact assessments, lenses and impact analyses, are we creating impact "fatigue"? What is the potential of separate impact assessment compared to what some are designating integrated impact assessment?

*François Benoit has been working for health organizations in the fields of policy research and communications for more than twenty years. After completing his Master's in Sociology, he lectured in community health, health sociology and organizational sociology at the University of Montréal and at the business school of the University of Montreal. More recently he was Director for Health Policy, Research and Special Projects for the Quebec Medical Association, where he collaborated with many provincial medical association members of the Canadian Medical Association. After, he became a consultant and worked for the Centre de santé et de services sociaux de la Pointe-de-l'Île in the Montréal region. He has been with the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy since November 2006, and was named the Centre's Lead in October, 2007.*

### C.2 Practical Application of Child Rights Impact Assessments

FSS 6032

Tam Baillie, Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People

Scotland Commission for Children and Young People

This workshop will provide participants the opportunity to consider the practical application of Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) within the Canadian context. The introduction to the workshop will provide an overview of the political governance arrangements in the UK, including powers held at Westminster, Scottish Parliament, Local Authorities and Health Boards and provide examples where the application of a CRIA has been

useful. This will provide the context for participants to consider the types of issues which they would identify in Canada where a CRIA could prove useful. They will then get the opportunity to consider how they would apply a CRIA to a chosen topic area in Canada.

*Tam Baillie has worked as a manager and practitioner with children and young people for 30 years, primarily with young offenders; young people in and leaving care; and young homeless people. Tam has worked in Scotland and England and in both the statutory and voluntary sectors. He worked as the Director of Policy for Barnardo's Scotland from 2003 and worked extensively on children's policy and rights issues. In May 2009, Tam took up the post of Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People. As the Commissioner, Tam's remit is: to have regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; to encourage the involvement of children and young people in the work of the Commissioner; and to promote and safeguard the rights of children and young people in Scotland. These rights are set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which the UK Government signed up to in 1991.*

### **C.3 Strategic Decisions in Developing Child Rights Impact Assessments: Illustrated by the experience of the Child and Youth Impact Report (JoKER) in Flanders (Belgium)**

FSS 14001

**Dr. Ellen Desmet**

**Human Rights Centre, Ghent University / Law and Development Research Group, University of Antwerp**

Establishing a Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) requires making strategic choices as regards, among others, scope and process. This workshop focuses on choices regarding (i) the material scope (for which proposals should a CRIA be carried out?); (ii) the personal scope (should a CRIA be done only for children (0-18 years) or be extended to young adults?); and (iii) the relationship to other impact assessment processes (should a CRIA stand alone, or be integrated with other impact assessments?). The workshop illustrates these choices with the experience of the Child and Youth Impact Report (JoKER) process in Flanders (Belgium), and invites participants to critically reflect on them.

*Ellen Desmet is a post-doctoral researcher at the Human Rights Centre of Ghent University and the Law and Development Research Group of the University of Antwerp (Belgium). Before, she was a senior research and policy staff member at the interdisciplinary Children's Rights Knowledge Centre (KeKi), and she taught anthropology of law at the KU Leuven. She complemented her law studies with a master in Cultures and Development Studies (KU Leuven) and a master in Development Cooperation (UGent), and holds a PhD in Law from the KU Leuven. Her research interests are situated in the areas of human rights, children's rights, indigenous peoples' rights, legal anthropology and research methodology. Publications include: *Indigenous Rights Entwined with Nature Conservation* (2011, Intersentia); *Implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child for 'youth': who and how?* in the *International Journal of Children's Rights* (2012); and *European and International Policy Agendas on Children, Youth and Children's Rights. Comparison and Possible Synergies* (Kenniscentrum Kinderrechten, 2010).*

### **C.4 The General Measures of Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Child Rights Impact Assessments: A Canadian perspective**

FSS 14005

**Tara M. Collins, Assistant Professor, School of Child and Youth Care, Ryerson University**

**The Hon. Landon Pearson, Chair, Landon Pearson Resource Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights, Carleton University**

The General Measures of the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child have been identified by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child as a governance framework to scaffold all the rights. These General Measures include:

- law reform and jurisprudence;
- budgeting and tracking expenditures;
- plans of action for children;
- monitoring processes and mechanisms;
- education, awareness and training;
- independent human rights institutions for children; and
- coordination efforts and mechanisms.

Research about the status of these General Measures in Canada highlights various issues and examples that should be taken into account in relation to Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA). The key question to be examined is: what are some considerations in designing and utilizing CRIs in relation to various General Measures of Implementation? For example, in relation to law reform, it has been learned that the legislative process must create the space for those who would be most affected by the change (proposed or actual) to have their voices heard. This interactive workshop will explore how the various General Measures can support the creation and implementation of CRIs, with perspectives from Canada.

*Tara M. Collins holds a Ph.D. in law, focusing on international child rights, from the University of London. Her professional experience includes work for: Carleton University; School of Social Justice, University College Dublin, Ireland; University of Ottawa; the Canadian federal government (Department of Foreign Affairs and CIDA) and Parliament; and the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children. She is an assistant professor in the School of Child and Youth Care at Ryerson University.*

*The Honourable Landon Pearson O.C. is a long-time advocate for the rights and well-being of children. From 1994 to 2005, Landon Pearson's served in The Senate of Canada, where she became known as the Children's Senator as well as the Senator for Children. Upon her retirement from the Senate in 2005, Landon Pearson moved with all her documents and papers to Carleton University where she directs a Resource Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights that has been established in her name. The Landon Pearson Resource Centre is devoted to promoting the rights of children and youth through disseminating knowledge about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, mentoring students, sponsoring youth participation in a variety of settings, organizing lectures and seminars and coordinating a growing network of child rights scholars across Canada. She is also adjunct professor in the Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's Studies.*

*Together, these workshop presenters co-authored "NOT THERE YET: Canada's implementation of the general measures of the Convention on the Rights of the Child", a joint publication of the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre and UNICEF Canada (2009).*

### **C.5 Environmental Impact Assessments: Any lessons to be learned for CRIA?**

FSS 4013

[Diane Beckett, President  
Environment and Development](#)

Diane Beckett, an environmental consultant to the Canadian International Development Agency since the late 1980's, will provide personal reflections on CIDA's approaches to addressing environmental considerations in its international development activities including environmental integration (policy-driven approach) and environmental assessment (legislative approach). She will outline the pros and cons of the approaches,

how they have or have not interacted, the ebb and flow of environment as a CIDA priority and some of the implications of CIDA's approaches to environment on CIDA's partners, particularly the not-for-profit sector. She will also provide her perspective on getting institutional buy-in, conditions for success, and challenges for addressing environmental issues in the development process – as well as possible lessons for Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA).

*Diane Beckett has been involved in environmental and social justice issues since she was a university student attending the overview hearings of the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline/Berger Inquiry (which is still seen as a landmark social and environmental impact assessment process more than 35 years later). She is passionate about environmental and social sustainability, and has worked in more than a dozen countries and across Canada on these issues. Her experience includes several decades of research, policy, planning, management and advocacy with civil society organizations, governments, universities, associations and the United Nations. She has a Bachelor of Environmental Studies and a Master's of International Affairs. When not at work, she loves visiting farmer's markets, urban biking and getting out into nature.*

### **C.6 De-mystifying Child Rights Impact Assessments**

FSS 5023

Goretti Horgan  
University of Ulster

This workshop will look at how Child Rights Impact Assessments (CRIAs) can be conducted in relation to most proposed policies using administrative data that is publicly available. Participants will examine some of the reasons why CRIAs are not carried out on a more routine basis and will explore the barriers to getting CRIA used by government. Participants will analyze the skills and knowledge that government officials might need to carry out and use CRIAs and how training could be provided.

*Goretti Horgan is a lecturer in Social Policy in the School of Criminology, Politics and Social Policy of the University of Ulster. A former community worker who studied part-time to become a researcher, she specializes in poverty and children's rights issues. Before joining the University, she was a Senior Research Officer with the National Children's Bureau, and then Save the Children. Her interest in child poverty led to an exploration of welfare to work policies and their impact on family poverty. Goretti moved to the University in 2003, where she lectures, is a member of the Institute for Research in Social Sciences and Deputy Director of Policy with ARK [www.ark.ac.uk]. She researches and writes about child poverty and children's rights generally; welfare to work and the interaction of poverty and Northern Ireland's legacy of conflict, as well as women's rights. She was Chair of the Northern Ireland Anti Poverty Network 2005 – 09 and remains a member of NIAPN's Board of Directors.*

**Break**

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Alumni Aud

**Closing Plenary**

2:15 pm - 3:00 pm

Alumni Aud

*We are grateful for the contribution provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.*

*We acknowledge the financial support of the Department of Canadian Heritage for simultaneous interpretation.*



Please check  
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