

Following the AGM held earlier this fall, the board felt it imperative to reach out to you to better understand how NACY can best serve your organization. We created a short survey consisting of seven questions that will help inform how we set priorities moving forward. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. Click [here](#) to access the survey.



News in the Sector

Recently, Canadian representatives participated in **Habitat III** discussions. The principles outlined at this summit will guide efforts of NACY and other like-minded non-profits as our government embarks on the development of important national strategies and solutions related to housing, poverty reduction, child care, infrastructure and other challenges.

Imagine Canada convened a working group of 33 organizations of all types, from across Canada, to identify recommendations on political activity regulation. NACY invites you to voice your input so that all findings can be submitted towards the Canada Revenue Agency. You can participate in the consultation [here](#).

NACY will be following the **#OutofSightOutofMind** hashtag as **Amnesty International** spearheads efforts to make sure the safety and wellness of Indigenous women and girls in northeast BC, Canada, is protected. We encourage everyone to read the [new report](#) and support this campaign.

As we enter Adoption Awareness Month, NACY is satisfied to report that Ontario is propelling new supports for adoptive families, including a grant program to help families cover the costs of post-secondary education for adopted children. The **Ministry of Children and Youth Services** has released a news [article](#) outlining its goals.

At the beginning of November, CWP's President, Harriett McLachlan, and Executive Director, Leilani Farha, appeared in front of the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (**HUMA Committee**). A study in preparing for Canada's Poverty Reduction Strategy has been made available [here](#).

[Visit Our Website](#)

Policy Developments

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, visited **Toronto Community Housing** to address key stakeholders in fields of housing, homelessness, and childcare. The report, published November 9th, details social infrastructure investments drafted and targeted at improving those areas over the next 11 years. To read the outline, click [here](#).

MPP Indira Naidoo-Harris, Ontario's associate minister in charge of child care, hosted a public forum on November 7th. The aim was to hear from expectant parents, parents, and guardians with children under 12 years of age. The province now says it will create 100,000 new child-care spaces over the next five years to ensure that 40 per cent of children under four years old are in licensed day-care centres. More forum details can be found [here](#).

The Canadian government launched an online consultation for considering two new options for eligible Canadians on leave from work to care for a newborn or a newly adopted child, in addition to

the current possibility option of a combined 12 months of maternity and parental benefits. Conclusions to this discussion can be followed in [this](#) release.

In response, the [Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada](#) and 25 community and labour organizations have sent a joint letter to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development expressing grave concerns with current federal consultations on parental leave. The [joint letter](#) notes the federal government has restricted itself to a very narrow set of options for reform.

A push for advocacy is rising among charitable foundations. According to [UNICEF's](#) global index, Canada has been rated 17th out of 29 affluent nations for children's wellbeing. The report corroborates statistics describing Toronto as the country's capital of child poverty. In wake of this, [Children First Canada](#), a new non-profit founded by Sara Austin, has launched this month. Its aims to address lack of advocacy on behalf of children in government and the private sector. Among the new charity's goals is a demand for the appointment of a children's commissioner charged with establishing policies that make children's lives better and puts the interests of children first.

Events and Opportunities

[Canada Green Corps](#) wishes to connect unemployed or underemployed youth to meaningful employment that will ignite Canada's green economy. All placements will begin late November and in late January and consist of paid positions in government, the public sector, think tanks, First Nations groups and civil society. Interested partner organizations should submit a job description to the [UNAC](#). For more information, contact Kanchan.Muti@unac.org or Julie-Pier.Nadeau@unac.org.

Celebrate the 20th annual [Children the Heart of the Matter Conference!](#) The conference will take place on February 17-18, 2017 at the Sheraton Guildford Hotel in Surrey, BC. A great lineup of keynote speakers and workshop presenters will be included. You can register [here](#).

[Experiences Canada](#) is commemorating Canada's 150th birthday in 2017 by introducing the [150&Me challenge](#): If you are between the ages of 14 and 19 and want to help shape what Canada's next 150 years will look like, you could have the chance to travel across the country with other young Canadians and work together to create your own Canada of the future. Register [now!](#)

[4-H Canada](#) is inviting youth in grades 7-12 to explore, experiment and discover the world around them! As part of the [4-H Science Fair](#), individuals can plan, research and complete their science project of choice in hopes of moving onto to the in-person Canada-wide Science Festival. Submissions are open between now and January 17th, 2017. Learn more [here](#).

Information Docket

As an outcome of the 2016 [Sandbox Project Conference](#), its stakeholders have created a fun online space with aims of facilitating cross-sector connections and building awareness of the important progress taking place for Canada's kids and youth. [Playground Noise](#) is a new blog featuring news, events and collaborative opportunities from organizations across child and youth health sector in Canada. Explore the blog at the Sandbox Project [website](#).

The [Advanced Food Insecurity Research Conference](#) is taking place November 17th and 18th. Even though registration is filling up, the conference's plenary sessions will be livestreamed for free to accommodate interest in this event. The livestream will be available at on this [link](#).

The [Prevention Coalition](#) has compiled trustworthy and comprehensive guides to help parents, educators and young people access information on addiction, drug use and other mental health issues. Below are several pages of interest they offer:

[How Kids Can Talk to Parents About Depression](#)

[Treating and Living with Anxiety](#)

[Addiction and Depression: Treating Co-Occurring Disorders](#)

[A Navigation Guide to Self-Discovery During Your Addiction Recovery Journey](#)

[Recognizing and Treating Depression During Pregnancy](#)

[Marriage and Mental Health: How to Cope When Your Spouse Has Been Diagnosed with Schizophrenia](#)
[7 Tips for Creating a Healthy and Positive Work Environment](#)
[A Healthy Home is a Happy Home: How to Optimize Your Home for Healthy, Stress-free Living](#)

In Canada, almost no research has been done on LGBTTTQ families. To counter this, the **BC Council of Families** is looking for people to participate in its **LGBTTTQ Family Conflict Research Study**, which will be conducted in Toronto, Kingston, and Ottawa, as well as via Skype locations. To participate or find out more about the project, visit this [link](#).

Training and Workshops

NACY encourages you to check out **Maytree Foundation's** webinar recording on **Neighborhood Based Strategies to Reduce Poverty**. It examines Toronto's **Parkdale People's Economy Project** and makes suggestions on what a network of community organizations could do for impoverished areas in Canada. See the webinar [here](#).

Community Resources

Fraser Health is offering free **Women's Health Testing** in Surrey, BC for breast exams, pap tests and STI testing starting November 18th. Visit the [website](#) and call to book an appointment.

Ontario has launched its **Healthy Smiles Program**. The program is designed for lower-income families in need of support. Find out if you are eligible and how to access free dental care for children 17 years and under [here](#).

November Spotlights

National Child Day takes place November 20th. It is a day to celebrate children and their rights. Members of the **Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children** will host special projects during November to commemorate the occasion. To see events and participate, visit this [link](#). The **Public Health Agency of Canada** will also provide [information](#) on activities to take place.

November is **Adoption Awareness Month** and many provinces are seeking to recognize Canada's adoptive families. **OACAS** and **Ontario's Children's Aid Societies** will be engaging the public, media and families across Ontario at the community, municipal and provincial levels. Visit their website to see their transformative [agenda](#).

November is a time where many close organizations focus on the military and veteran families in Canada. Wishing to enhance this understanding, the **Vanier Institute** has published **A Snapshot of Military and Veteran Families in Canada** - the third in a new series of publications providing statistical analyses of diverse family experiences and the social, economic, cultural and environmental contexts that shape family life. You can download the publication [here](#).

November is **Domestic Violence Awareness** month in Canada. In honour of this, the Chief Public Health Officer's report on the **State of Public Health in Canada 2016: A Focus on Family Violence** has been made public and you can view its [here](#).

NACY's Recommended Reads

Health Nexus gives us a treasure trove of valuable information in the form of a new article it has published this month. **The Conflict Family: Storytelling as an Activity and a Method for Locally Led, Community-Based Peacebuilding**, is available to read as part of the Conflict Resolution Quarterly [issue](#).

The **Vanier Institute** has released a history looking back at 50 years of data analyzing Canadian families. Download the PDF [here](#).

The new 2016 edition of "**A Guide to Early Learning and Child Care in Ontario**" is available for [purchase](#) now.

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