Overview

Shaking the Movers

This year, the Landon Pearson Resource Centre expanded Shaking the Movers and five diverse workshops were carried out across Canada in both official languages (English and French). Workshops were held in Toronto, Ontario; Ottawa, Ontario; Fredericton, New Brunswick; Montreal, Quebec, and Williams Lake, British Columbia. Workshops were held in partnership with the School of Child and Youth Care and the Faculty of Community Services at Ryerson University in Toronto; CHEO in Ottawa, The Ontario’s Provincial Advocate’s Office for Children and Youth in New Brunswick, Concordia University in Quebec, and The Centre for Restorative Justice at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia.

With a focus on non-discrimination, each of the sites explored the UNCRC with a focus on Articles 1, 2, 7, 8, 14, 16, 19, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 31.

Although each site focused on the theme of discrimination, the reports yielded distinct findings based on the venues which raised some local issues. All of the reports can be accessed on our website through the following hyperlink: www.landonpearson.ca

The workshops were generously supported by the Lawson Foundation. We would like to thank the funder and we would like to express appreciation to all of the organizers.

Shaking the Movers Organizers

Toronto, Ontario: Judy Finlay and Tara Rose-Farrell (Ryerson University)

Fredericton, New Brunswick: Christian Whalen (Office of the Child and Youth Advocate)

Vancouver, British Columbia: Brenda Morrison (Simon Fraser), Laura Wright (PhD Candidate), Angie MaPara (Equitas)

Montreal, Quebec: Natasha Blanchet-Cohen and Genevieve Gregoire-Labrecque (Concordia University)

Ottawa, Ontario: Lucy Vorobej (PhD Candidate) and Erin Benincasa with the support of CHEO (Sue Bennett)

CRAN

On Feb 7th and 8th 2019, members of the Child Rights Academic Network (CRAN) met in Ottawa, Canada to discuss and respond to recommendations from the workshops with the respect to the theme of children’s rights and non-discrimination. CRAN was developed by the Landon Pearson Resource Centre at Carleton University and is Canada’s first network of academics.
involved in teaching, researching and advocating with and for children’s rights. CRAN has been generously supported by the Muttart Foundation and has had regular presence from Muttart funders. This year, CRAN has continued to welcome additional members and also hosted supplementary conversations and meetings relevant to children’s rights – for instance, discussions surrounding international child rights research projects and additional children’s rights networks. CRAN members also belong to various sub-committees within the network and met prior to the CRAN conference to discuss ‘next steps’ in the following areas:

- Advocacy
- Networking and collaboration
- Research
- Funding

Reports summarizing the outcomes of Shaking the Movers XI were distributed in advance to CRAN participants who in turn, prepared responses to the youth participants. The conference employed the three themes relevant to children’s rights and non-discrimination: discrimination and identities; discrimination and institutions; and discrimination and action, to organize the presentations. Each presenter was asked to speak for five minutes so that everyone had a chance to be heard. Following the presentations, there was an opportunity for considerable discussion. Participants provided additional insights to the presentations, insights which will continue to enrich their research and teaching. Each panel was facilitated by a CRAN member who offered additional insights and coherently summarized panel discussions relevant to each theme. CRAN members responded specifically to the following guiding questions:

Panel 1: Discrimination and Identities

This opening panel considers what a focus on the concept of discrimination can tell us about the ways different salient identities converge to shape the experiences of discrimination for children and young people? (gender, race, ethnicity, age, disability, sexuality).

Panel 2: Discrimination and Institutions

This panel asks respondents to explore what children's views reveal about the ways discrimination acts through the collective bodies set up in society for children and young people (schools, health system, businesses, government agencies, religious bodies)?

Panel 3: Discrimination and Action

This panel asks respondents to envision possibilities to address challenges that children and young people face using rights-based approaches. How does practice and theory combine to make change possible? Is the concept of discrimination a useful one for conceptualizing and acting on the kinds of wrongs experienced by children and young people? Is the concept of discrimination good to "think with" when it comes to understanding children's rights and children's lives or are concepts such as domination, oppression and inequalities better ways to address discrimination and enable social change?

The report that follows is a compilation of the CRAN participants’ responses to the STM X
themes. Their writing demonstrates that youth have been ‘heard’ and their perspectives will be integrated into current academic debate.

PARTICIPANT RESPONSES