

A Future Fit for Kids Summit

“A Future Fit for Kids” Summit:

Friday, October 27, 2023

Breakfast with parliamentarians: 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. ET

Summit: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. EDT

Drawing Room, Fairmount Chateau Laurier, 1 Rideau St., Ottawa

[virtual option will be 10:00 EDT – 12:30]

To keep all of us safe and healthy as viral season moves in, please wear a mask during the event except while eating and drinking.

Purpose of the day:

- Map progress toward research, advocacy, community innovation and system change for kids, youth and families since the Inspiring Healthy Futures agenda was launched in 2021
- Share insights about what we’ve learned about influencing change in this sphere
- Develop a shared portrait of the current landscape: what is needed now?
- Co-create recommendations for IHF 2.0 – how can we influence the pending National Child and Youth Strategy and how do we tap into the awareness we’ve generated through our collective work for the next wave of change?

Who will be coming together?

Youth, parents, researchers, educators, advocates, policymakers, service providers, and community and business leaders.

Pre-session reflections:

Please review the high level summary of movement since the first IHF initiative at the end of this document. Using this as inspiration and your own experience, please reflect on:

- What has changed in the world of child, youth and family wellbeing over the past two years? What has moved forward? What is now most needed?
- What is on your wish list that would most improve the lives and futures of children, youth and families? What could we work toward together that would make the biggest difference?

AGENDA

(Times for specific items may be a little flexible but we will begin at 10:00 EDT and finish at 4:00).

Breakfast with parliamentarians: 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. ET (in person only)

Focus: how have we moved forward on healthier, more equitable lives for kids, youth and families?
What is most needed as we embark on a National and Youth Strategy?

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10:00 – 10:20 (Virtual and in person)

Introductions and hopes for the day (table conversations)

10:20 – 11:15 (Virtual and in person) Mapping progress since IHF 1.0

What have we moved forward in each of the priority areas set in the IHF framework?

Discussion:

- What have you learned about leading change through this work?
- How would you articulate the landscape we now have?

11:15 – 11:25 BREAK

11:25 – 12:30 (Virtual Session – separate stream / separate facilitation)

- What should we focus on next in each of the five domains in the current landscape ?

11:25 – 12:30 (In Person)

- Emerging Themes: what is needed now?

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch; end session for virtual

1:30 – 2:50 (In Person)

- What could we focus on next in each of the five domains in the current landscape for a meaningful acceleration agenda?

2:50 – 3:45 (In Person)

Top 3 recommendations for a *Bold Agenda for Action*

3:45 – 4:00 (In Person)

Next steps, thank you and closing

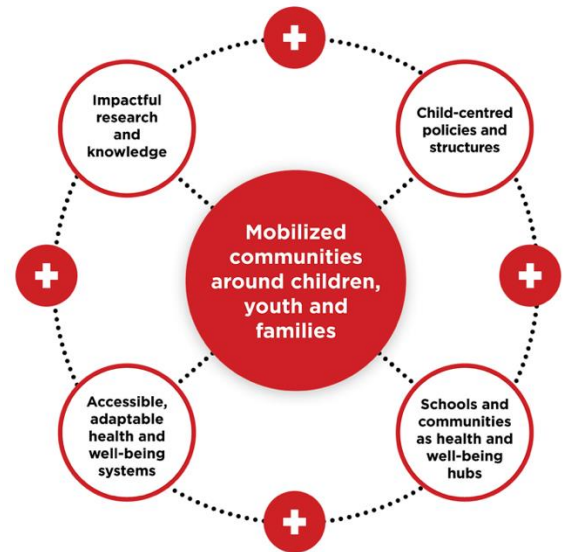
BACKGROUND: What have we moved forward since Inspiring Healthy Futures 1.0?

The full overview of the intentions of Inspiring Healthy Futures is captured here:

<https://www.inspiringhealthyfutures.ca/>

In 2021, we co-created a youth-centred vision, where:

- **Racial and gender equity** and belonging can be taken for granted.
- The voices of **children and youth are fully engaged** in shaping decisions.
- **Parents of children with disabilities and complex needs are fully surrounded by a flexible health and support system** that fosters autonomy and resilience.
- **First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities can take for granted clean water, access to education, and health and developmental services** that are guided by their cultures.
- **We no longer experience profound health and well-being inequities** along racial and cultural lines.
- **Science and research are well funded** and understood to be critical elements for a thriving, functioning social world.



To make this vision real, we co-created an action framework centered around mobilized communities and spanning youth initiatives, research collaborations, grassroots parent groups, advocacy initiatives, and community and industry partnerships.

In 2023, the federal government took a significant step toward improving the health and well-being of children and youth when it re-negotiated the Canada Health Transfer and announced \$2 billion to improve child and youth health outcomes.

Significant milestones toward our shared vision since 2021 include:

- Increased public awareness of the need to improve the health and wellbeing of children, youth and families in Canada
- Federal announcement of \$2B to address the pediatric health crisis
- CIHR funding announcements related to understanding and mitigating the impacts of COVID19 on children youth and families; funding commitments for mental health in the early years, and a focus on healthy youth
- \$125M federal funding for One Child, Every Child initiative (a pan-Canadian child health research initiative led by the University of Calgary (research.ucalgary.ca/research/our-impact/one-child-every-child))
- Demonstrated alignment of advocacy messages and efforts for children, youth and family across Canada
- Significant commitment to child-centred policies and structures at provincial and federal levels, including the launch of the Child Impact Assessment and Child Policy Lens tools, introduction of the Canada Youth Guarantee, and increase in the Canada Child Benefit
- Expansion of the Child-Friendly Cities Initiative in Quebec
- Creation of an all-party Parliamentary Child Health Caucus and parliamentary momentum for a Pan-Canadian Children's strategy