

## National Summit on Child Health/Well-Being Priorities

### About the Event

**Theme:** A Future Fit for Kids

**Date:** October 23–24, 2025

**Venue:** Westin Ottawa (Provinces Ballroom, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor)

### Event Objectives:

- **Spark transdisciplinary dialogue** that connects research evidence, practice, and policy processes to national priorities and lived realities.
- **Leverage UNICEF Report Card 19 and Canadian research** to ground discussion in current data and catalyze intervention and policy-focused responses.
- **Pinpoint key policy gaps and opportunities** that, if leveraged, could improve child well-being in Canada and enhance Canada's global ranking.
- **Co-create a path forward**, with clear next steps and commitments from decision makers, leaders, researchers, child health and wellness organizations, and people with lived and living experience/expertise (PWLE).

### Event Output(s):

- **Concise Outcome Report:** A summary document that highlights key areas for policy and systems action, aligned with the national child well-being agenda and OCEC research priorities. This report will identify where actionable evidence and solutions already exist and where further targeted research and intervention are needed to clarify the state of knowledge and address evidence gaps.
- **Participant Commitments:** Each participant will leave with at least one clearly defined next step or action they will take following the event, tailored to their role (e.g., policy, research, practice, or lived experience).
- **Coordinated Follow-Up Plan:** All partners will receive specific follow-up actions, supported by a coordinated accountability plan to track progress, sustain momentum, and advance shared goals beyond the event.

## Agenda

Thursday, October 23	
Time	Activity
8:00 –10:00	<b>Registration and networking breakfast</b>
8:30 – 8:45	<b>Welcome and opening</b> Emily Gruenwoldt, CEO Children's Healthcare Canada Kyrstin Dumont Ryan Voisin, Managing Director IHF
8:45 – 9:00	<b>Grounding in focus areas</b> Joanne Weninger, Executive Director University of Calgary Research Institute and Ryan Voisin will onboard participants to priority areas for the Summit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Healthy schools</li><li>○ Social supports for parents</li><li>○ Child-centred systems of care, and</li><li>○ Data/evidence as a catalyst</li></ul>
9:00 –10:00	<b>Keynote and parliamentary response</b> <b>Rebecca Davidson, Director, Policy and Research UNICEF Canada</b> <b>Senator Rosemary Moodie</b> Rebecca Davidson will present the findings from UNICEF's Report Card 19 focusing on the Canadian context. A follow up discussion with Senator Moodie will unpack the findings and the role of government.
10:00 –10:20	Networking break
10:20 –10:40	<b>IHF secretariat update</b> Ryan Voisin will refresh participants on the IHF framework and work completed on the acceleration agenda since the last summit and onboard them to the goals of this year's summit.
10:40 –12:00	<b>Connecting on themes</b>

	<p>Ryan Voisin will lead a World Café style exercise enabling participants to connect and network while identifying major initiatives and work (recently completed, in progress, or planned) related to the themes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How does your work—whether in policy, practice, research, or lived experience—aligns with and contributes to the identified area of focus?</li> <li>○ What connections can you identify?</li> <li>○ What are relevant policy processes that we could inform or impact?</li> </ul>
12:00 –13:00	<b>Lunch break</b>
13:00 –14:20	<p><b>Collaborative sensemaking</b></p> <p><b>Joanne Weninger</b> <b>Ryan Voisin</b></p> <p>To create new connections and meaning groups synthesize the information collected during the theme exploration activity to identify opportunities to work collaboratively</p>
14:20 –14:40	<b>Networking break</b>
14:40 –15:50	<p><b>Vision setting</b></p> <p>Ryan Voisin will lead an activity that begins with solo reflection and concludes with a full group discussion on a vision for what we want to achieve over the next 2-3 years in an updated acceleration agenda.</p>
15:50 –16:00	<b>Closing reflection</b>

Thursday, October 23

17:00 –18:30	<p><b>Networking Reception with program partner Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities</b></p> <p>Metropolitain Brasserie 700 Sussex Drive, Ottawa ON</p> <p>Welcome remarks 5:30pm</p>
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## Friday, October 24

### Day two

8:00 – 8:45	<b>Breakfast and networking</b>
8:45 – 9:00	<p><b>Welcome back and opening</b></p> <p>Dr. Christine Chambers, Scientific Director IHDCYH, Canadian Institutes of Health Research will welcome participants back, reflect on day one and anything left unresolved.</p>
9:00 –10:20	<p><b>Realizing the vision</b></p> <p>Unpack the vision set on day one and give participants time to identify specific ideas and activities for implementation individually or organizationally.</p>
10:20 –10:40	<b>Networking break</b>
10:40 –11:40	<p><b>Maintaining momentum</b></p> <p>Facilitators of collective action will be identified, ensuring momentum for the new acceleration agenda can be sustained</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research, practice, and policy agendas will be refined</li> <li>• Ideas for monitoring and evaluating progress</li> <li>• Identify key activities required for successful collective action</li> </ul>
11:40 –12:00	<b>Closing reflection</b>