

2017–2018
Annual Report



CanWaCH on the Map



CanWaCH

Canadian Partnership for
Women and Children's Health



Table of Contents

- 2 Message from the Board Chair
- 3 Message from the Acting Executive Director
- 4 Membership
- 6 Engaging Stakeholders
- 8 Capacity Building
- 10 Evidence-based Policy Leadership
- 12 Board, Working Groups, Secretariat

Below: Samburu women in Kenya.
Projects currently captured in ProX
in Kenya: 24



Message from the Board Chair

Over the past few years, Canada and its allies have worked to highlight the vital importance of gender equality across different facets of society. We have seen a growing enthusiasm to work towards achieving gender equality to break cycles of inequality and discrimination. We know that women and gender diverse peoples continue to face persistent discrimination and poorer health outcomes. As emphasized in the Sustainable Development Goals and Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy, we also know that when women’s health outcomes improve, so does the health of their children. We know that gender equality is an integral component in creating healthy communities.

As we broaden our focus from women and children’s survival to include surviving and thriving, and to achieve gender equality, we must reach out across sectors and break down silos. CanWaCH does exactly that by bringing together members from across the research community, health professionals, and civil society organizations. Whether you’re a researcher, doctor, policy analyst, nutritionist, statistician or gender equality expert, we are all united by our passion for improving women and children’s health around the world. Together, we hold consultations,

webinars, conferences and events in order to have the critical conversations and the space needed to learn from one another and improve our work.

As organizations striving towards the goal of women and children surviving and thriving, the capacity we collectively build to effectively address gender inequality, the means by which we collect data to better inform our programming, and the way that we convey the challenges of achieving our goals to stakeholders is paramount.

The year ahead is a big one for Canada. In June 2019, thousands of people from across Canada and around the world will come to Vancouver for the Women Deliver conference. In the lead-up to this exciting event, we have the opportunity to work together as a sector and engage with Canadians to demonstrate our strength and unity in voice and purpose. We know that the work we do is important and impactful. Let’s work together to make sure Canadians know it too. #LeadOnCanada

Dr. Stanley Zlotkin
Chair, CanWaCH



Message from the Acting Executive Director



This year has been a year of tremendous growth for CanWaCH; we have expanded our capacity on all fronts. We have welcomed approximately 100 members and 30 associates, identified and pursued new sources of funding, launched multiple projects, and grown our team to amplify the collective work of our partnership. Throughout this evolution, we have continued to test our assumptions on the best ways to support our members to achieve our collective vision: a world where all women and children survive and thrive, regardless of where they are born.

Our mission is to support the work of our members in building their capacity, providing the best evidence and data to demonstrate the impact of Canadian programming, and ensuring that the value of the work we do is conveyed to stakeholders. From our experience, we know that this is best achieved when there is dedicated space and opportunities to discuss common strengths and challenges in the work we do.

I am proud of what we have accomplished over the past year. Together, with members, we've worked to create an innovative model to generate new ideas through the Canadian Collaborative for Global Health, a hub for incubating ideas and solutions to big data challenges related to global health. We've launched an easy-to-use web platform, the ProX, to aggregate results of Canadian programming to tell the story of our work. And we're sharing these ideas, stories and results to stakeholders in Canada and abroad through initiatives and campaigns like the Women Deliver 2019 Mobilization Canada and the Lead On Canada campaign.

CanWaCH is a reflection of the inspiring and important work that members and associates are undertaking around the world - from working alongside grassroots movements, to supporting and strengthening national health care systems, to conducting robust and salient data collection for evidence-based decision making. Our strength lies in the gains to be made when we work together to create a world where women and children everywhere survive and thrive.

In solidarity,

Julia Anderson
Acting Executive Director

Message from the Executive Director



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

My warmest thanks for your kind wishes over the past few months as I recover from a recent injury. I am also grateful for the CanWaCH team and Board of Directors who continue their stellar work to build a strong community of Canadians working to improve global women's and children's health. I hope to see you soon!

Helen Scott
Executive Director



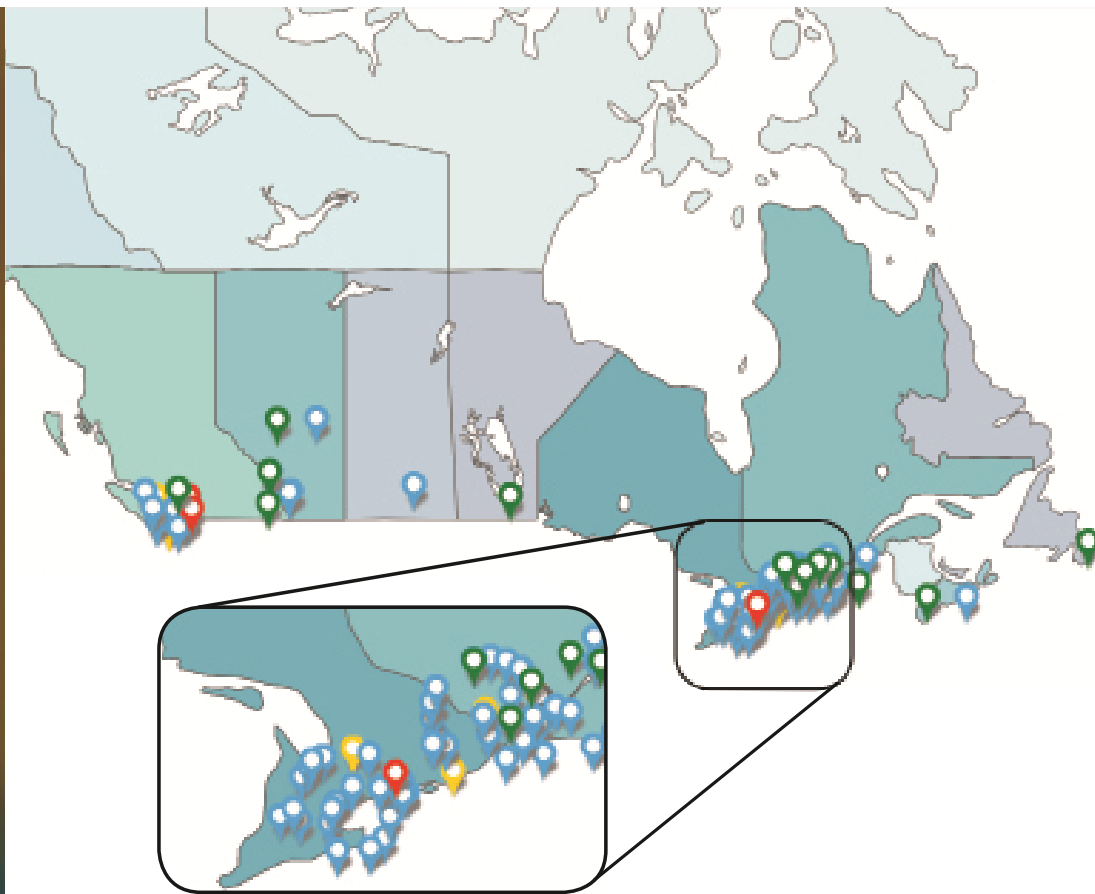
Membership

CanWaCH's membership is comprised of over 100 organizations from across Canada, all dedicated to global women and children's health. Members bring valued and diverse experience and expertise from across the global health research community, civil society organizations, healthcare professions, and private entities. In addition to member organizations, CanWaCH is supported by more than 30 domestic and international individual associates who work alongside member organizations in researching and delivering effective programming in global women and children's health. The broad and ever-growing reach of CanWaCH members putting Canadian leadership on the map demonstrates the increasing coordination of this network to tackle the world's most pressing global health issues.



A woman in India, dressed in a brightly coloured sari, decorates her hands in henna tattoos. Opposite page: A woman bathes in the sacred lake Mahamaham in the town of Kumbakonam, India.

Projects currently captured in ProX in India: 11



Members Across Canada

Map of members across Canada, colour coded by type of organization:

-  Academic/Research Institution
-  Healthcare Institution
-  NGO
-  Professional Association
-  Private



Member Quotes

"The opportunity to engage with, and learn from, others who have programming in this area has resulted in better informed policies and operations within my own organization, and has created a strong voice for those working in this sector."

"Being a member of CanWaCH is an opportunity for collective action in support of the best health outcomes for women and children around the world by sharing best practice, through policy dialogue and by promoting the benefits of international aid to Canadians to build their ongoing understanding and support."

Engaging Stakeholders

In 2017-2018, CanWaCH focused on strengthening Canadian coordination in communicating the work carried out by the global health sector. Initiatives have highlighted members' creative efforts to share the stories and impact of global health policy and programming with stakeholders, including the Canadian public and decision makers. By working together to engage with stakeholders, we are amplifying our voices.



LEAD ON CANADA



CANADA EN TÊTE

The #LeadOnCanada campaign was launched in May 2018, based upon research about Canadians' attitudes and beliefs on investment in women and children's health globally. The campaign is building a movement of people across the country who are proud of Canada's leadership in women and children's health around the world. Join us in showcasing the great work we're doing together!



PARTNERSHIP

is engaging male Indigenous leaders to champion women and children's health in their communities.



In the last UNICEF annual report, they reported that there were **65 countries** using Sprinkles, our micronutrient powder, reaching about **15 million children**. It's a great Canadian success story.

Dr. Stanley Zlotkin, Centre for Global Child Health Chief
SickKids Toronto



The gains of one can be the gains of many.

Josh Berman, Ideas to Impact Lab Director
Digititas International



PARTNERSHIP

is support for autonomy and reconciliation.

Partners of the first ever, Aboriginal Council of Physicians (ACoP), with the Canadian Association of Physicians (CMA)

Member Quote

"CanWaCH provides a platform for improved coordinated action, sharing of good practices and knowledge both providing a catalyst for program quality and accountability to Canadians and other governments. CanWaCH is also an important advocacy platform for women's health and sexual reproductive health and rights within Canada and globally."

Supported by the Public Engagement Working Group, we launched a public engagement campaign to move the needle on Canadians' attitudes and beliefs about global women and children's health. Canadians feel pride when they learn about Canada's global leadership in women and children's health, and the #LeadOnCanada campaign seeks to raise Canadians' awareness of these leadership stories and impact on the lives of the world's most vulnerable peoples.

CanWaCH is excited to host the Women Deliver 2019 Mobilization Canada. This initiative supports the growing movement of organizations and businesses from across Canada, including many from outside of the development sector, mobilizing around gender equality, both here at home and abroad, with a focus on health, pay equity and ending gender-based violence.

Members came together to consider how future global health research funding, through the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), can be maximized through closer alignment and collaboration with global health programming and practice.



WE ARE HERE

Campaigns such as #LeadOnCanada and the Women Deliver 2019 Mobilization Canada mark important coordinates. By engaging the right stakeholders at the right moments in an effective way, we're putting the work of Canadian organizations advancing women and children's health and gender equality on the map.

MOBILISATION CANADIENNE WOMEN DELIVER 2019 MOBILIZATION CANADA

Women Deliver 2019 Mobilization Canada is a grassroots movement to improve Canadian leadership on gender equality and drive progress for the health, rights and well-being of women and girls globally and domestically. Visit WeDeliver2019.ca for more information.

Below: Gender Equality Panel featuring Sophie Grégoire Trudeau and Parliamentary Secretary Terry Duguid at Women Deliver 2019 Mobilization Canada Gender Equality Week event in Ottawa.

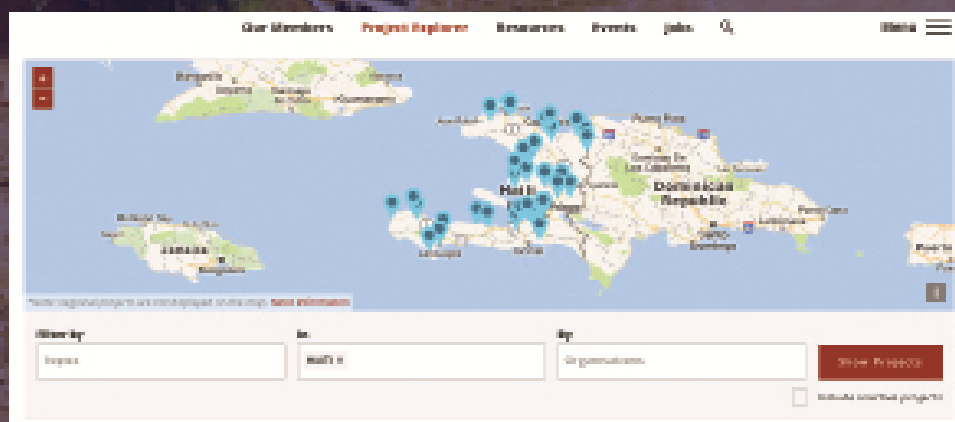


Capacity Building

In 2017-2018, members and sector partners came together in-person and virtually through webinars, workshops, capacity building events, and online platforms to learn and collaborate so that we can improve the work that we do. By sharing lessons learned, and by aligning and coordinating our work, we are building momentum at a critical juncture with key dates on the horizon that have the potential to re-shape the global health landscape in Canada. CanWaCH sees value in ensuring that members are facing the same direction, have common language, and collect comparable information in order to convey the results and stories of what we do to stakeholders.

Project Explorer (ProX)

The Project Explorer (ProX) has been used to map in-country project data. Through CanWaCH's coordinating role with the Haiti Call to Action, we've worked in partnership with implementing organizations to map health projects to the geocoordinate level. Members' project data will help us aggregate the impact of our work and tell the collective story of the global health sector.



Background image: Two sisters carry watering cans back to their village in Uganda

Projects currently captured in ProX in Uganda: 25



Gender Equality

Canada is a leader in gender equality and CanWaCH is here to showcase Canada's efforts. In April 2018, CanWaCH held its first "CanWaCH Awards", featuring passionate and talented gender equality champions. We're excited to provide capacity building activities for gender and health programming. We are building a critical mass of CanWaCH members leading on increasing capacity on gender transformative and rights-based approaches.

Recipients of the 2018 CanWaCH awards. From left to right: Dr. Angel M. Foster, Celina Caesar-Chavannes (presenter), Diviya Leonard, Dr. Helen Scott (presenter) and Brianna Cheng.

Building on the expertise of the Metrics Working Group, a year ago we launched the newly re-envisioned Project Explorer (ProX). The ProX is a living online project data repository and aggregator that, with quality data, will allow us to tell collective stories and increase the ability of members to plan and coordinate their work. Connect with our Team to enter your project data into the ProX!

CanWaCH has also taken a leadership role with the Haiti Call to Action, providing up-to-date maps of Canadian health projects in Haiti, creating online platforms for project implementers to share information, and coordinating meeting and touchpoints in Canada and in Haiti.

CanWaCH has also begun bringing together gender equality experts to help build the capacity of the sector in applying a gender-transformative approach to global health programming, comprised of 20 gender equality champions whom are assisting in mapping our progress and creating

learning platforms. Over the next two years, CanWaCH will increase capacity and knowledge-sharing on gender equality and global health. Our goal is to build on strengths, address challenges and leverage opportunities for learning and collaboration identified by members.



WE ARE HERE

Supporting our members in strengthening their collection, management and dissemination of data and building their capacity in the area of monitoring and evaluation and gender transformative approaches is vital for more effective programming. By mapping out our strengths and areas for further learning, we're using a collaborative approach to strengthen programs addressing the most pressing issues for women and children.

Member Quote

"[We are] interested in continuing to be a member of CanWaCH so that we can collectively have bigger impact by learning from each other in programming for women & girls' health. We see CanWaCH as a valuable platform to engage Canadian CSOs to develop and scale innovations in partnership to better serve women and girls."

Image right: A Haitian woman collects a water filter delivered through a Canadian project.

Projects currently captured in ProX in Haiti: 67



Photo: Canadian Red Cross

Evidence-based Policy Leadership

There is something unique that happens when CanWaCH members come together to address common challenges and opportunities. Consultations, roundtables, and evidence-based policy documents allow us to discuss issues, build common language and work towards reaching consensus on key issues.

The Canadian Collaborative for Global Health

The Canadian Collaborative for Global Health offers an unprecedented opportunity for Canadian global health leaders to develop innovative solutions to urgent data challenges in our sector. Over the next two years, these 'Labs' will work both individually and collectively to investigate their challenge thoroughly, incubate strategies and solutions to address them, and inspire the next generation of data leaders through capacity-building efforts. In so doing, we aim to better prepare our sector to deliver evidence-driven impact, in pursuit of the global health and development goals.



A woman harvests waterlilies in the Yen river in Ninh Binh, Vietnam.

Projects currently captured in ProX in Vietnam: 5

With the expertise of the Stakeholder Engagement and Policy Working Group, CanWaCH led a conference in the spring of 2018, called Beyond 2020, An Agenda for Canadian Leadership in Global Health. The event brought together over 233 in-person attendees and 52 webcast viewers, including sector leaders and government stakeholders, to galvanize thought and discussion on the future policies guiding our work. The outcome document provided a holistic and comprehensive overview of what's needed as many Canadian global health programs undergo a 'reset' in 2020, all within the context of Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy.

The CanWaCH membership has been involved in various consultations and ground-truthing surveys over the past year, supporting the development of evidence-based policies and programming. Representatives from 61 Canadian and global leaders in sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) programming and advocacy responded to the survey to validate Global Affairs Canada's SRHR indicators.

Building upon the outcomes of the Beyond 2020 conference, which conceptually put a post-2020 global health policy on the map, we also began consulting with the

sector on a comprehensive, integrated, and rights-based approach to Canadian global health policy and investment with the 'Thrive Agenda'. We're excited by this opportunity and look forward to continued dialogue and engagement with the sector in this important work.

Most excitingly, over the next two years, CanWaCH will be working with Canadian global health leaders through the Canadian Collaborative for Global Health. Through this initiative, 6 'Labs' will incubate innovative solutions to address the big data challenges facing global health and gender equality programming.



WE ARE HERE

Collecting and analyzing data and evidence in order to make informed policy and programming decisions is vital. By creating space for dialogues, addressing common challenges, and linking this information to relevant stakeholders, we are ensuring that women and children's health and gender equality are priorities across the landscape.

Member Quote

"CanWaCH provides a great opportunity to align with others working in the sector, working on collaborative projects, and creating joint policy pieces for maximal impact."



Beyond 2020 brought together 233 attendees from 107 unique organizations and 55 speakers to share knowledge on global health policy and programming. From the conference sessions, seven key themes emerged, namely that global health programming must: (1) be gender-

transformative; (2) use an integrated approach; (3) extend to the hardest to reach and most vulnerable; (4) work towards institutional and systemic change; (5) measure impact and data; (6) prioritize feminist partnership; and, (7) include advocacy and political will.



Conference attendees dig into discussions on health challenges across life stages.



From left to right: Myroslava Tataryn, Alessandra Aresu, Victoria Palmer, Peggy Edwards, Sarah Kennell





BOARD, SECRETARIAT AND WORKING GROUPS

Thank you for your engagement

Please note, all names are listed in alphabetical order

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Margaret Biggs, Queen's University

Jennifer Blake, Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

William B. Chambers, Save the Children Canada

Sian Fitzgerald, Healthbridge

Michael Messenger, World Vision Canada

David Morley, UNICEF Canada (Outgoing Chair)

Tonia Occhionero, Canadian Association of Midwives

Caroline Riseboro, PLAN International Canada

Dorothy Shaw, BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre (Treasurer)

Peter Singer, Grand Challenges Canada

Stanley Zlotkin, Centre for Global Child Health, Sick Kids (Incoming Chair)

SECRETARIAT

Megan Aikens, Senior Stakeholder Engagement Advisor

Julia Anderson, Acting Executive Director and Senior Director, Programs and Operations

Alli Bunting, Acting Manager of Programs and Operations and Senior Programs Officer

Andy Cragg, Project Manager (on leave)

Charmaine Crockett, Director, Stakeholder Engagement

Jessica Ferne, Director, Global Health Impact

Antu Hossain, Global Health Impact Officer

Emily Kocsis, Public Engagement Officer

Leigha McCarroll, Senior Knowledge Exchange Officer

Lauren Murray, Communications Officer

Kristen Ostling, Senior Gender Equality Advisor

Caitlin Reid, Senior Communications Officer

Julie Savard-Shaw, Director, Strategic Partnerships, Canadian Women Deliver Mobilization

Helen Scott, Executive Director (on leave)

Fallyn Thompson, Global Health Metrics Officer

Mélody Tondeur, Manager, Metrics

GENDER EQUALITY WORKING GROUP (GEWG)

Rebecca Davidson, CARE Canada

Sophie Bourdon, Centre de coopération internationale en santé et développement

Kristiana Bruneau, RESULTS Canada

Jeanine Cudmore, Primate's World Relief and Development Fund

Jennifer Donville, PLAN International Canada

Elizabeth Dyke, Independent Health and Social Development Consultant

Julia Falco, Aga Khan Foundation Canada

Juanita Gnanapragasam, University of Alberta School of Public Health

Merdyth Holte-McKenzie, World Vision Canada

Morag Elizabeth Humble, Agriteam Canada

Dominique LaRochelle, Save the Children Canada

Cassandra Morris, Healthbridge

Diana Opollo, ADRA Canada

Andrea Papan, Nutrition International
Ann Pederson, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre
Alison Riddle, Gavi
Claudia Schauer, Centre for Global Child Health, SickKids
Jennifer Savidge, CowaterSogema International Inc.
Joannes Paulus Yimbessalu, Women Deliver Young Leader
Sindy Zemura-Bernard, Southern Africa Embrace Foundation

METRICS WORKING GROUP (MWG)

Fawad Akbari, Aga Khan Foundation Canada
Luay Basil, Canadian Red Cross
Diego Bassani, SickKids Centre for Global Child Health
Peter Berti, HealthBridge Foundation of Canada
Jenn Brenner, University of Calgary/Healthy Children Uganda
Rudy Broers, Plan International Canada
Marnie Davidson, CARE Canada
Bart Dickinson, Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
Erica Di Ruggiero, University of Toronto
Melanie Gillespie, World Vision Canada
Charles Larson, Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research
Kristin Neudorf, Grand Challenges Canada
Solveig Routier, Global Affairs Canada
Erica Stillo, AgriTeam
Mary Ann Torres, ICASO
Neff Walker, John Hopkins University

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Madeleine Bélanger Dumontier, Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research
Alyssa Blais, Healthbridge
Molly Buckley, Aga Khan Foundation Canada
Terry Chemij, World Vision Canada
Trevor Eggleton, CUSO International

Jennifer Foulds, Amref Health Africa Canada (Co-Chair)
Katharine Harris, PLAN International Canada
Eby Heller, Canadian Association of Midwives
Tanja Kisslinger, CARE Canada
Chiara Marcazzan, Nutrition International
Hillete Warner, Centre for Global Child Health, SickKids
Kimberly Whyte-Jones, ADRA Canada

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND POLICY WORKING GROUP (SEPWG)

Annie Bodmer-Roy, Save the Children Canada
Robyn Bright, Nutrition International (Co-Chair)
Astrid Bucio, CUSO International
Caroline Marshall, World Vision Canada
Isabelle Mas, Médecins du Monde
Carleen McGuinty, UNICEF Canada
Cicely McWilliam (Past Chair)
Tanis McKnight-Howe, Plan International Canada
Sharon Njobo, ADRA Canada
Taryn Russell, RESULTS Canada (Co-Chair)
Patricia Strong, Canadian Red Cross
Julie Truelove, WaterAid





Photo from a members' child health project in Afghanistan.

Project currently captured in ProX in Afghanistan: 18



CanWaCH

Canadian Partnership for
Women and Children's Health

Canada

In partnership with
Global Affairs Canada

Photo: Leslie Knott, Aga Khan Foundation Canada