

2020-2021  
ANNUAL REPORT



**ILLUMINATING**  
THE PATH FORWARD



**CanWaCH**

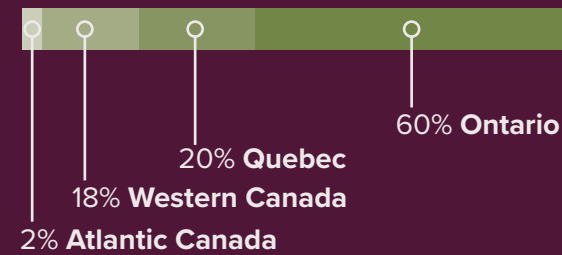
Canadian Partnership for  
Women and Children's Health



## A BREAKDOWN OF THE CANWACH MEMBERSHIP:



- 77% Civil Society / NGO
- 12% Academic / Research
- 6% Private Sector
- 3% Professional Association
- 2% Other



## CANWACH MEMBERSHIP

The strength of the CanWaCH membership rests on its diversity, with members joining from civil society, academia, health professional associations and the private sector. Members contribute to CanWaCH's collective work by participating in working groups, consultations, events, workshops, webinars and other types of convening and capacity-building opportunities. Together, the CanWaCH membership forms a strong Canadian network of individuals and organizations from interdisciplinary backgrounds who are committed to shaping the direction of Canada's global health and gender equality activities.

Over the past year, CanWaCH members, and the global health sector as a whole, has demonstrated its continued resiliency in the face of adversity. During a time where business as usual is no longer the norm, members have perfected the art of pivoting and flexibility with grace and composure in order to ensure that the priorities of women, children and adolescents remain at the heart of what we do.

Throughout the year we continued to witness a significant shift in how Canadians convened and engaged with one another. In accordance with COVID-19 public health protocols, in-person events and moments to exchange knowledge were not possible. In this challenging virtual environment, CanWaCH actively sought opportunities to enable or strengthen the capacity of our members to deliver on their work.

This included enhanced capacity to share knowledge and convene virtually in both official languages. CanWaCH translated select member resources, including those designed to bring about greater awareness of our sector's work among Canadians, such as information about the Monument to Canadian Aid Workers, World Sexual Health Day, and educational games and activities for children and youth. We were also able to investigate and share cost-effective technology and vendors that enabled more members the ability to offer simultaneous translation for online events.

Under the spotlight as remote work experts in its own right, CanWaCH continues to thrive in a virtual environment by convening members, stakeholders and partners online to discuss immediate and pressing issues, as well as to plan key virtual events and webinars.

The CanWaCH team lives, works and plays across Turtle Island. With staff spanning from Lekwungen territory in the West to Algonquin territory in the East, we pay respect to the traditional guardians of the land upon which we live and work.

CanWaCH acknowledges that Indigenous peoples are the traditional guardians of Turtle Island, on the land also known as Canada. We recognize their long standing and ongoing relationship with this territory, which includes unceded and traditional land, and acknowledge our duty to walk with and alongside reconciliation and decolonization efforts.

We believe that as settlers on this land, we have a responsibility to continually engage along our journey to meaningfully enact allyship, to reassess and reconsider our positionality in the spaces we occupy, and to use our voice to speak out against systemic injustices experienced by Indigenous peoples.

Reconciliation is an ongoing process, requiring unlearning colonial practices and history alongside relearning our shared past, present and future. We are committed to working in partnership to pursue a more inclusive, collaborative and respectful path forward grounded in the **94 Calls to Action** from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**.



## LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Dear friends and colleagues,

If the last 18 months have taught us anything it is that we are stronger together as we faced a common threat - COVID-19. The need to share our expertise, innovative solutions, diverse knowledge and resources has become more pertinent than ever. This is the only way that we will continue to adapt to the ever-changing landscape that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought upon us.

While the crisis has revealed the strength of collective action in the face of adversity, it has also starkly exposed and deepened inequalities around the world and, in many cases, set back human development by decades. With five million deaths globally, we are also seeing the far-reaching impact of this pandemic. The health, education and income of people around the world have been negatively impacted, not to mention the growing unequal burden placed on caregivers, particularly women.

We know that vaccines are the most critical tool to end the pandemic and save lives and livelihoods. Yet, high-income countries have administered 61 times more doses per inhabitant than low-income countries. Inequitable vaccine distribution means that millions of people will continue to be vulnerable to the virus, enabling deadly variants to emerge and spread globally. The unequal distribution of vaccines will deepen inequality and widen the gaps that exist between the rich and poor, with women bearing the brunt as healthcare workers and caregivers.

Vaccine re-distribution and access is essential to an [equitable global response to COVID-19](#). We must prioritize vaccination, fair compensation and support for healthcare workers around the world - the majority of whom are women. As Canada begins to recover from COVID-19, we can't lose sight of these priorities and we can't return to the status quo.

Because COVID-19 anywhere is COVID-19 everywhere, progress toward a global recovery requires a coordinated approach. As the world continues to contemplate pathways toward recovery for all, the most important perspectives are those of the people who have borne the brunt of this pandemic. Community members are the most qualified to shine a light on the best way forward in their own communities. We must listen closely and respond quickly to those most impacted by the pandemic.

At CanWaCH, we are driven to advance the health, rights and wellbeing of women, children and adolescents by working smarter, not harder, by deepening our expertise

and strengthening our shared commitment. Through moments of connection and collaboration, we illuminate innovative approaches and enact meaningful change.

Over the past year, these core principles of our membership have been challenged. We have had to think critically about how we take action, how we work and share knowledge, how we maintain accountability, and how we continue to disrupt power dynamics that persistently put certain populations at a disadvantage.

The collective action and resilience that I have witnessed over the past year makes me hopeful and I continue to be inspired by the eagerness and creativity of CanWaCH members. I see all of you - my colleagues - contributing solutions and steadfastly advocating for children, adolescents and women to realize their right to thrive in full health, especially during these difficult and uncertain times.

Out of the darkness of this pandemic, we learned that we can only move forward by challenging the status quo and by meeting injustice, inequality and, even our own deficiencies, head on. I urge us all to continue having difficult conversations. It is through our aligned values and ingenuity that collectively we will move the dial forward toward equal futures for everyone, everywhere.

I wish you health and happiness into the winter months and the new year ahead.



**Onome Ako**  
Chair, Board of  
Directors



Another year has come and gone where COVID-19 has continued to disrupt and set back the ability of women, children and adolescents to thrive in full health. The global pandemic has cast a spotlight on the depth and breadth of global health inequalities, rendering visible how human rights are severely impeded by an intersection of factors including gender, race, wealth, ability and geography.

COVID-19 is by far the most pressing global health challenge we are facing and, like so many crises, the impacts are multifaceted and have a disproportionate impact on women and girls. Neglected areas of health for women, children and adolescents are being increasingly overlooked and underserved as resources are channeled toward pandemic responses, particularly in countries with already weak health systems.

Yet, in this changed and uncertain environment, we have continued to rely on one another by sharing knowledge and resources to address new but common challenges. There is no doubt that equitable partnerships, built on trust, are fundamental in addressing the challenges of COVID-19.

Drawing on years of experience in deepening partnerships and mobilizing data to build thought leadership around the intersections of gender and health, CanWaCH must double down on these efforts to ensure that the health and rights of women, children and adolescents are at the forefront of an equitable global response to the pandemic. We will continue to find new ways to support our members and partners in strengthening their COVID-19 response as well as the long-term systems that support mental and physical health.

I am encouraged by the continued calls to address ongoing inequalities and demands for justice that we hear in Canada and around the globe. As an active member of global civil society, CanWaCH and all of our members have a role to play in actively supporting these efforts, including calls for reconciliation and decolonization worldwide. Critically engaging in these spaces and addressing deeply rooted systemic inequalities is part of a long collective journey. It requires all of us to recognize

ourselves as imperfect allies, to situate ourselves within our positionality and our learning, to lean into discomfort, to acknowledge that there is no checklist and there is no perfect, and that there will be many small and large steps that move us forward.

As I wrap-up my first year as CEO, I look forward to working with each and every one of you to advance the health, rights and wellbeing of children, adolescents and women, in all their diversity, living around the world. I eagerly anticipate the many convening moments that we will share over the coming months to exchange knowledge, tackle challenges and collaborate in ways that advance meaningful impact. I am energized by the sheer brilliance and talent that lives within the CanWaCH membership. It is our continued resilience, passion, hard work, grit and collaboration that will propel us closer to the equal world that we all seek to achieve.

In solidarity,



**Julia Anderson**  
Chief Executive Officer



## LETTER FROM THE CEO



## DEFINING MOMENTS

Over the past year, CanWaCH continued to prioritize the advancement and integration of global health and gender equality into broader international development sector and coalition conversations. This included efforts to ensure that Canada's official development assistance aligns with strategic considerations in women and children's health, engaging with members and sector partners on the Nutrition for Growth Year of Action, and communicating to decision-makers the critical policies and investments that will ensure the equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and treatments needed to #EndCovidEverywhere.

Throughout the year, CanWaCH held space for members and partners to convene, build new connections and provide deeper exploration of issues, with particular focus on how challenges and approaches are evolving due to the pandemic. This included ongoing meetings with members, sector partners and experts to build on and amplify each others' work towards a comprehensive and equitable response to the global pandemic, alongside a series of convening moments on issues critical to the CanWaCH mission. Highlights include:

### Virtual Roundtables

Virtual Roundtables with key stakeholders, such as the Hon. Karina Gould, Minister of International Development, and supporting the introduction of the sector to the new Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development.

### 50th Anniversary of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women

In partnership with the Department of Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE), an online event to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women on December 7, 2020. This intergenerational event took stock of the past 50 years while celebrating the progress of trailblazers and changemakers, acknowledging the challenges we are still facing today and looking toward the next 50 years to imagine what it will take to achieve gender equality.

### Global Mental Health

A roundtable discussion on global mental health, featuring expertise from Grand Challenges Canada, World Vision Canada and the BIPOC Women's Health Network in March 2021.

“CanWaCH has been invaluable in linking us to other like-minded organizations, facilitating co-learning opportunities and involvement to feed into a community of practice.”

“I've been grateful for the opportunity to learn from CanWaCH staff, from other CanWaCH network partners and to use CanWaCH to expand our network in the sector.”



### Menstrual Hygiene Day

Two roundtable discussions on Menstrual Hygiene Day in May 2021, focused on generating digital momentum with communications and public engagement colleagues, and addressing the impacts of COVID-19 on menstrual health with programming and gender equality colleagues.

### Future Planning Initiative Retreat

The Future Planning Initiative Retreat with other key partners in May 2021 brought together stakeholders from across government and the global health, human rights, feminist, and development sectors (in Canada and globally). They took stock of Canada's commitment to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), examined Canada's global leadership on SRHR in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, and strategized around sustaining and growing Canada's leadership, particularly within the current global political context.

### Annual General Meeting

A virtual Annual General Meeting in November 2020, featuring keynote remarks by Dr. Theresa Tam, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, and Award-Winning Author and Journalist André Picard.



Liven up your virtual convening with different online resources such as word clouds, interactive quizzes, and virtual whiteboards. Tried and tested online platforms CanWaCH uses are: [Slido](#), [Kahoot!](#), [MURAL](#), and [Google Jamboard](#).

### Global Health Impact Exchange (GHI-X)

From February 8-10, 2021, CanWaCH hosted the Global Health Impact Exchange (GHI-X), a virtual broadcast featuring innovative approaches to programming and learning for members, as well as creative opportunities to showcase our work to Canadians.

As with all CanWaCH events, the GHI-X was built through collaboration. The 25 organizations represented in the program, along with event partners Plan International Canada, World Vision Canada and Global Affairs Canada, offered their expertise and capacity in global health and gender equality to deliver a robust, well-rounded, interactive program that provided space for members to share expertise and strengthen their capacity.

The ease of participation in this hybrid live and pre-recorded broadcast afforded the opportunity to build relationships with new and unique audiences and participants both here in Canada and in low- and middle-income nations.

The event also demonstrated how music, art, storytelling and film can be used to shine a light on the impact of our work by featuring engaging video stories alongside performances by artists from Canada, Kenya, Pakistan and Niger.

“The way the virtual conference was set up, with the app and the community groups, was very well done. Also, the length of the days made it possible to participate better.”

“The programming was innovative; bringing in art was a stroke of genius! It helps us think, take some perspective and be creative ourselves.”



### GHI-X Highlights

**810** people registered to attend GHI-X  
There were **657** one-on-one private connections/conversations within the GHI-X online app between **536** distinct participants  
**83%** of participants said they would amend or do something different in their work as a result of GHI-X



## YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

In a year that challenged youth more than ever with school closures, online classes and barriers to accessing social and family support, CanWaCH stepped-up its meaningful initiatives to engage youth and include youth voices.

We began integrating formal youth representation into our working groups starting with the Public Engagement Working Group where two dedicated youth representatives offered substantive contributions to that group's discussions on engaging with Canadian youth, particularly in digital spaces.



At the GHI-X, the final day of the event was dedicated to youth programming with the partner co-hosts handing over their microphones to three youth co-hosts who shaped dialogue during the sessions with their viewpoints and perspective. Secondary school students and youth clubs across the country were engaged at the GHI-X in a series of games and activities developed by CanWaCH members and partners to increase understanding of issues in global health and international development.

CanWaCH supported the 7th annual Global Health Students and Young Professionals Summit (GHSYPS) in October 2020. As a partner, CanWaCH supported the development of bilingual materials and programming. CEO Julia Anderson also spoke to young leaders interested in pursuing a future in global health on a careers panel.



In the Fall of 2020, CanWaCH participated in Plan International Canada's **Girls Belong Here** program, joining other engaged organizations to highlight that girls deserve a seat at the decision-making table and in leadership positions across industries. Over two weeks, CanWaCH's CEO Julia Anderson shared her 'seat' with Felicia Gisondi, a Bachelor of Education student at McGill University and Founder and Executive Director of Sex and Self. Felicia engaged in a variety of meetings ranging from conversations on metrics and programming to strategy discussions on public engagement and communications. In the coming year, CanWaCH will continue to participate in this program and to strive to foster an environment that challenges stereotypes and breaks barriers for young women and girls.



## LEAD ON CANADA

Lead on Canada, an innovative public engagement campaign coordinated by CanWaCH, amplified the voices of CanWaCH members as a community of champions dedicated to advancing the health, rights and wellbeing of women, children and adolescents around the world.

Among other campaign activities, CanWaCH worked closely with HealthBridge Foundation of Canada to bring public attention to the 20th anniversary of the Monument to Canadian Aid Workers by producing an engaging video about its history and significance in both official languages.

CanWaCH's public engagement work also found success in translating complex CanWaCH member project data from the CanWaCH Project Explorer into straight-forward digital content, producing a series of infographics known as **'Impact Stories'**. These stories highlighted the positive impact of Canada's investments in global health.

Over the past year, CanWaCH has grappled with the incredibly important question of how to bring the localization agenda to our Canadian public engagement work. This is complex. We need to meet Canadians 'where they are at' using clear and simple language - a strength of our Lead On Canada campaign. Yet it is also our responsibility to dismantle the systems that hold people back, to create the conditions that affirm their leadership and re-centre the voice and role of local actors, while acknowledging Canada's role as a bold supporter and contributor to objectives defined by local communities.

Moving forward, CanWaCH will approach our work to engage the public with humility, acting in solidarity and partnership with local organizations and community leaders. We will strive to ground our work in the **94 Calls to Action** from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** to uphold the health, rights and wellbeing of women, children and adolescents around the world. It is through our collective power that we will be able to forge a new path forward that ensures equal futures for everyone, everywhere.



### Looking for a new team playlist?

Check out our playlist of **CanWaCH Feminist Anthems** on Spotify for some energy-building music to kick-off your virtual meetings and events!





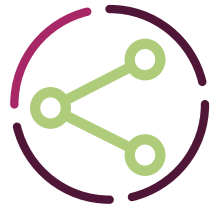
## THE EQUAL FUTURES NETWORK



**BUILD AUTHENTIC CONNECTIONS**

The root causes of gender inequities are the same whether you live in Canada or another region of the world.

For years, Canada has been a strong advocate for gender equality on the global stage and we recognize that there is still a lot of work to be done to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 - particularing SDG 5 which is focused on achieving gender equality for everyone, everywhere. Through our work with Women and Gender Equality Canada (WaGE), CanWaCH has established the **Equal Futures Network**, a transnational coalition working to advance gender equality and social justice in communities around the country and around the world! Together, our work will support the global women's agenda by connecting the work of local organizations within Canada with the work being done around the world in pursuit of a more peaceful, sustainable and gender-just world.



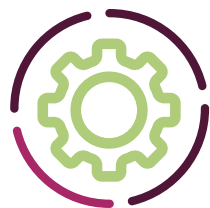
**EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE & EXPERTISE**

**Women in Leadership:**  
A COMING TOGETHER CELEBRATION

Thursday, July 29th  
12:00 pm to 12:50 pm EST

Featuring:  
**The Honourable Maryam Monsef**

Keynote Speaker:  
**Assembly of First Nations National Chief  
RoseAnne Archibald**

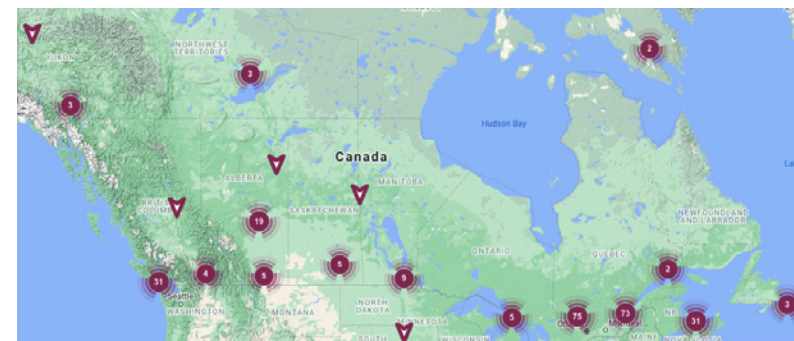


**SHARE COMPELLING STORIES**

In its first year, the Equal Futures Network has grown to include over 400 members with representation from every province and territory. To ensure that the Network reflects the diversity of organizations working across Canada, we have conducted outreach to organizations and groups from every region of the country including Francophone and Anglophone, Indigenous, 2SLGBTQ+ and BIPOC-led organizations as well as organizations varying in size and scope of work. Through diverse partnerships with unique perspectives, the Equal Futures Network seeks to eliminate industry silos and regional disconnect, creating a collaborative

and unified collective that is driven to accelerate gender equality across Canada and play our part to contribute to efforts being made on a global scale.

In August 2021, the Honourable Maryam Monsef, then Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development, announced new funding for CanWaCH. The project will support a series of events and summits over the next two years, bringing together organizations and community leaders from across Canada working to advance gender equality, and strengthening connections and expertise to create a fairer, stronger and more equitable Canada.



**Have YOU joined the Equal Futures Network yet? Here's why you should:**

- We have made the gender equality movement in Canada more tangible and accessible through **the Network Map**.
- As a member of the Equal Futures Network, you will have the ability to help build and shape the narrative on gender equality in Canada, strengthen capacity, connect with other organizations and build community. The focus for the Network over the next two years will be to convene membership in a variety of participatory Incubator sessions, putting a spotlight on current challenges the sector is facing and using these sessions to help inform the development and key themes of a yearly Gender Equality Summit.
- The Equal Futures Network will amplify your stories of impact through innovative communication strategies while illustrating how your work fits into the national narrative on gender equality.

Join the Equal Futures Network to help ensure that all organizations and groups - from urban to rural settings and from small to large operations - are a part of Canada's movement to achieve gender equality for everyone, everywhere.





## STRENGTHENING CAPACITY

Over the past year, CanWaCH members and partners have come together through virtual events, webinars, workshops and working groups. Together, we can gather, exchange and champion leading expertise to turn ideas into impact.

The strength of CanWaCH's activities relies on input from **working groups**, which have continued to excel as vibrant and active communities of practice where experts in their field can discuss emerging trends and best practices, challenges and solutions. CanWaCH working groups increase programming effectiveness and maximize impact across the international development sector while informing and contributing to the work of CanWaCH and its members. The Gender Equality Working Group (GEWG), the Metrics Working Group (MWG), the Public Engagement Working Group (PEWG), and the Stakeholder Engagement and Policy Working Group (SEPWG) offer pathways to creating a world where women, children and adolescents can thrive in full health.

“ I find so much value in the **Public Engagement Working Group**, not just in knowledge sharing but in keeping me excited about the work we're all doing!”

Over the past year, CanWaCH has offered targeted, topic-specific virtual learnings, trainings, and technical guides, based on the needs of CanWaCH members. These specialized offerings included:

**365 Days of a Pandemic: Virtual practice Implications for Canadian partners**, a webinar that built on the findings and recommendations of the CanWaCH **100 Days of a Pandemic report**, focused on how Canadian organizations have adapted monitoring, evaluation, and research practices in a virtual context.

**Learning Series on Anti-Racism and Global Health:** Facilitated by anti-racism and equity experts, this series helped CanWaCH members and partners navigate actively integrating anti-racist approaches into global health and gender equality programming and communications. The series consisted of four interactive webinars which highlighted the intersections of anti-racism and global health within programming design and implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and communications and advocacy.

**2**  
Flagship  
Events

**33**  
Webinars

**78**  
Working Group  
Members



**Beyond the Binary: A Guidance for Inclusion of LGBTI People in Development Activities:** Informed by the needs expressed by CanWaCH members, this document provides foundational knowledge and guidance on key frameworks, language and resources for LGBTI inclusion in global health and gender equality programming.

**Technical Guidance Note on Measuring Women's Empowerment in the Global Health Sector:** Best practices in measuring women's empowerment, particularly for those projects that are included as part of Canada's commitment to global health and rights of women and girls.

**Values Clarification and Attitude Transformation (VCAT) workshop:** Coordinated by CanWaCH and led by Ipas for CanWaCH members, this workshop provided training on CSO provision of abortion-related services.

In addition to the Anti-Racism Learning Series, CanWaCH contributed to sector-wide efforts to address racism, including participation in the **Anti-Racism Advisory Group** and Task Force, led by Cooperation Canada. This group developed the **Anti-Racism Framework** for Canada's International Cooperation Sector. CanWaCH lent its expertise in monitoring and evaluation to the Advisory Group's baseline analysis of the sector's anti-racism policies, procedures and strategies which was used to support the development of the **sector's first report on anti-racism**. CanWaCH is grateful to have contributed to the report and its goal to provide common understanding, guiding instruments, and momentum to help organizations implement anti-racist practices.

In the Fall of 2020, following consultations and feedback, we launched a gender equality training program, **“Building Capacity and Confidence in Gender Transformative Programming: A Virtual Learning Experience.”** Not only was this training responsive to the COVID-19 pandemic, it supported CanWaCH members with personnel located across the country, as well as those who have staff and partners working overseas in regional and country offices. At its core, this training program recognizes that advancing gender equality is everyone's responsibility.

Participants examined gender transformative programming at all stages of the project cycle. CanWaCH held six training sessions (five in English and one French). A total of 136 people participated in the 18-hour program, spanning 40 CanWaCH member organizations and associates.

“ The training and training team are excellent — very knowledgeable, responsive, proactive and followed/ applied feminist ways of learning and sharing knowledge! I would strongly recommend that more of our colleagues participate in the next sessions.”

## Looking for a new book to read this winter?

Check out CanWaCH's favourite reads from 2021!

- Seven Fallen Feathers**  
by Tanya Talaga
- The Great Influenza**  
by John Barry
- Emergent Strategy**  
by Adrienne Maree Brown
- Parable of the Sower**  
by Octavia E. Butler
- Disfigured**  
by Amanda DeLuc
- Salt**  
by Nayyirah Waheed
- Girl, Woman, Other**  
by Bernardine Evaristo
- From the Ashes**  
by Jesse Thistle
- Where the Crawdads Sing**  
by Delia Owens
- The Break**  
by Katherena Vermette
- Bear Town**  
by Fredrik Backman
- Ladyparts**  
by Deborah Copaken
- Five Little Indians**  
by Michelle Good
- Snow**  
by John Banville



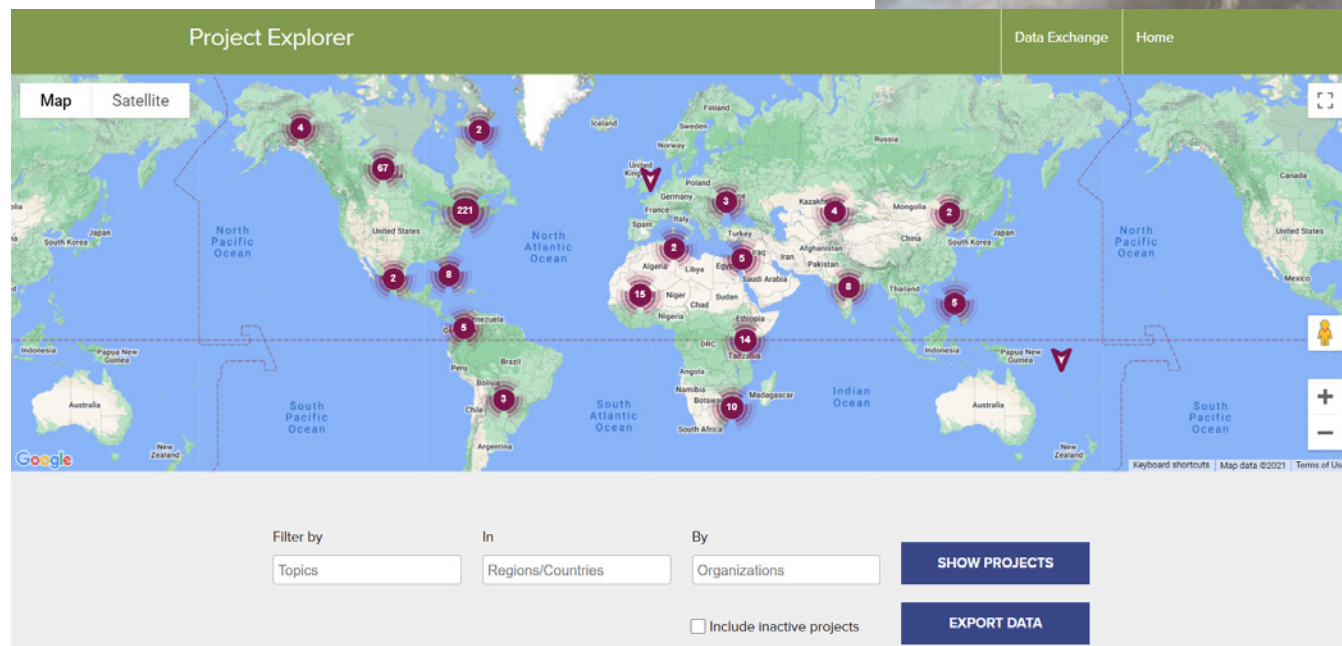


## MOBILIZING EVIDENCE

By collecting, collating and sharing data and evidence about Canada's investment in global health and gender equality, CanWaCH supports members, and the global health sector as a whole, in addressing challenges in programming implementation and evaluation. Over the past year, CanWaCH has worked toward this objective by expanding the **Data Exchange** platform, creating timely **reports**, hosting data-focused learning opportunities, convening working groups, and wrapping up the first iteration of the **Canadian Collaborative for Global Health**.

With over 1200 projects currently in the **Project Explorer** and data from 95% of eligible CanWaCH members included in the database, the Project Explorer and accompanying Analytics Portal makes data available that is 'fit-for-use' in order to meet the needs of a range of diverse stakeholders. The tool also provides a foundation to analyze the scale and impact of Canada's investments in global health and gender equality. This year, promoting data accessibility and utilization, CanWaCH produced country-specific data analyses and visualizations to accompany the Global Health Impact Report and piloted customized data packages for a handful of members, which captured, analyzed and contextualized organizational data found in the Project Explorer.

This year, the Project Explorer was recognized by Future of Good as one of **Canada's Top 100 Recovery Projects** helping to build back better in the COVID-19 era and featured as one of **Carleton University's Data Discoveries**. CanWaCH was featured at the 2021 International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) Virtual Community Exchange, highlighting how the Project Explorer can be used to assess the collective impact of Canadian actors and their global partners.



The COVID-19 pandemic forced us to rethink how we work and challenge assumptions and common ways of working. In developing the **Global Health Impact Report**, which was released in November 2020, CanWaCH members and other contributors expressed the need for measurement and evaluation processes to adapt quickly in an increasingly virtual environment. The report took a close look at global and country-specific statistics that illustrate what Canada's international development sector has done to advance the health, rights and wellbeing of women, children and adolescents over the past decade (2010-2020). Through this report, CanWaCH also looked ahead at the next decade in global health, humanitarian response, and international cooperation as the world strives to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. There is no doubt that equitable, trusting global partnerships are critical to meet the ambitious targets set in the SDGs. CanWaCH recognizes our responsibility to listen and act in solidarity as we strive to be good partners in our work.

The **Canadian Collaborative for Global Health (the Collaborative)** brought Canadian and global partners together to generate innovative solutions to urgent data challenges in global health and gender equality. Throughout the spring of 2021, Collaborative partners were invited to reflect on the practical learnings that can be applied to the international development sector in a **critical dialogue series**. Through their work, each Collaborative partner tackled an urgent data challenge in global health and gender equality programming. The Collaborative was an effective vehicle for fostering connections and exchanging ideas by providing a space to address relevant, topical and urgent data gaps in international cooperation, and we are excited to be launching the second iteration of this important initiative in the Fall of 2021.

“... the model of this Collaborative between agencies and academia is highly relevant, not only in terms of building capacity of future leaders, but also in terms of the cohesion of expertise. Secondly, often agencies do not have the bandwidth to brainstorm solutions to existing data challenges and academics do not have real-life examples to support.”

“We don't want research to end up on the shelves. We want research to influence policy... After doing a lot of research [throughout my career] I am asking myself: 'why all this research?' I'm changing my mind... I am thinking now about research for change.”



**Canadian Collaborative for Global Health: At A Glance**

# 6 LABS

Co-led by  
**13** Canadian organizations and institutions  
**19** global partners

Operational between approximately  
**September 2018 - November 2020**

Projects were active in a total of **26 countries**.

The **top six** countries by budget allocation:

- Ethiopia**
- Vietnam**
- Senegal**
- Tanzania**
- Somalia**
- Afghanistan**

## CANADIAN PARTNERS

**59%** Canadian academic and research institutions  
**41%** Canadian civil society organizations

## OTHER PARTNERS

**63%** Academic and Research Institutions  
**26%** Non-Canadian NGOs (including international and National NGOs)  
**11%** Multilateral organizations

## THE LABS:

Adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights: Generating evidence and strengthening country capacity



Harmonized health impact and research partnership metrics to accelerate knowledge sharing and utilization



Collecting data on sexual and reproductive health in humanitarian settings: a global initiative



Maximizing the use of existing data to strengthen program design, evaluation and impact



Improving gender equality and nutrition data for women, children and adolescent girls

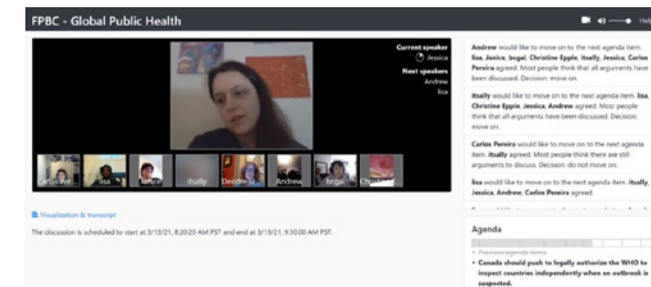


Improving the measurement of sexual and reproductive health and rights, women's empowerment and gender equality in humanitarian settings



## FOREIGN POLICY BY CANADIANS.

In a joint initiative with the Canadian International Council and Global Canada, the Foreign Policy By Canadians project convened a representative subset of the Canadian population (444 Canadians) in the spring of 2021 to deliberate major issues in foreign policy. Underscored by the COVID-19 pandemic, global public health was a natural entry point into conversations about other areas of foreign policy. Traditional public opinion research methods were taken to the next level through the Deliberative Polling exercise conducted in partnership with the Centre for Deliberative Democracy at Stanford University. This process used a random baseline sample where participants were surveyed, then underwent intensive engagement through 39 small group discussions, and were surveyed again after their deliberations.



## FOREIGN POLICY BY CANADIANS



The results of Canada's largest-ever deliberative democracy exercise revealed Canadians' support for significant global engagement and that they are distinctly open to discussing, engaging and contributing to policy discussions on Canada's role in global health, security, prosperity and human dignity. The findings demonstrate that Canadians hold widespread support for promoting access to global public health, particularly in relation to Canada's role in the global recovery to COVID-19. Perhaps the most inspirational finding of Foreign Policy By Canadians was a significant increase in participants' faith in democracy and respect for those with opposing viewpoints after taking part in the deliberative discussions.

### CanWaCH CEO Reflections

“Canadians want us to be active in efforts to promote the dignity of people everywhere, but in this report they also make it clear that there is still work we need to do here at home. From gender rights to LGBTQ issues, Canadians considered complex issues related to Canada's role in promoting equality and expressed a strong desire for Canada to closely link its pursuit of equality abroad with the ongoing struggle to achieve it among Canadians.”

“It is not surprising that Canadians have expressed a desire to see Canada support global health equality. Canadians overwhelmingly showed their support for helping the entire world recover from COVID-19, both from a health and an economic perspective. Canadians' desire to support global health initiatives increased when they were given more information and have had an opportunity to discuss the issues with similarly informed peers.”

- Julia Anderson



**Looking to listen to a new podcast?** Check out CanWaCH's favourite listens from 2021! **Crime Junkie, Unlocking Us & Dare to Lead, Hear to Slay, CBC Ideas, I said what I said, Smartless, Armchair Expert, Dateline, Vinyl Cafe, 2 Dope Queens, Man Enough. This Land, Media Indigena, Mind Valley**



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*We are grateful to these former team members who contributed to our work over the past year:*

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CanWaCH (Co-Chair)

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Status of Women Council  
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**CanWACH**

Canadian Partnership for  
Women and Children's Health