

WHO OWNS CHILD CARE?

WHO *SHOULD* OWN CHILD CARE?

DATE/TIME

April 4: 8:30 AM – 4:45 PM CDT
(Hybrid)

April 5: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM CDT
(In-Person)

IN-PERSON VENUE

Marshall McLuhan Hall
Room 204, University
Centre
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg

 **UM** | Faculty of Arts
Duff Roblin Professor of
Government

 Reimagining
care/work
Policies | Réinventer
les politiques
soins/travail



SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

BREAKFAST: 8:30 AM

OPENING: 9:15 AM

Susan Prentice, Martha Friendly, and Morna Ballantyne

- *Land acknowledgment*
- *Why this symposium? What are our starting points? What do we hope to accomplish?*
- *Lay of the land: The state of early learning and child care*

PANEL 1: 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

PUBLICLY DELIVERED CHILD CARE

Martha Friendly (Moderator), Rianne Mahon, Merete Villsen, Julie Cyr, and Bonny Traverse

- *What are the issues?*
- *Municipal child care delivery in Canada*
- *Municipalities role in child care in Denmark*
- *Delivery by school authorities*
- *Delivery by Indigenous governing bodies*

BREAK AND LUNCH: 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

PANEL 2: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

FOR-PROFIT CHILD CARE

Susan Prentice (Moderator), Gordon Cleveland, Sophie Mathieu, and Aisling Gallagher

- *What are the issues?*
- *For-profit child care across Canada*
- *The Quebec for-profit story*
- *Private equity firms as a player*

COFFEE BREAK: 2:30 PM – 2:45 PM

PANEL 3: 2:45 PM – 4:15 PM

NON-PROFIT CHILD CARE

Jane Beach (Moderator), Christopher Smith, Pam Uppal, Caryn LaFlèche, and Eva Lloyd

- *What are the issues?*
- *The broad voluntary sector across Canada*
- *Child care in the non-profit sector*
- *Provision of non-profit child care locally*
- *The UK experience – what can Canada learn?*

CLOSING: 4:15 PM – 4:45 PM

Armine Yalnizyan

- *Caring for profit - how it's changing in the Care Economy*

APRIL 5

Facilitated brainstorming on child care ownership

On Friday April 5, in-person participants will drill down and flesh out issues associated with child care ownership. Guided by four key topics, the facilitated discussion will incorporate content emerging from the previous day's presentations and discussion. The brainstorming is expected to be exploratory and open-ended: it will create new policy questions, raise issues, propose new requests for public reporting, data and data transparency as well as identify needed research, and will carry implications for advocacy. It will help sharpen thinking about policy and funding architectures, and could be particularly valuable if there are Canada-wide changes to CWELCC after the next federal election.

Following the symposium, a report based on the recording of the session and notes taken will be developed.

Morna Ballantyne will be facilitating a discussion among all participants.

BREAKFAST: 8:30 AM

EXPLANATION OF THE DAY: 9:00 AM

Susan Prentice, Martha Friendly, and Morna Ballantyne

TOPIC 1: 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

EXPLORING OWNERSHIP OF FACILITIES, OPERATIONS AND LAND

TOPIC 2: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

PLANNING, ISSUES RELATED TO OWNERSHIP AND HOW A PUBLIC ROLE FITS

LUNCH: 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

TOPIC 3: 12:45 PM – 1:45 PM

MONEY, FINANCING AND CAPITAL

TOPIC 4: 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CREATING GUARDRAILS AROUND THE FOR- PROFIT SECTOR

WRAP UP: 2:45 PM – 3:00 PM

MODERATORS & PANELISTS

Morna Ballantyne is the Executive Director of Child Care Now, Canada's national child care advocacy organization. Now a grandmother, she began advocating forty years ago for more high quality, affordable, inclusive, licensed child care. She works with others to press governments to build a publicly managed and publicly funded Canada-wide system of early learning and child care. Morna serves on the National Advisory Council on Early Learning and Child Care.



Jane Beach has been engaged in early learning and child care policy for the last four decades. Jane has worn a multitude of hats over the years from centre director to senior management in government. As an independent consultant for the last 28 years, Jane has undertaken several Canada-wide studies on the ECE workforce, conducted comprehensive policy reviews for government and other stakeholders, worked on ECE policy internationally and has served on numerous advisory bodies. Among her current activities, she is lead researcher on a multiyear project examining successes and challenges in building capacity and expanding child care in the public and non profit sectors in six Canadian provinces.



Gordon Cleveland is Associate Professor Emeritus of Economics at the University of Toronto Scarborough. He has written extensively about early learning and child care policies and their impacts on children, families and child care staff in academic and popular journals. In 2017-18 he was the main author of *Affordable for All: Making Licensed Child Care Affordable in Ontario*, a comprehensive report to the Ontario Ministry of Education. From November 2022 to date, he has been a member of the National Advisory Council on Early Learning and Child Care, advising the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development on the implementation of the \$10 a day program. He writes on child care policy issues at www.childcarepolicy.net.



Julie Cyr brings over 30 years of experience in Early Learning and Child Care, currently serving as General Manager of the Early Learning Department at the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB). As a Registered Early Childhood Educator, she oversees diverse programs for children aged 0 to 12, including 68 licensed Extended Day Programs, three Early Learning Centres, and eight EarlyON Child and Family Centres. Julie is a six-year elected member of the College of Early Childhood Educators and advocates for quality programs, a valued workforce and a supportive environment for children and caregivers.

Martha Friendly is the founder and executive director of the Childcare Resource and Research Unit (CRRU), an independent childcare policy research institute. Martha has worked on childcare research for more than 40 years, collaborating with the community sector, advocates, researchers and policy makers. She has substantial expertise in childcare and family policy in Canada and internationally, publishing extensively in academic, technical and popular venues and authoring two books on childcare policy. Martha has been awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal, an honorary doctorate from Trent University, the 2021 Charles Taylor Prize for Excellence in Policy Research and was recently added to Women and Gender Equality's (WAGE Canada) Women of Influence Gallery. She has been a member of many advisory groups such as the previous federal childcare minister's Expert Panel on Early Learning and Child Care.



Aisling Gallagher is Senior Lecturer in Social Geography at Massey University, New Zealand. Over the last seventeen years, she has conducted research into the politics of childcare and ECEC provisioning in the Anglophone contexts of New Zealand, Australia, Ireland and the UK. She has published on issues relating to childcare policy, funding and more recently on the problems with the use of market mechanisms in the delivery and organisation of childcare. She was a visiting scholar at NUI Galway and University College Cork, Ireland in 2019, and has presented on her work internationally over the last decade. In 2022 she published a monograph with Bristol University Press/Policy Press entitled *Childcare Provision in Neoliberal Times: The Marketization of Care*, which was a detailed examination of the New Zealand childcare sector.

With over 35 years of experience in early childhood education, **Caryn LaFlèche** is a dedicated leader in the childcare field. As an Early Childhood Educator III, she has worked across various settings, including standalone child care centers and family child care, engaging with children of all ages.

Caryn's expertise has earned her a seat at the Ministers Consultation Table. She has served two terms as President of the Manitoba Child Care Association and remains on the board as Past President. Caryn is currently the Vice President of Child Care and Development at the YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg, where she oversees more than 35 child care programs, which provide Early Learning and Care for over 1800 children aged 3 months to 12 years. Caryn's free time is spent with her grandsons, Luca and Kai, both of whom are under the age of two.



Eva Lloyd is Professor Emerita of Early Childhood in the School of Education and Communities at the University of East London. She is the former Director of UEL's International Centre for the Study of the Mixed Economy of Childcare -ICMEC - which she co-founded in 2007 with Professor Helen Penn. Currently Professor Lloyd holds the post of Visiting Professor at University College London and is attached to its Thomas Coram Research Unit. For over three decades Professor Lloyd has specialised in the study of national and international early childhood education and care policies and systems, particularly marketised systems, and their impact on children growing up with disadvantage.

Rianne Mahon, previously Professor and CIGI Chair at the Balsillie School of International Affairs, is distinguished research professor with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Carleton University. In addition to numerous articles and chapters on various topics, she has co-edited books including *Feminist Ethics and Social Politics: Toward a New Global Political Economy of Care* (with F. Robinson), *After 08: Social Policy and the Global Financial Crisis* (with G. Boychuk and S. McBride), *Achieving the Social Development Goals: Global Governance Challenges* (with S. Horton and S. Dalby), and co-authored *Advanced Introduction to Social Policy* (with D. Béland). Her current work focuses on the multi-scalar politics for advancing a 'care economy' in Canada and Latin America.



Sophie Mathieu is the Senior program specialist at the Vanier Institute of the Family, where she is responsible for building partnerships with different organizations, researchers, advocates and policy makers with an interest on family wellbeing. Dr. Mathieu holds a PhD in sociology and she is an expert on gender inequality, Québec family policy, childcare and parental benefits. She has published numerous academic papers in French and English both nationally and internationally on the “demotherization” of care work, the transformation of the Québec childcare model and on inequality in the uptake of parental benefits in Québec. Sophie is strongly committed to the process of knowledge mobilization to wide audiences, and she has published more than 15 op-eds on childcare and parental benefits since 2020.



Susan Prentice is Duff Roblin Professor of Government at the University of Manitoba, where she began her career as Margaret Laurence Chair in Women's Studies. Her whole academic career has focussed on care, gender, and families, with a primary specialization in historical and contemporary childcare policy. She practices public sociology, and has a long track record of engagement with childcare advocacy organizations and community-based women's groups.

Christopher Smith is the Associate Executive Director for the Muttart Foundation, a private charitable foundation based in Edmonton. He has lead responsibility for the Foundation's work in the area of early learning and child care. Christopher serves on the Steering Committee for the Community University Partnership for the Study of Children, Youth and Families at the University of Alberta and is a member of the Edmonton Council for Early Learning and Care. He was appointed to the National Advisory Council on Early Learning and Child Care in Fall, 2022. Christopher formerly served as a member of the National Expert Panel on Early Learning and Child Care Data and Research from 2019 to 2021 and is the former chair of the Success by 6 Council of Partners for the Alberta Capital Region.



Bonny Traverse is an ECE III with over three decades of experience in child care. She is a former member of the Manitoba Child Care Regulatory Review Committee, and is currently Coordinator of Lake St Martin First Nations Early Learning and Child Care, her home community on Treaty 2 territory.

Pamela Uppal (she/her) cares deeply about community, allyship, and equity. Over the past 10 years, she has focused on bridging frontline work, research initiatives, and policy advocacy to help build equitable systems. She led a nonprofit organization as a student volunteer, started her career in the nonprofit sector as an intake worker at a multi-service agency, has designed diversity trainings, and collaborated on multiple gender equity research projects. Currently, she is the Director of Policy at the Ontario Nonprofit Network. She holds a Masters degree in Women Studies & Feminist Research.



Merete Villsen, the head manager of early childcare in Aalborg Municipality, presents the unique approach taken in Denmark towards developing excellent childcare facilities. With years of experience in strategic childcare management in Denmark, Merete Villsen also serves as a Member of the national board of The Children and Cultural Directors in municipalities.

Armine Yalnizyan is the Atkinson Foundation's Fellow on the Future of Workers, and a regular contributing columnist to the Toronto Star's business section. She served as Senior Economic Policy Advisor for the Deputy Minister at Employment and Social Development Canada from 2018 to 2019, and served on Ministers Freeland and Fortier's Task Group on Women In The Economy in 2020 and 2021. She helped lead the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' Inequality Project from 2008 to 2017, and provided weekly business commentaries on CBC radio and CBC TV from 2011 to 2018. She is past President of the Canadian Association for Business Economics.

