

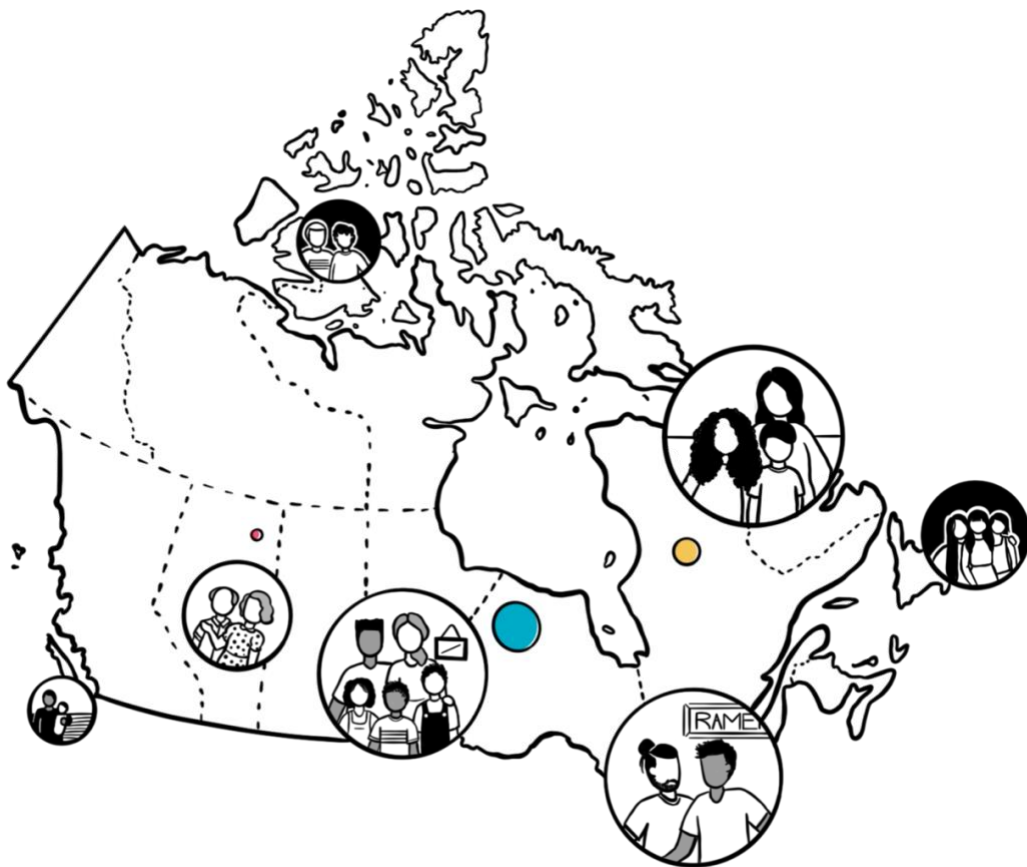


Reimagining
care/work
Policies

Réinventer
les politiques
soins/travail

Reimagining Care/Work Policies (RC/W) Newsletter 5 (August 2024)

With summer in full swing, we wanted to share with you what has been happening with the RC/W Partnership Project so far this year.



A note from our Project Director, Andrea Doucet, and Project Manager, Jennifer Turner:

Hello colleagues and friends,

Our team has been busy on many fronts with research and advocacy work around important care/work policy issues and with events. In June, many members of our team participated in varied conferences taking place in Montreal (e.g., *The Congress of the Social science and Humanities*, the *Work Family Researchers Network [WFRN]*, and the *21st Annual Seminar of the International Network of Leave Policies and Research [LP&R]*).

We were also really pleased to have a full-day RC/W Partnership Strategy Session where we looked back on what we have accomplished and looked ahead to where we are going. It was wonderful to bring our community and university-based researchers and policy experts together, to share ideas, meals, and some good laughs. We are grateful to Morna Ballantyne (Child Care Now) and Vicky Smallman (Canadian Labor Congress) for facilitating this event and to everyone who attended (with most in-person and some online).

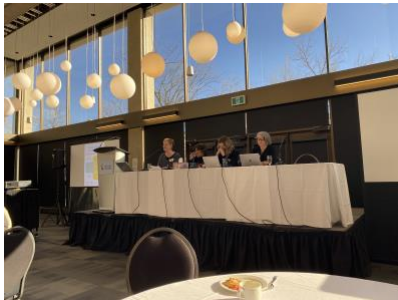
We have organized this newsletter into three sections: (1) events, (2) publications, and (3) team news. We hope you enjoy reading about some of our news and events from the past few months. This fall we will be developing our next phase of research projects and advocacy priorities based on the key priorities discussed in our recent Strategy Session.



1. EVENTS

(i) **Who Owns Child Care? Who Should Own Child Care?**

On April 4th and 5th, in collaboration with the Duff Roblin Professor of Government (**Susan Prentice**) and the Childcare Resource and Research Unit (**Martha Friendly**), we hosted the “Who Owns Child Care? Who *Should* Own Child Care?” symposium virtually and in person at the University of Manitoba. This event brought together about 60 in-person participants and presenters and 150 online attendees to explore the issues and challenges associated with the delivery of non-profit, for-profit, and public child care. The presentations from the 15 panelists on April 4th can be found [here](#). On April 5th, **Morna Ballantyne** (Child Care Now) facilitated a discussion with in-person participants to drill down and flesh out the issues associated with child care ownership. Videos will be made available from the symposium, and we will share more information on our website and in our next newsletter.



(ii) International Network on Leave Policies and Research (LP&R) Annual Seminar

On June 17th and 18th 2024, the LP&R Canadian Team (**Sophie Mathieu, Diane-Gabrielle Tremblay, Andrea Doucet, Donna Lero, Lindsey McKay, Valérie Harvey, Kenya Thompson** and **Jennifer Turner**) hosted the [21st International Network on Leave Policies and Research Annual Seminar](#) in Montréal, Québec at Université TÉLUQ.



The seminar's theme was “Reimagining Care/Work Policies Across the Life Course: Parental Leaves, Care Leaves, Childcare, and Employment Policies”. Minister **Karina Gould** (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Canada) and **Marie Gendron** (CEO, Conseil de gestion de l'assurance parentale, Québec) both gave opening remarks.



Minister Karina Gould gives opening remarks virtually for Canada



Marie Gendron gives opening remarks for Québec

The Seminar was hybrid (in-person and online) and participants included some of our Canadian and Québec partners (such as **Employment & Social Development Canada, The Vanier Institute of the Family, UNICEF Canada, Conseil de gestion de l'assurance parentale, and Le Réseau pour un Québec Famille**) and members of the LP&R Network (from, to mention a few, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Finland, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Nigeria, Romania, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States).

The first session of the Seminar focused on Care/Work Policies in Québec and Canada with panelists **Sophie Mathieu, Diane-Gabrielle Tremblay, Martha Friendly, Susan Prentice, Andrea Doucet, and Lindsey McKay**.



(iii) RC/W Partnership Strategy Session: Where We've Been...What's Next?

On June 19th, we hosted a hybrid team strategy session in Montréal with partners and co-investigators to take stock, regroup, and reconsider our plans for the next 4-5 years of the RC/W partnership project. The session was facilitated by **Morna Ballantyne** (Child Care Now) and **Vicky Smallman** (Canadian Labour Congress). **Andrea Doucet** and **Jennifer Turner** opened the session to look back on where we started and what we've accomplished. The PowerPoint presentation can be downloaded [here](#).



Throughout the day, participants engaged in conversations around the key issues, developments, questions, and opportunities for our three RC/W policy areas: child care, parental leave and employment; how the RC/W partnership project can deepen our attention to equity, diversity, and inclusion; solidifying our next stage of research priorities for our university and community-based researchers; and what can be done to leverage the RC/W partnership for clear policy messaging and advocacy.



As a next step, in September, we will be having cluster meetings (focused on our three inter-connected policy areas child care, parental leave, and employment) to discuss projects and research strategies. We will share more information in our fall newsletter.

It was wonderful day and the first time many of us were together in person!



We even celebrated Lindsey's birthday, and Jenn's boys (Dallas and Nash) came to help with the mic check!



(iv) Work and Family Researchers Network (WFRN) Conference

We organized a panel at the 7th Biennial [Work and Family Researchers Network Conference](#) in Montréal, Québec on June 22, which focused on lessons learned to date on the progress, pitfalls, and politics of developing inclusive and equitable childcare, parental leaves, and employment policies for diverse populations in Canada. Panelists included **Martha Friendly, Susan Prentice, Andrea Doucet, Sophie Mathieu, Lindsey McKay, Sylvia Fuller, and Donna Lero.**

This year's WFRN featured a series of twenty "Big Ideas Talks" modeled on the Aspen Institute Ideas Festival where a series of speakers are invited to share their innovative ideas for solving seemingly intractable world problems through TED-like Talks. **Andrea Doucet's** Big Ideas Talk was titled "'Nothing Exists Alone': 3 Lessons About Care from Ecologist Rachel Carson".

Co-investigator **Melissa Milkie** also presented a Big Ideas Talk entitled: "What Happened to Quality Time? A Kid's Eye View". These talks were recorded and will be made into videos, which will be produced and shared over the next year (with two videos shared per month). Andrea and Melissa's talks will be produced next spring and we will share these on our website and in our spring newsletter.



Many members of our team also presented at WFRN, including the following papers:

Andrea Doucet, Kim de Laat, Karen Foster, Margaret Gibson, Eva Jewell, Umay Kader, Janna Klostermann, and bridget livingstone, What Care, Work, and Equality Concepts Are We Using in Research on Gender Divisions and Relations of Household Labour?

Kim de Laat and Andrea Doucet, How Do We Measure Father Involvement? Methodological and Epistemological Issues in a Canadian Mixed Methods Study on Household Tasks and Responsibilities.

Sylvia Fuller, Manlin Cai, Andrea Doucet, Anna Kurowska, Richard Petts, Thordis Reimer, and Donna Lero, Irregular Work Schedules and Gender Divisions of Domestic Labour.

Members of our team also presented papers at [Congress 2024](#):

Karen Foster, Laura Fisher, and Andrea Doucet, Time and Agency in the Care/Work Narratives of Families with Disabilities.

Umay Kader and Andrea Doucet, Rethinking How We Measure Gender Divisions of Paid and Unpaid Work: A Case Study of New Immigrant Families in Canada.

Brianna Urquhart, Michele Martin, bridget livingstone, and Margaret Gibson, Experiences of parents with disabilities negotiating care and work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adrienne Davidson, Jenna Quelch, and Linda White also presented papers on inequalities and varieties of child care investments in Australia, Canada, and Germany at the European Conference on Politics and Gender (Belgium, July 8-10) and the Conference on Policy Process Research (Syracuse, May 15-17).



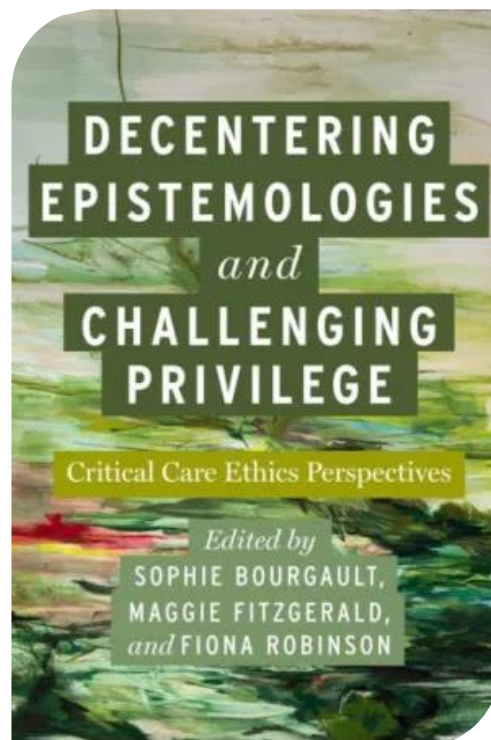
2. PUBLICATIONS

Since the start of 2024, our team has published research articles and op eds on child care, parental leave, employment policies, and on theoretical and methodological innovations in research on care and work. You can find these [here](#) on our website. We just wanted to mention a few recent publications:

Susan Prentice, Lindsey McKay, and student research assistant **Trina McKellep** have published an article in *Teaching Sociology* entitled [Teaching Family? Care/Work Policy in Selected Family Courses in Canada's Research-Intensive Universities.](#)

Andrea Doucet published a piece in *The Conversation* entitled [3 lessons from MP Karina Gould's parental leave that could help all Canadian families.](#) (Karina Gould reached out to Andrea after this piece was published and Andrea and Minister Gould had a first meeting in June, with an anticipated follow up with our team at a later date).

Andrea Doucet, Eva Jewell, and **Vanessa Watts** published a book chapter entitled "Indigenous and feminist ecological reflections on feminist care ethics: Encounters of care, absence, punctures, and offerings" in the edited collection [Decentering Epistemologies and Challenging Privilege: Critical Care Ethics Perspectives.](#)



Some of our in-progress writing

Martha Friendly, student research assistant **Jenna Quelch**, and **Linda White** have a book chapter in press, entitled “Transformative Change in Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) or More of the Same? Child Care in the Canadian Federation” in *Canadian Federalism: Performance, Effectiveness, and Legitimacy* (Fifth Edition) edited by Herman Bakvis and Grace Skogstad with the University of Toronto Press.

Andrea Doucet, **Eva Jewell**, and research associate **Jessica Falk** have a journal article in press with *The Sociological Review*, entitled “Remaking the Listening Guide in a Canadian Indigenous-White settler research collaboration: Indigenous and feminist ecological methodological reflections”.

Our team is also working on, or have submitted for peer review, several papers from the [Familydemic Survey](#) and the [Care/Work Portrait project](#) and we will share more about these publications in our next newsletter.

3. TEAM NEWS

Congratulations to:

Martha Friendly (Childcare Resource and Research Unit) on being awarded the [Order of Canada as an Officer](#) for propelling the importance of child care not only for the benefits it accrues to children, but also for its necessity for Canadian families, and particularly for women’s equality. Way to go Martha!



Armine Yalnizyan (Atkinson Foundation) received the prestigious biennial Galbraith Prize in Economics from the Progressive Economics Forum. The prize recognizes her lifetime efforts to build a better economy. She accepted the prize and delivered a lecture at the Canadian Economics Association on May 21 at Toronto Metropolitan University. You can read her lecture [here](#).

Kim de Laat (University of Waterloo) on her article, “Remote Work and Post Bureaucracy: Unintended Consequences of Work Design for Gender Inequality” being selected as a nominee for the [2024 Rosabeth Award for Research Excellence in Work and Family](#).

Karen Foster (Dalhousie University) on being selected to lead a [\\$1.9-million initiative supported by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council](#) to develop a new national research network that supports an equitable transition to net-zero in Canadian agriculture and its periphery industries.

Welcome to our new co-investigators:

- **Stephanie Fearon**, Assistant Professor, **York University**
- **Barry Forer**, Research Methodologist and Statistician, **University of British Columbia**

Welcome to our new community partners:

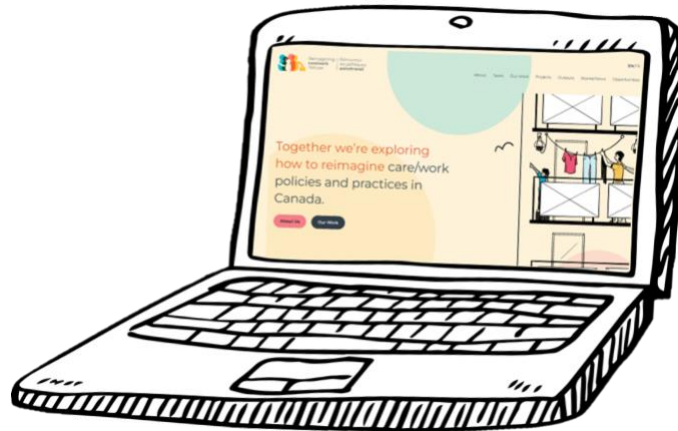
- [The Muttart Foundation](#) (Christopher Smith)
- [The Yellowhead Institute](#) (Eva Jewell)
- [UNICEF Canada](#) (Lisa Wolff)

Welcome to our new research associate and students:

- **Jane Beach**, Research Associate, **Independent Research Consultant**
- **Azadé Aria**, MA Student, **Thompson Rivers University**
- **Hilarius Kofi Kofinti (Kofi)**, PhD Student, **York University**
- **Adwoa Fosuaa Owusu (Maame)**, MA Student, **Brock University**
- **Olivia Schmidt**, MA Student, **Brock University**

We are continuing to expand our student cohort and are excited to have these new-generation researchers as part of our team.

Please visit our website and sign up for our newsletter to stay up to date on all of our activities!



If we have missed any significant achievements from our team, please let us know and we will include them in our next newsletter and on our website.

A big thank you to Diana Tzinis for the beautiful illustrations included in our newsletters and on our website and Jocelyne Tougas for all French translations.

We wish you and your loved ones a happy summer!

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