

Annual Report to Senate Committee on University Research

APRIL 2021 - MARCH 31, 2022

SUBMITTED ON: DECEMBER 22, 2022

Centre for Human
Rights Research



University
of Manitoba

Centre: Centre for Human Rights Research,
University of Manitoba

Centre Type: Interdisciplinary (Type II) Research Centre

Director: Dr. Adele Perry

**Report Prepared
By:** Dr. Shayna Plaut (Acting Manager) and Dr.
Pauline Tennent

Mission

The Centre for Human Rights Research brings together people and organizations – both within and outside the University of Manitoba – to enhance interdisciplinary and collaborative research capacity, create richer training opportunities for students, and facilitate the fusion of research-driven knowledge, public policy and intellectual debate on issues related to human rights and social justice. The centre aims to facilitate research that is both academically rigorous and accessible to the public. The Centre was established in 2012, with the Centre’s status renewed by the University in 2017, and again in 2022, following a five-year review.

CHRR Director Dr. Adele Perry is a distinguished professor of history and women’s and gender studies. She is a historian of colonialism and imperialism, transnationalism, gender, sexuality, racism and western Canada in the 19th and 20th centuries. From 2003 to 2014, Perry held a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and past president of the Canadian Historical Association.



Personnel

Faculty Members ¹

76 UM; 7 other universities / institutions.

- 10 faculty members serving on CHRR's Advisory Board representing Law, Arts, Social Work, and Education.
- 66 faculty members and independent researchers from diverse faculties serving as Research Affiliates with the CHRR (59 from UM)
 - 4 of these UM Research Affiliates (Ursel, Busby, Ireland, and Bennett) are involved in the SSHRC-funded **Impervious to Change** sexual assault research study.
 - 2 of these UM Research Affiliates (Perry and Ladner) lead the SSHRC-funded **At the Forks** project.
 - 3 of these Research Affiliates (UM: Perry and Thorpe; and Collaborator Karine Duhamel) lead the SSHRC-funded **Missing the Bus** research study.

Research Associates (post-PhD)

N/A

Postdoctoral Fellows

N/A

PhD students - 9 UM

- 1 PhD student handling CHRR website and social media
- CHRR Director supervised/co-supervised 2 PhD students (who successfully defended) and is currently supervising 3 PhD students. She is also a committee member for 3 additional PhD students (one of whom successfully defended).

¹ The range of involvement for the various faculty members varies widely, with major engagement by Perry (50% of her workload) and Dr. Jane Ursel. Note that the professors listed above are not all Research Affiliates or Advisory Board members of the CHRR. Additionally, some Research Affiliates and Advisory Board members were not active this year.

Personnel (Cont'd)

Master's students - 9 UM

- 1 MHR student hired as research assistant in the Winter and co-presenter at an international academic conference.
- Worked closely with the MHR staff to develop and enhance the practicum options of their program.
- Hired 3 MA students for research on two SSHRC-funded projects regarding Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights, 1 of whom successfully defended this year.
- CHRR director supervised 1 MA whom successfully defended, currently 1 MA thesis in history, plus on committees for 3 master's theses (2 Indigenous Studies and 1 Social Work), one of whom successfully defended.

JD students

- 3 paid research assistants (summer term)
- 1 paid Speakers Bureau coordinator plus 9 other Speakers Bureau volunteer presenters. The Speakers Bureau coordinator graduated from Robson Hall this year.

Technical Support Staff

N/A

Administrative - 2 UM

- Manager (24 hours a week)
- Office Assistant (20 hours a week)

Personnel (Cont'd)

Community partners²

Also partners include:

- Association of Human Rights Institutes
- Canadian Association for Human Rights Institutes
- Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
- Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- Human Rights Cities
- Humber College StoryLab
- Immigration Matters in Canada Coalition
- Klinik Community Health
- Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata
- Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth
- Manitoba Indigenous Tuberculosis Project
- Manitoba Islamic Association
- Manitoba Research Alliance
- Media Indigena
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation
- Oral History Centre
- Red River Echoes

² Community partners are organizations (large and small) that are NOT governed by the University of Manitoba; thus this list does NOT include the many institutes/centres who engage in community outreach/community based research that are part of the University of Manitoba.

Academic Contributions

(April 2021 - March 31 2022)

In this year alone CHRR research affiliates published over 200 peer reviewed and policy related publications.

Below is a complete list of publications by Director Dr. Adele Perry, as well as some highlighted human rights related publications by CHRR Research Affiliates that speak to the themes of the CHRR.

(A) Books

Backhouse, Constance, Kovach, Margaret, Milton, Cynthia, and Perry, Adele. (2021). *Royally Wronged: The Royal Society of Canada and Indigenous Peoples*. McGill-Queen's University Press.

McCallum, Mary Jane and Perry, Adele. (2021). *Structures of Indifference*. University of Manitoba Press. Audiobook version, narrated by Wesley French.

(C.1) Refereed Papers

Perry, Adele. (2021). "REFLECTION: Whiteness and BC History in the Age of COVID-19." *BC Studies*, no. 210, p. 11-20.

Perry, Adele. (2021). Review and review forum, ed., of Karina Vernon, ed., *The Black Prairie Archives: An Anthology*, including reviews by Barrington Walker, Sonja Boon, Erica Violet Lee, and Betchel Belachew, *Prairie History*, 5, 76-78.

Academic Contributions (Cont'd)

(C.1) Refereed Papers

Woodgate Roberta L., Tennent Pauline. and Legras Nicole. (2021). Understanding Youth's Lived Experience of Anxiety through Metaphors: A qualitative, arts-based study. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 18. doi:10.3390/ijerph18084315.

(C.2) General Interest and Other Papers

Dubsinky, Karen and Perry, Adele. March 9, 2022. "A survey and the past that is still here," *Active History*.

Korteweg, Lisa, Tennent, Pauline, & Fiddler, Tessa. (2021). "Reckoning with the truths of unmarked graves of Indigenous child, education systems must take action." *The Conversation Canada*. September 26, 2021.

Wahpasiw, Omeasoo, Perry, Adele and Carleton, Sean. May 5, 2021. "Nostalgia and the Politics of Selective Remembering," *Active History*.

Duhamel, Karine and Perry, Adele. July 12, 2021. "A season of historical reckoning," *Winnipeg Free Press*.

(E.1) Contributions to Published Government and/or Other Reports

Perry, Adele. 2021. Expert Report for Tataskweyak Cree Nation and Chief Doreen Spence, Class Action Proceeding commenced under McCarthy Tetreault LLP, "Drinking Water, the Reserve System, and Canada." 26 pages.

Academic Contributions (Cont'd)

(E.1) Contributions to Published Government and/or Other Reports

Perry, Adele, Duhamel, Karine, Thorpe, Jocelyn, Belachew, Bethal, Bowers, Hannah, and Hourie, Sarah. (2021). “Missing the Bus: Indigenous Women, Two Spirit Plus People and Public Transit in Western Canada,” for SSHRC and Infrastructure Canada, 40 pages.

(F) Contributions to Literary and Professional Periodicals

N/A

(G) Papers Published by UM Research Centre

Perry, Adele (2021). “Here at the (digital) forks,” At the Forks: Where Indigenous Rights and Human Rights Meet, 16 June.

Plaut, Shayna and Perry, Adele (2021). “Centre for Human Rights Research Marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation,” 29 September.

Ladner, Kiera and Perry, Adele (2022). “Putting ‘emergency’ in Context: Leah Gazan on the Introduction of the Emergencies Act,” At the Forks, 30 March.



A small selection of publications written by Research Affiliates as it matches with the Centre's current research themes

INDIGENOUS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Carleton, Sean. (2021). Truth before reconciliation: 8 ways to identify and confront Residential School denialism. *The Conversation Canada*.

Sinha, V., Sangster, K., Gerlach, A.J., **Bennett, Marlyn**, Lavoie, J.G., Lach, L., Balfour, M., & Folster, S. (2021). *The implementation of Jordan's Principle in Manitoba: Final report*. Winnipeg, MB: Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

Gunn, Brenda. (2021). "Legislation and Beyond: Implementing and Interpreting the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," *UBC Law Review*, 53:4, pp. 1065-1096.

Adegun, A., & **Thompson, Shirley**. (2021). Higher COVID-19 rates in Manitoba's First Nations compared to non-First Nations linked to limited infrastructure on reserves. *The Journal of Rural and Community Development*, 16(4).

Thorpe, Jocelyn. and Johnston, Kaila. (2022). More than entertainment, Indigenous women are teaching through filmmaking. *The Conversation Canada*.

Carleton, Sean. "I don't need any more education': Senator Lynn Beyak, Residential School Denialism, and Attacks on Truth and Reconciliation." *Settler Colonial Studies*: 10.1080/2201473X.2021.1935574

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Urquia, Marcelo, et al. (2022). The perinatal epidemiology of child and adolescent marriage in Brazil, 2011–2018. *SSM Population Health* 18: 101093.

Bhattacharyya, Pallabi; Songose, Labu and **Wilkinson, Lori** (2021) "How Sexual and Gender-Based Violence affects the settlement experiences among Yazidi Refugee Families in Canada." *Frontiers in Human Dynamics*. Volume 3, pages 1-12.

Nesca, Marcello; Au, Wendy; **Turnbull, Lorna A.**; Brownell, Marni; Brownridge, Douglas L. and **Urquia, Marcelo**. (2021) "Intentional injury and violent death after intimate partner violence. A retrospective matched-cohort study." *Preventive Medicine* 149, doi: 10.1016/j.ypmed.2021.106616.

HISTORY AND COMMEMORATION

Jaeger, Stephan (Together with Emma Mikuska-Tinman). (2021). "The World War Two Refugee in the Twenty-First-Century Museum between Nationalism, Transnationalism, and Human Rights." *Jahrbuch für Internationale Germanistik* series A, no. 141, special issue From Far and Wide: German Studies in Canada, ed. Nikola von Merveldt and Andrea Speltz in collaboration with Gaby Pailer: 89-98.

Neufeld, K. H. S., **Starzyk, Katherine B.**, Boese, G. D., Efimoff, I. H., & Wright, S. (2021). "The more you know": Critical historical knowledge about Indian Residential Schools increases non-Indigenous Canadians' empathy for Indigenous Peoples." *Political Psychology*.

Anderson, Kjell. 2021. "Perpetrators in the Modern Age." In Cultural History of Genocide – *The Modern Age*, vol. 6 (1945-2017), edited by Deborah Mayersen and Paul Bartrop. London: Bloomsbury.

FOOD AND WATER RIGHTS

Wilson, Nicole. Montoya, Teresa, Arsenault, Rachel and Curley, Andrew. (2021). Governing water insecurity: navigating indigenous water rights and regulatory politics in settler colonial states. *Water International*, 46:6, 783-801.

James, Dana, Bowness, Evan, **Desmarais, Annette** et al. (2021). Dismantling and Rebuilding the Food System after COVID-19: Ten Principles for Redistribution and Regeneration. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems and Community Development* 10(2).

Starzyk, Katherine B., Neufeld, K. H. S., Gaucher, D., Quesnel, M., Fontaine, A. S. M., Vorauer, J. D., & Yakubovich, A. (2021). "Is water a human right?": Priming water as a human right increases support for government action. *International Indigenous Policy Journal*, 12(3), 1-28. <https://doi.org/10.18584/iipj.2021.12.3.9342>

(H) Degrees Completed in the Past Academic Year

- Six (6) students employed by the CHRR defended this year.
- CHRR Manager Pauline Tennent also completed her PhD in May 2021. Dissertation: "We Live in Different Worlds": The perspectives of Manitoba educators on settler colonialism, Indigenous-settler relations, and reconciliation.

Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

Student Speakers Bureau program made presentations virtually to 250 students from elementary school to adult education. Due to COVID 19 restrictions (virtual learning, no visitors in school etc.) all presentations were made online, however that also enabled outreach and connections in rural Manitoba (Altona); it also provided the facilitators (all law students) to develop and practice online presentation skills.

Number of Presentations	9
Location of Presentations	8 Winnipeg / 1 Rural (Altona, MB)
Number of Student Volunteers	9
Grade Level / Age of Presentations	1 x Elementary School 5 x Middle Years 2 x High School 1 x Adult Education

Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

Speakers Bureau (Cont'd)

Feedback Included:

“I really enjoyed the activity of having the students create their own hypothetical school taking into consideration their wants, needs, and rights. This was a great way of applying what the students had learned... The entire presentation, as a whole, flowed very well with a great balance of visual, lecture, and presenter to student connection.” (teacher from 7th grade class presentation at Christ the King School on Introduction to Human Rights)

“I appreciated the questions from the teacher which helped to connect the presentation materials to the other content they had been learning in class...In general, I think the content of the presentation, the use of technology, and the incorporation of interactive elements was very well done. However, some additional training or resources could prove beneficial on the pedagogy side of the presentation. In addition to the bank of presentations, some additional resources or templates on how to “lesson plan” or how to think about what it is you would like the students to learn would be really helpful...We also were not able to find any volunteers that identify as Indigenous. Partnering with the Manitoba Indigenous Law Students Association or other organizations could assist with finding volunteers in the future.” (facilitator for Aboriginal Law presentation given to Gordon Bell High School.)

Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

Human Rights Research Network

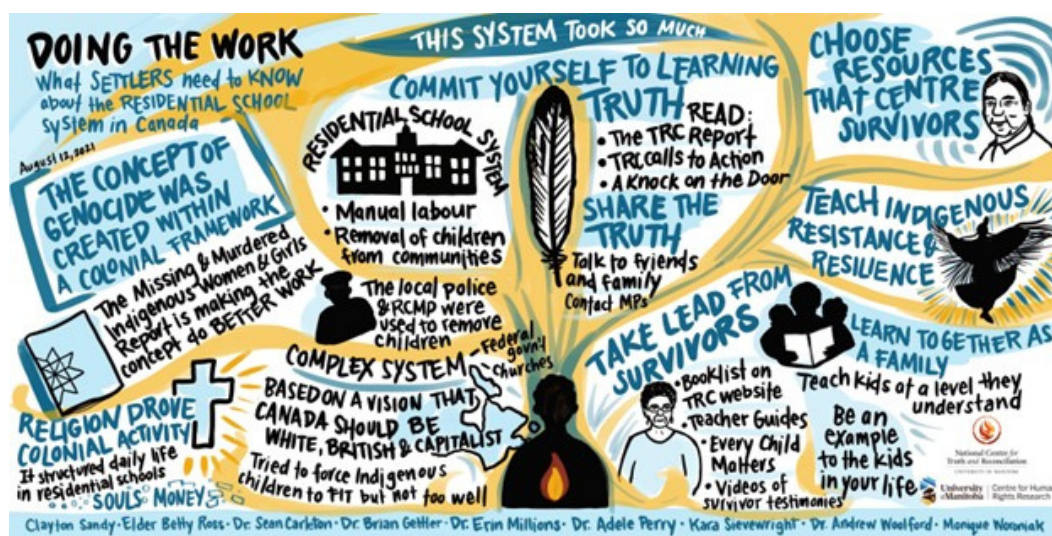
Launched the Human Rights Research Network which works to highlight and promote both in person and online human rights events through our calendar, social media team and website. These are human rights research events developed by our Research Affiliates, community partners, as well as members of the Canadian Association of Human Rights Institutes and the global Association of Human Rights and others

International Academic Forum

CHRR supported the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR), and Research Affiliate Prof. Brenda Gunn, to host an international academic forum regarding the implementation of UNDRIP.

NCTR Panel Discussion "Doing the Work"

CHRR worked in collaboration with NCTR to organize a panel discussion entitled "Doing the Work" aimed at answering audience questions on the Indian Residential School System. More than 160 people attended the virtual conversation.



Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

SSHRC Connections Grant

Awarded a SSHRC Connections Grant for an online journal and research portal looking at the intersections, and tensions, of human rights and Indigenous rights “At the Forks.” This project is ongoing and continues to attract high quality contributions and a growing audience and has employed two U of M Master’s students as Research Assistants.

SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grant

Awarded a SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grant with Research Affiliate Dr. Jocelyn Thorpe to examine how the termination of public buses has affected Indigenous women, girls and two-spirited peoples. The report, which employed and trained three U of M Research Assistants (two Masters students and one undergraduate student) may also involve the creation of podcasting as a former of knowledge dissemination.

International Law and Society Conference

CHRR Manager and Research Assistant (MHR student) joined Dr. Lindsay Larios (CHRR affiliate, Faculty of Social Work) and other scholars for a presentation at the International Law and Society Conference.

NCTR Office and Procedures

CHRR assisted Prof. Brenda Gunn, Research Director of the NTRC, in setting up the research office and procedures.

Anti-Racism in Sport

CHRR Manager assisted Dr. Lori Wilkinson in copy editing Anti-Racism in Sport report circulated widely for media, policy makers and community engagement.

Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

YouTube Channel

CHRR Manager working closely with Robson Hall web/media to cross promote events and populate YouTube channel.

MHR Rubric

CHRR Manager worked with MHR to assist in development and rubric for practicum.

Sandy Bay First Nation

Working with a variety of professors and community members to assist Sandy Bay First Nation with locating and addressing their residential school history, including the recent discovery of suspected unmarked graves.

Human Rights and Resistance

Organized “Human Rights and Resistance” an online public event for December 10th - Human Rights Day with five community based human rights advocates including the Executive Director of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights .

Small Grants

Awarded two small grants to assist U of M faculty in their human rights work: one was to assist a FN community in addressing the ongoing legacy of the residential school in their community; the other was to explore the intersections of human rights/social justice and science in Manitoba public schools.

Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

Critical Conversations

CHRR organized “Critical Conversations” workshop series featuring scholars working with human rights and social justice (136 attendees not counting students).

Methods and Mediums

CHRR organized “Methods and Mediums” workshop series exploring issues relating to human rights research methodologies (70 attendees).

Supporting Research

Provides in kind support (space, training, Research Assistants) for a project by Dr. Jane Ursel addressing the reporting, or lack of reporting, of sexual assault cases at Canadian Universities (\$268,550).

Online Events

CHRR organized multiple online events throughout the year reaching 1063 attendees (this does not include viewings of the video after the event).



Critical Conversations:
Human Rights and Historic Wrongs
January - April 2022; 2:30 - 3:45 PM CT
Zoom Registration at <https://bit.ly/3Fre5hv>

The Centre for Human Rights Research organizes a regular seminar series on the University of Manitoba's Fort Garry campus. This year's seminar will run in conjunction with a Honours/Graduate course in the Department of History. Seminars with guest speakers are open to the public and registration by zoom is required. Please contact Adele.Perry@umanitoba.ca for further information.

January 31	Questions that Convey Indigenous Historical Perspectives (That Challenge How Canadians View Indigenous History)	Robert Alexander Innes, Department of Political Science and Indigenous Studies, McMaster University
March 7	Experiences of Enslaved Black People in Colonial Canada	Harvey Amani Whitfield, History, University of Calgary
March 14	Across Oceans of Law	Renisa Mawani, Sociology, University of British Columbia
March 21	Civilian Internment	Rhonda Hinder, History, Brandon University, and Jim Mechoruk, History, University of North Dakota
March 28	The Patients who Never Came Home: 'Indian' Tuberculosis and Indigenous Health Care in Manitoba, 1930s-1970s	Anne Lindsay and Erin Millions, Manitoba Tuberculosis History Project, University of Winnipeg
April 4	The Sixties Scoop and Indigenous Resistance	Allyson Stevenson, Gabriel Dumont Chair in Métis Studies, University of Saskatchewan
April 18	Dangerously Different: Canada's LGBTQ+ Purge and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights	Scott De Groot, Curator, Canadian Museum for Human Rights

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Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

Online Networking

Hosted an online networking event for CHRR research affiliates in January 2022.

Board Meetings

Hosted two CHRR board meetings October 2021 and February 2022.

Website

Complete redesign of CHRR website.

Social Media

The Centre has 280 email list subscribers and a growing number of Facebook (1,121), Twitter (1094) and Instagram followers (254).

National Journalism Project

Partnering on a national journalism project (Storylab) on anti-Indigenous racism.



Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

Two Large Grants

Manager Pauline Tennent (on leave until Sept. 2022) is the co-Investigator for two large CIHR grants (\$546, 976 and \$600,524, respectively) with Principal Investigator Dr. Roberta Woodgate exploring youth mental health program in Winnipeg, partnering high schools in the Seven Oaks School Division with Nor'West, a community youth hub. The other grant works with youth as co-researchers to better understand the experiences, needs and priorities of young people with chronic pain, in order to provide better patient-centred care

Quoted in Published Research

The director and other CHRR-supported researchers were quoted in or wrote at least 33 print and broadcast news stories about human rights issues ensuring academic interventions and analysis in world events including: the discovery of unmarked Indigenous children's graves at IRSs, and refugee and immigration policies leading to the discovery of young families' bodies on the US/Canadian border as well as the human rights effects of the war in Ukraine.

Presentations

Twenty-two (22) presentations made by the director and manager/acting manager on the various CHRR projects.

Videos

Fifty two (52) videos of CHRR work including H2O project presentations are online on the CHRR website and Robson Hall's YouTube channel.

Other Significant Academic Activities and Events, 2021-2022

Respectful of Indigenous Peoples and Context

Director is project lead for UM's Research that is Respectful of Indigenous Peoples and Context committee.

Director also serves on the following committees at the UM:

- Indigenous Advisory Council
- Indigenous Senior Leadership Implementation Process, Project Lead, Research that is Respectful of Indigenous Peoples and Contexts
- Advisory circle for Respectful Repatriation and Caring-for Initiative (chaired by Pahan Pte San Win, Social Work, and Laura Rosenoff Gauvin, Anthropology)
- UM Press board (term ended in 2021)
- University of Manitoba Press, Critical Studies in Native History Advisory Board
- Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture Advisory Board
- Master of Human Rights program advisory committee
- Working Group for United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 (water and sanitation)
- Innovation Plaza Selection Committee, VPRI
- Dr. John M. Bowman Memorial Winnipeg Rh Institute Foundation Award - Selection Committee, VPRI
- RESOLVE Advisory Board
- Asper School of Business Hiring Committee
- Malcolm and Catherine Dewar Truth and Reconciliation Fellowship Committee
- NCTR Hiring Committee

Director serves on the following externally:

- Manitoba Museum Foundation research advisory committee
- Editorial boards for Prairie History, BC Studies and Women`s History Review
- Canadian Historical Association Programme Committee, 2021
- Canadian Historical Association Best Scholarly Book Prize, Jury Chair, 2022
- Director preparing expert report for class action suit on First Nation drinking water rights.
- CHRR manages email distribution list for Canadian Association of Human Rights Institutes and assists in service tasks including arranging for the translation (into Ukrainian and Russian) of CAHRI's statement against Russian aggression and ongoing human rights abuses in the war in Ukraine.

Sources of Funding Authorized for the Past Year

External Funds

- SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis grant, Missing the Bus: Indigenous Women, Two-Spirit People and Public Transit in Western Canada, Dr. Adele Perry, Dr. Jocelyn Thorpe and Dr. Karine Duhamel, \$29,144 (2021-22)
- SSHRC Connection grant, At the Forks: Where Indigenous and Human Rights Intersect, Dr. Adele Perry and Dr. Kiera Ladner, \$21,308 (2021)
- Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, for an international research project on implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, \$81,1387 for 2017-22.

Endowment or Trust Income

- Robson Hall endowment fund, \$2,800 for student Speakers Bureau.
- No income has been disbursed from the CHRR endowment fund until the capital (valued at \$23,400 on March 31, 2022).

University Support

- \$240,085 operating funds, including carryover from previous year and reimbursements from Career Services for three work-study student assistants for core operations
- In-kind support from Law, including two phones, photocopying, basic office supplies, communications assistance, and access to staff kitchens and lounge.
- Physical space in Robson Hall: director's office, manager's office (shared with another research team) and an open area, totaling about 100 square metres.

Sources of Funding Authorized for the Past Year

Expenses 2021-22

TOTAL SALARIES AND BENEFITS	\$154,591.00
SMALL GRANTS AND RESEARCH SUPPORT	\$3,649.10
MATERIAL, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES 3	\$10,736.00
TRAVEL	\$407.06
EXTERNALLY CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$344.82
TOTAL NON-SALARY	\$15,136.98
WORK STUDY AND OTHER RELATED REIMBURSEMENTS	-\$8,796.18
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$160,931.80 (\$70,506 CARRIED OVER FOR FUTURE YEARS)

3 Please note the impact of COVID 19 had severe impacts on travel and the use/reliance on technology. We expect that with the travel and health restrictions easing there will once again be significant travel and hosting expenses in addition to what is now seen as necessary communications and meeting technology (i.e.: webinar licenses etc.)

Sources of Funding Authorized for the Past Year

Financial Stability

In response to a series of small funding cuts since the centre's inception and following the former manager's retirement, the manager position was re-classified to a lower salary scale starting in 2021-22. The new structure brings core annual operating expenses in line with the university's annual budget allocation, rather than forcing the centre to rely on dwindling carryover funds to compensate for the cuts. Although the significant reduction in salary does offset budget pressures, it has implications for equity between managers, in terms of capacity and experience and opportunities for growth and sustainability in the future.

Cost recovery from research grants has not exceeded \$4,000 per year – about 2% of CHRR's operating budget. Consistent cost recovery is not realistic for a research centre involved mainly in social science and humanities projects with community partners that are cash-strapped, not-for-profit human rights organizations, or First Nation governments.

The CHRR has a webpage link inviting members of the public to donate to the CHRR endowment fund. However, the fund does not generate a significant amount of interest and income.

Recent budget cuts to the CHRR means that we are continually working with a limited budget for travel, materials, supplies and services. While the impact of COVID (e.g., reduced travel) has lessened the severity of these budget cuts, as in-person activities resume, this will be more acutely felt by the Centre.

Sources of Funding Authorized for the Past Year

Financial Stability (Cont'd)

Cost matching by external funders is a more realistic goal for CHRR than full cost recovery. From 2017-2022 the CHRR leveraged \$2,313,869 in external funds while receiving \$1,001,581 from the university to cover operating expenses. However, this is unlikely to continue unless CHRR focuses on the science and health-related research that is most likely to attract million-dollar grants rather than on the most pressing local and international human rights issues which, when often categorized as social science or humanities often do not attract the same amount of funding. It must be acknowledged that the main benefits of human rights research to the university are likely to be in the areas of community engagement, reputation and student satisfaction rather than the magnitude of research dollars generated.

Note that if surplus funds cannot be carried over, CHRR may encounter financial difficulties, especially if that occurs at the same time as an operating budget cut.

The university's last-minute decisions on carryover make it very difficult to plan. This point has been raised repeatedly with financial planning including in the 2016 5-Year plan. It is never clear until well into the new fiscal year whether CHRR will be able to retain carryover funds. As a result, CHRR is unable to organize events in spring and early summer, when, due to the nature of the teaching year, many academics are more available for workshops. Given the fact that we do not know our own fiscal health, it becomes difficult to hire summer research assistants, even if we find out after the fact that CHRR had enough funds available. In sum, we are constantly playing a guessing game and catch-up.

Looking Ahead

Expected Growth and Difficulties Foreseen:

In-person public events and research team meetings are slowly resuming as the public health context becomes more favourable. At the same time, the Centre has built a strong on-line presence such as: initiating engaging webinars/roundtables on topical events related to human rights research, launching the Human Rights Research Hub and an entirely online community building/strengthening research project, “At the Forks.” The Centre’s experience in pivoting how it engages in research dissemination and mobilization during COVID plus successes in building, strengthening and growing an online presence and engagements makes it clear that the Centre’s work will have a consistent “hybrid” presence. Responding to the interests and expertise of the Research Associates, Manager and acting Manager, the Centre launched a new series “Methods and Mediums” as well as a new research theme, “Questioning Borders?”

The Centre will continue to foreground student learning and engagement in both our ongoing operations (having students serve in leadership roles such as the Web and Social Media Coordinator) and in research specific projects.