



[Contact](#)
[Donate](#)
[FR](#)

[About Us](#)
[Families Count](#)
[Resources](#)
[Projects](#)
[News](#)

Resource centre

[Clear search](#)

Filter resources by

[Topic](#)

[Type](#)

[Years](#)

[Family lens](#)

[External resources](#)

☐ Egale Canada
 ☐ First Nations Child & Family Caring Society
 ☐ Longitudinal Study of Separated Parents and Stepfamilies in Quebec
 ☐ Reimagining Care/Work Policies



RESEARCH SUMMARIES / APRIL 16, 2026

Research Snapshot: Understanding Adoptive Family Relationships in International Adoption

Key findings from a study on how birth family contact can affect the relationships and dynamics of international adoptive families



DATASET / APRIL 13, 2026

EXTERNAL RESOURCE

The Longitudinal Study of Separated Parents and Stepfamilies in Quebec

The Longitudinal Study of Separated Parents and Stepfamilies in Quebec (SSHRC, 2016-2023) is a large-scale study that examines the experiences of separated fathers and mothers, whether or not they have custody of their children, as well as those of their new partners when applicable



REPORTS / APRIL 7, 2026

EXTERNAL RESOURCE

Children Back, Land Back: A Follow-Up Report of First Nations Youth in Care Advisors

A report on the recommendations from First Nations youth to end discrimination and reform child welfare

Building a trusted hub for grey literature on families in Canada

SERENA DANSSEN
INFORMATION SPECIALIST

LAUREL SAKALUK
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS



We produce grey literature on families in Canada

- Independent national think tank
- Non-profit organization
- Create and share evidence to advance the understanding of families in Canada
- Plain language, accessible, and actionable
- Serve and connect researchers, educators, policymakers, and organizations with an interest in families



What this presentation will cover



Part 1: The discovery gap



Part 2: Relationships first



Part 3: Unexpected metadata challenges



Part 4: What we learned

Now Available:

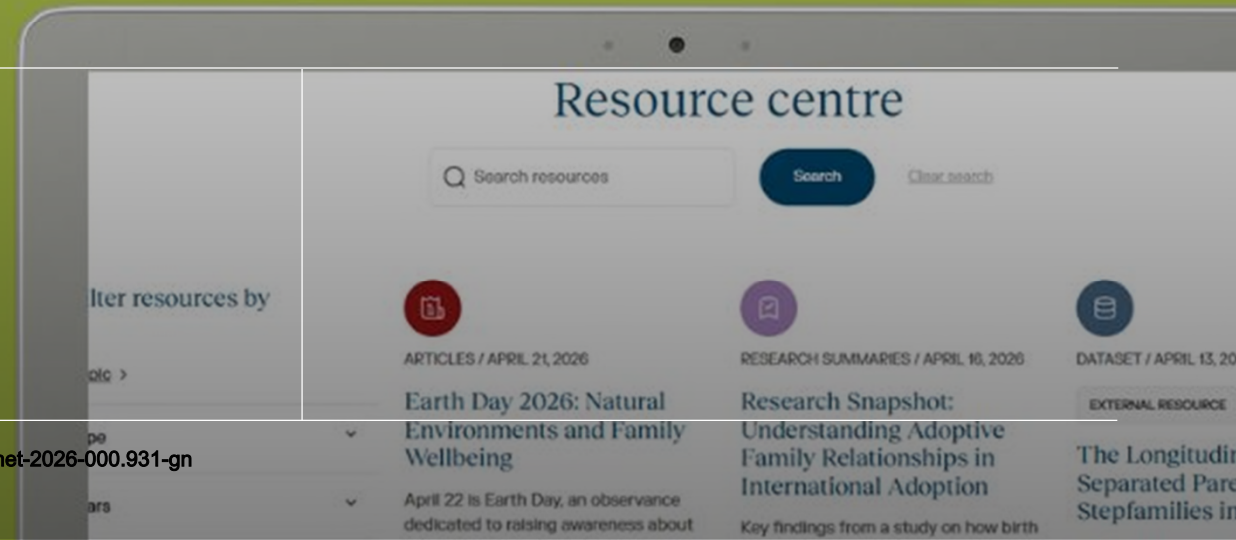
External Resources

Our Resource Centre now features collections of open-access resources from



Part 1:
The discovery gap

<https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2026-000.931-gn>



We set out to develop our Resource Centre into a discovery point



MORE
CONSISTENT
METADATA



EASIER
DISCOVERY FOR
USE



CONNECT
ORGANIZATIONS



AMPLIFY REACH
AND ACCESS TO
GREY EVIDENCE



SUPPORT
UNDERSTANDING
OF FAMILIES

A small team took on a complex initiative



6 people contributing alongside their core roles



3 partner organizations with their own metadata practices and content norms



30 resources, 60 bilingual records built over 1.5 years



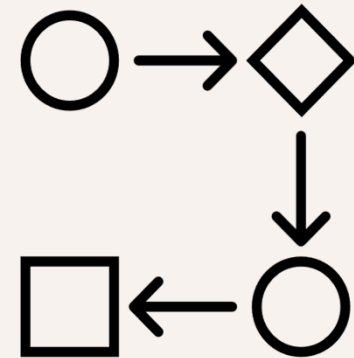
Every partnership required its own approach to trust, attribution, and data handling



Partner meetings, website development, metadata QA, launch communications distributed across team

How we made it work

- Built project timelines in Trello across four workflow streams:
 - Website development
 - Metadata creation and QA
 - Translation
 - Communications
- Worked in cycles: draft - partner review - revise - approve
- Metadata creation and QA handled by one person for consistency
- Stayed flexible with timelines and communication with contributors



Part 2:

Relationships first

Research before reaching out

-  Environmental scan of each partner's platform, grey literature, and metadata frameworks
-  Potential list of partner resources that align with the scope of the Resource Centre
-  Agendas with questions about their mission, programs, and audiences
-  Asked how they want to amplify reach and the impact of their work
-  This upfront work reduced back-and-forth for a small team

Shared understanding before shared work

-  Role and responsibility clarification to avoid misalignment and rework
-  Affirmed contributors' authority over resources featured
-  Stewardship and ongoing maintenance of resources
-  Built resource review checkpoints
-  Adapted language and workflows to partner context
-  Respecting contributors' data sovereignty

MOU wording example

"As we work together, we are guided by the following principles:

- **Respect for Indigenous knowledge**, leadership, and self-determination
- Humility in knowing **our role is to support, not to lead or shape the narrative**
- Openness in how we communicate, listen, and **adjust along the way**
- Care in **how resources are shared** and framed (e.g. descriptive metadata)"

Quality before confidence

- Contributing organizations decided which resources would appear on our platform
- Mock-up resource records showed exactly how partner resources would appear
- Partners reviewed branding, metadata, access links
- Established trust early, reduces ongoing coordination needs



Reimagining
care/work
Policies

Réinventer
les politiques
soins/travail

APRIL 29, 2026

Assessing and Measuring the Impacts of Parental Leave Policies: Intersectionality, Policy Entanglements, and Conceptual and Methodological Complexities

[View resource](#)

This special issue examines the design, implementation, and effects of parental leave policies, as well as the challenges in evaluating and understanding these systems. With many countries experiencing the rise of neoliberalism and weakening worker protections, there's a growing need for deeper reflection on how parental leave can either reduce or reinforce social inequalities. The articles in this issue contribute to the ongoing discussion on gendered power dynamics by using intersectional approaches and addressing the complexities of measuring social change, while also proposing new work and care policies to promote greater equity and justice.

AUTHORS	PUBLISHER
Andrea Doucet, Ivana Dobrotić, Linda Haas, Lindsey McKay	International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy
PUBLICATION DATE	RESOURCE TYPE
04/11/2025	Articles
SUGGESTED CITATION	KEYWORDS
Doucet A., Dobrotić I., Haas L., & McKay L. (2020). Assessing and measuring the impacts of parental leave policies: intersectionality, policy entanglements, and conceptual and methodological complexities. <i>International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy</i> , 40(5-6), 425–427. https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSSP-01-2020-0016	critical analysis, feminist analysis, childcare policies, gender equality, father involvement
TOPICS	FAMILY LENS
Family law and policy Parental leave and benefits	Family Work

AUTHORS

Andrea Doucet, Ivana Dobrotic, Linda Haas,
Lindsey McKay

PUBLISHER

International Journal of Sociology and Social
Policy

PUBLICATION DATE

04/11/2025

RESOURCE TYPE

[Articles](#)

SUGGESTED CITATION

Doucet A., Dobrotić I., Haas L., & McKay L. (2020).
Assessing and measuring the impacts of parental
leave policies: intersectionality, policy
entanglements, and conceptual and
methodological complexities. *International
Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*, 40(5-6),
425–427. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSSP-01-2020-0016>

KEYWORDS

critical analysis, feminist analysis, childcare
policies, gender equality, father involvement

Part 3: Unexpected metadata challenges

Getting attribution right required co-creating metadata with partners

- Funder, author, publisher, copyright owner roles often overlapped
 - Source metadata did not clearly distinguish these roles
 - Clear attribution was necessary for transparency and compliancy with grant requirements
 - We worked with partners to clarify these roles and co-develop metadata for the Funding field
 - Required repeated partner coordination within a limited team capacity
-
- FAIR connection: Accurate role distinction makes resources reusable with proper credit

Funding attribution metadata examples

FUNDING

This resource is partially funded and partially produced by Reimagining Care/Work Policies. This work was supported mainly by a Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada (SSHRC) and Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Partnership Grant (file numbers: SSHRC 895-2018-4005 and CIHR 159066) with Principal Investigator Allison Williams, as well as the SSHRC Canada Research Chairs Program (file number 231901–2018), and a SSHRC Partnership Grant (file number 895–2020-1011).

Funding: This work was supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada through the Canada Research Chairs Program [grant number 231901-2018, PI Andrea Doucet] and the Partnership Program [grant number 895-2020-1011, PI Andrea Doucet]; by the Mitacs Accelerate Program [funding reference numbers FR70102 & FR82746]; and the Vanier Institute of the Family.

CONTRIBUTORS

Statistics Canada

FUNDING

This project was funded by the Government of Canada's Social Development Partnerships program (Employment and Social Development Canada). This resource is authored by team members of Reimagining Care/Work Policies and published by the Childcare Resource and Research Unit and the University of Guelph.

Indigenous data sovereignty meant rethinking "fewer clicks"

[Home](#) /

Supreme Court of Canada's Reference Re An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families: What Indigenous Peoples and Governments Need To Know

PDF File(s)

Supreme Court of Canada's Reference re An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families

Supreme Court of Canada's Reference re An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families FR

Author

Thomas Bissett

Publication Date

Wed, 01/22/2025

- Our practice: direct PDF or resource page access = fewer steps for users
- Indigenous contributor practice: Access through a node link= additional step
- Trade-off: ease of access and contributor authority of their work
- Decision: Prioritized their data sovereignty and the relationship
- **FAIR connection: Accessible** means access on appropriate terms

One field couldn't mean both "published by" and "belongs to"

CONTRIBUTORS

Rainbow Veterans Canada

FUNDING

This project is funded by the Government of Canada.

RIGHTS

© Egale Canada

COLLECTION

Egale Canada



NOTE

The Vanier Institute makes every effort to ensure the intellectual independence of partner agents. It cannot, however, be held accountable or liable for research outcomes or publications of its partners.

Hide additional information —

- "Publisher" worked internally : one organization, one source, no ambiguity
- External resources had different contexts: the journal, the authoring organization, the copyright holder
- Copyright transfer means a resource is no longer "theirs"
- Solution: "Collection" field to support accurate organization and discovery
- One concept per field prevents meaning from drifting as new resources are added
- **FAIR connection:** Consistent field definitions make metadata **interoperable**

Journal copyright turned a metadata field into a collaborative writing process

- Journal copyright prevented us from adding preprint abstracts in the "Description" field
- We paraphrased each abstract in our own words while preserving accuracy
- Partners reviewed, edited, and approved each description for fidelity
- **FAIR connection:** Accurate, original descriptions make resources **findable and reusable**



Plain-language abstract rewrite example

This study examines how the COVID-19 pandemic affected employment gaps in Canada through the lens of gender, parental status, and immigrant status. The findings reveal that while the gender gap widened for many, the impact was most severe for mothers, particularly recent immigrants with school-aged children during periods of school closures. Although employment for recent immigrants to the country recovered relatively quickly as schools reopened, the pandemic ultimately intensified intersectional inequalities for families with immigrant status across the country.

Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended how we live and work. In Canada, the gender gap in employment among parents with young children widened substantially during the pandemic. Previous studies, however, examine parents in Canada without distinguishing them by immigrant status, although immigrant versus Canadian-born parents may have distinct work-family experiences. In this study, we investigate how the intersection of parental and immigrant statuses influenced change in gender employment gaps during the pandemic. Drawing on the Labor Force Survey (LFS) microdata from March 2019 to February 2021, we examine the probability of employment by gender, parental status, and immigrant status. When comparing the school closure period (March to August 2020) relative to the same months in 2019 (pre-pandemic), immigrant women, irrespective of parental status, witnessed larger declines in employment than their male counterparts and non-immigrants, and the gender gap widened the most among recent immigrants with school-aged children. When schools gradually reopened (September 2020 to February 2021), employment recovered faster for recent than established immigrant mothers. Overall, our findings show that among parents of young children, the growing gender gap in employment during the pandemic was concentrated among immigrants, with immigrant mothers disproportionately disadvantaged. This study illuminates how the pandemic exacerbated intersectional inequalities based on gender, parenthood, and immigrant status.

Keywords: immigration, parents, gender, employment, inequality, COVID-19

Part 4:

What we learned



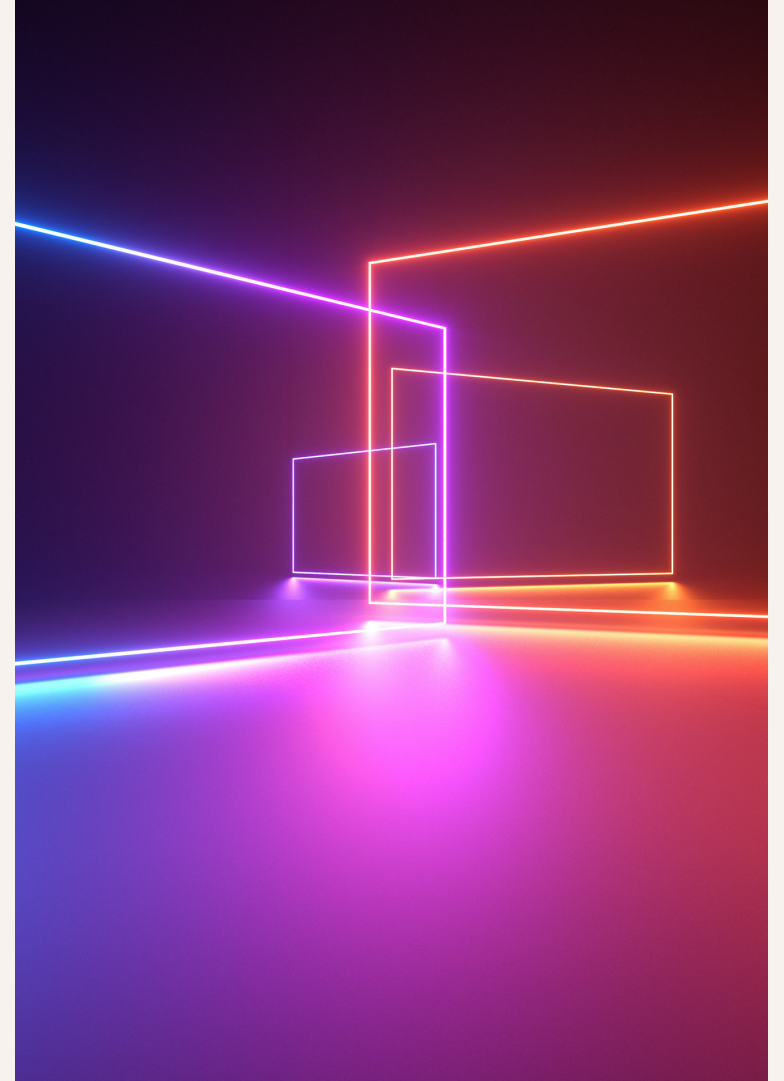
Relationships shape metadata decisions

- Metadata decisions emerged through conversations with contributing organizations
- Metadata field choices, descriptions, and access paths were co-developed
- Metadata quality reflected strength of the partnerships
- This work required ongoing coordination



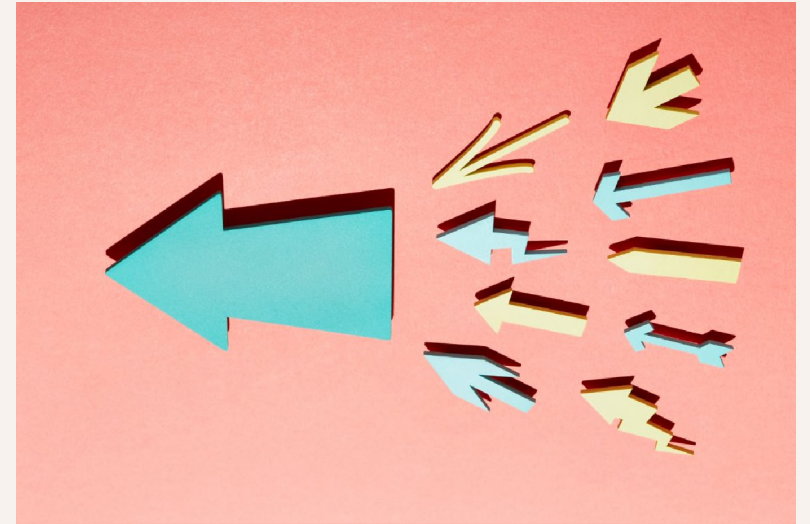
Metadata crosswalks are iterative

- Internal metadata schemas will have blind spots that surface when external content enters
- Each partner introduced edge cases, so our schema had to evolve
- FAIR principles guided our decisions but didn't eliminate the need for judgment calls
- Iteration required time and internal coordination



Scope and complexity grows quickly

- Initial workflow expanded with each organization and workflow
- Translation doubled resource record creation and added coordination steps
- Metadata creation and QA needed to be handled by one person for consistency across resource records
- Required adjusting scope and especially timelines to stay sustainable with our existing capacity



Questions?

Presenting author:

Serena Danssen

Information Specialist

The Vanier Institute of the Family

sdanssen@vanierinstitute.ca



Explore the Vanier Institute Resource Centre,
a trusted hub for information on families in Canada