

List of Participants

Invitees

Ralph Agard, Psychologist, Private Practice
William Avison, DEPARTMENT, University of Western Ontario
Shannon Balla, Child Welfare League of Canada
Dick Barnhurst, DEPARTMENT, Federal Ministry of Corrections
Ruth DaCosta, Covenant House
Andrew Debecki, ORGANIZATION
Claire Fainer, East Metro Youth Services
Kim Gallow, DEPARTMENT, Ontario Ministry of Justice
Ken Goldberg, Earls court Child & Family Centre
Allan Goyette, Windsor Regional Children's Centre
Heather Hunter, Banyan Community Services
Susan MacDougall, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Province of Ontario
Mary McConville, Catholic Children's Aid Society
Lynn MacKenzie, Algoma Child & Family Services
Dick Meen, Kinark Child & Family Services
Cheryl Milne, Justice for Children & Youth
Peter Moore, Kinark Child & Family Services
Deborah Pepler, LaMarsh Centre, York University
Peter Rzakki, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ontario Ministry of Integrated Services for Children
Sheena Scott, African Canadian Legal Clinic
Janet Sullivan, Sergeant, Toronto Police Services
Lee Tustin, DEPARTMENT, Ontario Ministry of Corrections
Tom Windebank, Toronto Assessment Centre
Jeff Wright, DEPARTMENT, Ontario Ministry of Corrections

Sparrow Lake Steering Committee Members

James Arthur, Thunder Bay District School Board
Marvin Bernstein, Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies
Graham Clyne, Prevention Dividend Project
Simon Davidson, Department of Psychiatry, Children's Hospitals of Eastern Ontario
Celia Denov, SLA Co-Chair
Bruce Ferguson, SLA Co-Chair / CHSRG, The Hospital for Sick Children
Rebecca Haines, CHSRG, The Hospital for Sick Children
Jeffery Hawkins, Algonquin Child & Family Services
Lewellyn Joseph, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Humber River Regional Hospital
Pauline Thornton, Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Sparrow Lake Children in Limbo Task Force Members

Gail Aitken, Professor Emeritus, Ryerson University
Gitte Granofsky, ORGANIZATION
Ryna Langer, ORGANIZATION
Nitza Perlman, ORGANIZATION
Kristina Reitmeier, Legal Counsel, Toronto Children's Aid Society
Jacqueline Mankiewicz Smith, The Circle for Children in Care
Jim Wilkes, Task Force Co-Chair / Shoniker Clinic

Sparrow Lake Education Task Force Members

Marvin Bernstein, Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies
Celia Denov, Task Force Co-Chair / SLA Co-Chair,
Mike Debruyne, ORGANIZATION
Janice Jarman, Etobicoke Children's Centre
Pauline Thornton, Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Speaker Biographies

Judy Finlay, MSW

Chief Advocate

Office of Child and Family Service Advocacy

Province of Ontario

Judy Finlay has been Ontario's Child Advocate since 1991. Her Office ensures the provision of a range of advocacy services - a crucial safeguard built into the *Child and Family Services Act*. Judy is committed to elevating the voice of children and youth so that they are truly heard in all matters that concern them. Judy ensures effective intervention when children who live outside of their family's care report abuse or harsh treatment and that care providers respect the legislated rights and entitlements. Judy is a champion of children's issues and an outspoken supporter of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Ms. Finlay has been involved nationally and internationally as an Advocate for children and youth influencing legislation and policy. She recently traveled to Japan to assist in the development of child welfare legislation and the provision of rights to children in care.

Judy has worked for more than two decades in the areas of child welfare, and children's mental health. She began her career with the Children's Aid Society as a group home operator, was the Founder of the Women's Community House, a transition House for women and children in London, was a member of a mobile domestic crisis team with a community police force, was the Clinical Director for the Regional Children's Centre in the far north and founded their Court Clinic, was a member of the Social Work Faculty at Curtin University in Western Australia and was the Director of an inpatient Children's Mental Health Centre in eastern Ontario. Judy has recently been awarded the Distinguished Citizenship Award by Ontario Community Living for her advocacy for vulnerable persons. Current research interests include: the trajectory of children from the child welfare to the young offender system; understanding violence among incarcerated youth; family risk factors that influence peer violence; standards of care for residential settings; consent and decision making in health care services: respecting the right of the child to be heard; aboriginal child welfare; unaccompanied migrant children; suicidality among children in care; and the implementation of the provisions of the YCJA (*Youth Criminal Justice Act*). Judy is the author of numerous publications including co-author of the recently released report "Voices from Within: Youth in Care in Ontario Speak Out".

Michael Ungar, PhD

**Associate Professor, Maritime School of Social Work
Dalhousie University**

Michael Ungar is both a Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist with over 20 years of experience working directly with children and adults in mental health and correctional settings. As an Associate Professor at the Maritime School of Social Work at Dalhousie, he continues to supervise and consult extensively with front-line staff and professional therapists. He has conducted many workshops on resilience-related treatment and research in Canada, the United States and overseas, and published numerous articles on resilience and work with children and their families. He is very interested in how resilience is realized by different people when faced with adversity, as well as how each culture defines success in life and work.

In June of 2002, Ungar became the principal investigator of a research project about teen resilience involving 10 communities around the world. The project is being funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) and is called "*An International Collaboration to Study Resilience in Adolescents across Cultures.*" The project is designed to play out over a three year period. It involves communities in China; Palestine; Israel; Colombia; Russia; India; Florida in the United States, and Labrador, Halifax and Winnipeg in Canada. Growing up in these locations, teens face a variety of challenges ranging from sociopolitical change and warfare to suicide and substance abuse. Dr. Ungar's recent publications include: Playing at Being Bad: The Hidden Resilience of Troubled Teens (2003, Pottersfield Press); and Nurturing Hidden Resilience in Troubled Youth (2003, University of Toronto Press).