JOIN US IN VANCOUVER MAY 5 – 7, 2020

The 2020 A Vision for the Inclusion of Isolated Mothers (VIIM) conference will amplify the voices of mothers who have overcome barriers to inclusion and explore the means of unleashing the power of isolated low-income mothers as a force for social, economic, and political change.

The program will feature the stories of mothers sharing their journeys of being agents of change and highlight the expertise of contemporary researchers, policy-makers, and community practitioners who specialize in gender equality and family wellbeing as they relate to: 1) Education and leadership development; 2) Health, wellness, and safety; 3) Economic security; and 4) Social inclusion.

LOCATION
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY, HARBOUR CENTRE

Conference Host: The Mothers Matter Centre is a virtual, national consortium of organizations dedicated to serving socially isolated and low economic status mothers and their families using our proven mother-to-mother approach. We grow and sustain our flagship Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program and develop other program innovations such as housing assistance, job-skills training, literacy and language training, healthcare, and more.
Keynote Speakers

DR. ALAA MURABIT
PHYSICIAN, ADVOCATE, FEMINIST, STRATEGIST, SPEAKER, WRITER
Alaa Murabit is a medical doctor, one of 17 Global Sustainable Development Goal Advocates appointed by the UN Secretary General, and a UN High Level Commissioner on Health & Economic Growth. Alaa is the co-founder of The Emerging Leaders Lab and the Executive Director of Phase Minus 1. An MIT Media Lab Director’s Fellow and International Deliver For Good Influencer, Alaa serves as a board member for The Malala Fund, Oxfam America, The New Now and Women’s March Global. She was most recently recognized as one of Canada’s Top 25 Most Influential Women in 2018 by Women of Influence. In 2017, Alaa was named a Forbes 30 under 30 and she also received the 2018 Nelson Mandela International Changemaker Award by The Nelson Mandela Family.

MARION BULLER
PROVINCIAL COURT JUDGE (RET.)
Marion Buller was appointed the first woman First Nations judge in British Columbia in 1994 and served as the Chief Commissioner for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. A member of the Mistawasis First Nation, she was the first First Nations woman to be appointed to the Provincial Court of British Columbia in 1994, and presided in courts throughout B.C. She established the First Nations Courts of British Columbia in 2006 and provided the foundation for the Aboriginal Family Healing Court in 2016.

DR. ANNETTE KORNTHEUER
PROFESSOR AND RESEARCHER
Dr. Annette Korntheuer holds a professorship position for inclusion and disability at the University of Kassel. Dr. Korntheuer graduated in Social Work and Educational Sciences. She has spent the last ten years working and researching with refugee population and youth in Germany, Spain, Philippines and Canada. Dr. Korntheuer is member of the executive board of the German network for refugee studies and the CAN-D, German Canadian Research Coalition on Refugee Integration. She has published widely on educational participation and inclusion of refugee children and youth and on refugee integration in Canada and Germany. Within her work and as an active member of the ACT Now Think and Do Tank she advocates for educational equity and inclusion in multicultural societies.

KETTY NIVYABANDI
HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, POET, AND ADVOCATE
Ketty Nivyabandi is a human rights defender, poet and advocate for democracy and social justice. She was forced to flee her home as a result of her activism in May 2015, after she mobilized and successfully led women peaceful protests in her home country, Burundi. As a refugee, Ketty continues to raise awareness on ongoing human rights violations in her country, particularly against women. She has led several global awareness campaigns on human rights violations in Burundi and regularly speaks on human rights, refugee issues, and the intimate effects of conflict on women’s lives.

GAURI SAWANT
DIRECTOR, SAKSHI CHAR CHOWGI AND TRANSGENDER ACTIVIST
Gauri Sawant is a transgender activist from Mumbai, India, and founder of Sakshi Char Chowghi, an organization that helps transgender people and people with HIV/AIDS. In 2014, Gauri became the first transgender person to file a petition in the Supreme Court of India for adoption rights of transgender people. She was also a petitioner in the case that led to the Supreme Court of India recognizing transgender as the third gender.

DR. MIRIAM WESTHEIMER
DIRECTOR, HIPPY INTERNATIONAL
Dr. Miriam Westheimer has worked in the fields of education, social services, and nonprofit management. She has spent the last 20 years adapting and disseminating a homebased, early childhood program (HIPPY) first in the USA as the founding executive director and later built the international network of HIPPY programs among the 10 participating countries. Dr. Westheimer co-authored the bestselling international textbook and multimedia series, Focus on Grammar, now in its third edition.
DRAFT AGENDA

Tuesday, May 5th
HIPPY Research on Education and Leadership

8:00 am – 12:00 pm  Registration, muffins, and coffee  
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm  Dr. Miriam Westheimer  
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm  Dr. Annette Korntheuer, Early Learning Response to Syrian Refugees  
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm  HIPPY Research Around the World  
  • Akiko Ohta and Dr. Masa Minami, Simon Fraser University, Reviving Hope and Home for Vulnerable Refugee Mothers  
  • Ben Pollard, University of British Columbia, Early Language Learning  
  • Dr. Lucy LeMare, Simon Fraser University, Early Learning Results  
  • Mothers Matter Centre, Parental Agency and Forced Migration  
  • Mothers Matter Centre, Navigation Research  
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm  Opening reception and entertainment  
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm  Dr. Alaa Murabit

Wednesday, May 6th
Social Inclusion

8:00 am – 9:00 am  Coffee and muffins  
9:00 am – 10:00 am  Gauri Sawant  
10:15 am – 11:15 am  Women’s stories  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm  Plenary – Dr. Andrea O’Reilly  
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm  Lunch (provided)  
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm  Ketty Nivyabandi  
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm  Women’s stories  
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm  Plenary

Thursday, May 7th
Health, Wellness, and Safety

8:00 am – 9:00 am  Coffee and muffins  
9:00 am – 10:00 am  Plenary – Zainab Ibrahim and Vera LeFranc  
10:00 am – 10:45 am  Women’s stories  
11:00 am – 12:00 pm  Marion Buller  
  Honoured Mothers Panel – Her Honour Lois Mitchell and Elyse Allan  
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm  Sightseeing (on your own)  
5:00 pm – 10:00 pm  Mothers Matter Centre 20th Anniversary Event (tickets sold separately)

Together, we are powerful.

MMC Staff and HIPPY Coordinators at Women Deliver 2019
Ticket Prices

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<th>Conference ticket</th>
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<tr>
<td>Non-profit rate</td>
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<td>Corporate rate</td>
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To attend the conference, register here: MIC-2020-Conference

***Subsidized ticket are available by request. Please contact: Natasha Jeffreys njeffreys@hippycanada.ca

Accommodations

Out of town participants are encouraged to take advantage of special hotel rates at the Sandman Hotel Vancouver City Centre which is conveniently located within a short walking distance of the conference venue at SFU Harbour Centre. Please call 1-800-726-3626 ext. 1 or email res_vancouver@sandman.ca to book and quote Group Number #1128864 for the discounted rate.

Mothers Matter Centre 2020 Celebration

May 7, 2020, Musqueam First Nation, Vancouver, BC

The Mothers Matter Centre will celebrate its 20th Anniversary on the beautiful land of the Musqueam people on Thursday, May 7th, 2020. This is a rare opportunity to enter the Musqueam’s sacred house of learning. Guests will witness the traditional speaker honour accomplished mothers who will be blanketed and saluted for their work across this country.

The celebration will be followed by a traditional Indigenous feast with plenty of opportunity for our distinguished guests to exchange ideas and share best practices as they imagine the next 20 years of growth for the Mothers Matter Centre.

Tickets for this event are also sold separately at: MMC-2020-Celebration

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