



YUKON CHILD & YOUTH ADVOCATE OFFICE
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Child Rights Impact Assessment: November 2025 Update

What is CRIA?

Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) is a tool to measure and analyze the direct and indirect impacts of policy decisions on the rights of children and youth.

CRIA maximizes positive impacts and avoids or mitigates negative impacts on children's rights and well-being.

What is the Yukon CRIA Community of Practice?

The Yukon CRIA Community of Practice began as a working group of YG's Policy Review Committee members to develop CRIA training, tools, and implementation methods. The working group expanded to include First Nations policy analysts and managers and others who have attended CRIA training (municipalities and relevant NGO's). The Community of Practice meets from 9:00-10:00 am on the first Thursday of each month to review policies through a CRIA lens.

Why implement CRIA?

Canada is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), ratified by Canada on December 13, 1991. CRIA provides a method for all governments to fulfill their duties to undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized in UNCRC.

YCAO recommends that CRIA be implemented YG-wide in all cabinet submissions and policy decisions to ensure the best interests of the child are paramount, that youth rights, interests and voices are meaningfully considered and that potential impacts to children are predicted, monitored and mitigated. CRIA is applicable to

and can benefit all government departments, not only programs that work directly with children and youth. The Yukon Community of Practice has developed a screening tool to assist policy analysts in determining when to use a CRIA. UNICEF Canada has developed a tool for parliamentarians to support them in reviewing government bills through a child rights lens.

Meaningful consideration of the rights of children and youth is a foundational value of the [Territorial Youth Strategy](#). Government officials have committed to be accountable to youth by signing on to the Territorial Youth Strategy.

How are youth involved in CRIA?

Youth engagement should be part of all CRIA processes. The Territorial Youth Collective supports youth leadership through Strong Leaders Are Youth (SLAY), a youth-led action and advisory team that drives youth led initiatives aligned with the Territorial Youth Strategy. YCAO's training incorporates youth engagement. Participants are provided the opportunity to practice interviewing youth about their views and experiences of the practice scenarios.

How does YCAO support CRIA?

YCAO continues to champion the implementation of CRIA by:

- Providing [resources and tools](#) to conduct CRIA
- Hosting a monthly community of practice to apply the tools and discuss progress toward implementation of CRIA
- Providing annual in person training, incorporating the Yukon CRIA tools and youth engagement
 - Over seven years, 150 Yukon policy analysts, managers and youth leaders have accessed the Yukon training

Legislative Measures

In order to ensure CRIA application, compliance and continue the momentum that has started, CRIA should be built into legislation, including but not limited to

the *Child and Youth Advocate Act*. This would support proper implementation of the UNCRC into domestic law.

How do we access CRIA training?

Anyone interested in accessing CRIA training can:

- Take the in-person training each September, facilitated by YCAO and the Territorial Youth Collective
- [Take online training created by Justice Canada](#)
- Organize a training and request YCAO to present

Recommended Next Steps:

1. Develop legislative measures to ensure CRIA is included in the analysis of cabinet decisions.
2. All governments to support training and practical experience:
 - YCAO continue annual training
 - YCAO offer additional in-person training (hosted by workplaces)
 - YG, First Nations and YCAO coordinate train the trainer – May/June 2026 and on an annual basis
 - Ensure YG cabinet analysts and First Nation governments have access to training and resources
 - Broaden training to municipalities and relevant NGO's
 - Offer orientation to CRIA to all new MLA's
3. Designate representatives from YG departments, First Nations governments, municipalities and NGO's to attend the Community of Practice sessions, support CRIA implementation and coordinate training.

To learn more about CRIA, visit ycao.ca/cria