



# News Release

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## **For Immediate Release**

Aug. 5, 2021

### **Pippa Rowcliffe selected RCY's Deputy for Investigations, Monitoring and Corporate Services**

VICTORIA – B.C.'s Representative for Children and Youth Jennifer Charlesworth is pleased to announce the selection of Pippa Rowcliffe as RCY's new Deputy Representative, Investigations, Monitoring and Corporate Services, following a competition.

Rowcliffe, who will take over the Deputy role effective Sept. 7, brings broad and deep experience in key areas to the position, including early childhood development, supporting children and families to thrive, research and knowledge translation to spread awareness and impact, community development, systems change and compassionate systems leadership. She will join Deputy Representative Samantha Cocker (Advocacy and First Nations, Métis and Inuit Relations) in support of the Representative and providing leadership to the organization.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with Pippa and Samantha as Deputy Representatives," Charlesworth said. "My gratitude to Alan Markwart for his stellar service in the Deputy role. Although he will be semi-retiring, Alan will continue to be available to provide sage advice to the RCY in several key areas."

Rowcliffe has most recently worked with the RCY as Executive Director, Monitoring and she provided leadership on the Office's recent FASD project, as well as its ongoing care planning, early years and complex needs projects. Prior to joining the RCY in October 2020, she was Deputy Director at the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), beginning there in January 2008, as the Executive Director of the Council for Early Child Development and then as the Knowledge Translation Director. In January 2015, she assumed the role of Deputy Director, a position she held for six years. During that time, she worked closely with HELP's Aboriginal Steering Committee as members coached her on cultural safety and how to work respectfully with Indigenous peoples.

"Pippa has extensive knowledge about child and family development, research methodologies and approaches to monitoring and evaluation," Charlesworth said. "She has developed a practice in systems thinking and leadership and has a deep interest in how the many systems that support the well-being of children and families can be transformed."

Rowcliffe was born and raised in Wimbledon, England, and graduated from the University of Oxford with a degree in politics, philosophy and economics. She completed a Master's in international development with a specialization in rural development planning at the University of East Anglia. In 2018, she also earned a certificate in compassion cultivation training from the Compassion Institute associated with Stanford University.

Rowcliffe emigrated to B.C. in 1998 and is grateful to have lived on the lands of the Musqueam and now the WSÁNEĆ peoples.

“I joined the RCY almost a year ago, drawn by the importance of the work and potential for impact,” Rowcliffe said. “I am excited that, in this new role, I will be able to work closely with Jennifer, Samantha, the RCY Executive and the whole RCY team, to address critical systemic and structural issues for B.C.’s children, youth and families. The need for significant change is more evident now than it has ever been, and I consider it a real privilege to be a part of a strong RCY team, calling for and catalyzing such change.”

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