Spirit of ONE

The Centre for Child Honouring
Salt Spring Island

Honorary Patron: The Honourable Iona Campagnolo, P.C., C.M., O.B.C.
If we have the good sense to follow Raffi’s Child Honouring philosophy toward a compassionate revolution, we can infuse honour and respect into every human institution.

The Honourable Iona Campagnolo
Former Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, Honorary Patron, Centre for Child Honouring
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Children everywhere are like the seeds of the future of our world.
MISSION

THE CENTRE FOR CHILD HONOURING

will be a dynamic communications hub and training ground
for a global awareness and education campaign
to advance Child Honouring as a universal ethic
and a central organizing principle for
sustainable, peace-making cultures.

This great project, this extraordinary movement to honour the child,
stands for our highest ambition, the work we can do, the best we can be.

Bruce Mau
RAFFI CAVOUKIAN, C.M., O.BC., D.Mus, D.Litt

Raffi is a renaissance man.
A man of uncommon integrity, vision, and leadership.

A multi-platinum music artist and best-selling author.
Singer/composer, music producer, performer, entrepreneur,
ecology advocate, children’s champion, systems thinker,
founder of Child Honouring.

10 million adults (18-35) have known Raffi’s songs
in their hearts from childhood.
A second generation now sings his songs.

Child Honouring – like democracy – is indispensable
to sustainability and lauded in many sectors: governance,
education, business, science, health, economy, and religion.

With a troubadour’s voice,
Raffi speaks and sings to the issues of our times.
His word and song presentations stir audiences to the core.

At 60, a turn to enduring legacy.
To a viable future for those to come.
While there’s still time.

Raffi wants to inspire and educate a generation of peacemakers.
Whole-brain, creative thinkers.
Earth stewards. In every country.
RESPECT FOR THE CHILD as a whole person was the core value during my music career. After decades of inquiry into what children need to prosper, my work has evolved into a vision of a world that would respect its young.

In recent years I have developed and communicated, in word and song, an integrated philosophy called Child Honouring. A comprehensive meta-framework for societal transformation connecting person, culture and planet.

As I’ve outlined in settings such as Harvard, the World Bank, Parliament Hill in Ottawa, and the New York Academy of Medicine, we find across all cultures an essential humanity visible in early years, a formative intelligence that shapes lifelong learning and behaviour. The child, as humanity’s primary learning system, deserves priority support.

Our young are the ones most vulnerable to the crises of our times.

Child Honouring is both a way of life and a holistic organizing principle for healing communities and restoring ecosystems – for redesigning the whole of society for the greatest good, with the child in mind. Child Honouring is the children-first way of sustainability.

At this pivotal point in history, we face a choice: planetary peril and societal breakdown, or a breakthrough to fundamentally new life-affirming systems in every sector. The global financial meltdown is the precise moment for a bold systems shift to sustainability: social, fiscal, and environmental.

As a compassionate revolution in values, Child Honouring has three core tenets:

• The early years are the most important – early childhood is the gateway to humane being.

• We face unprecedented social and planetary crises – a state of emergency that most endangers the very young, and that requires a remedy of equal scale.

• Our survival as a species requires a systemic response of detoxifying the personal, cultural and planetary environments that make up the world of the child.

In a Spirit of ONE, we can respect the universal Child as humanity’s treasure, and embrace transformative ways to nurture joyful, peace-making cultures.

Advancing Child Honouring as a universal ethic will give children of every culture the best chance to become self-aware, compassionate, productive citizens. It will nurture the community of nations for generations.

On behalf of The Centre for Child Honouring, I’m grateful for your consideration.

Raffi Cavoukian, C.M., O.B.C.
Founder of Child Honouring
Chair, Centre for Child Honouring
I AGREE ENTIRELY with Raffi Cavoukian

that children everywhere are like the seeds of the future of our world...

We tend to forget that despite the diversity

of race, religion, ideology, and so forth,

people are equal in their basic wish for peace and happiness.

His Holiness, The Dalai Lama

Foreword, Child Honouring: How to Turn This World Around
CENTRE FOR CHILD HONOURING

THE CENTRE’S HOME

In October 2009, The Centre for Child Honouring received a landmark major gift offering exclusive use of a beautiful 22-acre facility on Salt Spring Island in British Columbia, Canada. This inspiring site will house the Centre’s programs and initiatives beginning in January 2010. The anonymous donors are committed to the Centre’s mission to advance Child Honouring as a universal ethic.

Located on Long Harbour Road, this site is very close to both the Long Harbour ferry terminal and the town of Ganges.

The land includes a two-story main building, which the Centre will use as office and library space, as well as for workshops, seminars, and discussion groups. Architecturally stunning, the building blends beautifully with its natural setting, and even has a ‘living roof’ of grasses and wildflowers. Along with two outbuildings, the land includes a pond, forest paths and an ocean view with beach access.

This lead gift is gratefully received within the Centre’s ongoing Spirit of ONE campaign—a gift that will help the Centre engage its mission to ultimately inspire a vast change in the human paradigm, to “turn this world around, for the children”, as Nelson Mandela has said.
I AM A BELUGA DAD.

I knew then that Raffi’s goal was to transform the world through his music. It is not surprising that Raffi took the next step and provided the transformation himself with his Child Honouring philosophy. While many people have attempted to create a similar transformation, I believe that Child Honouring will ultimately be the most successful. It speaks a language that everyone can understand, and will inevitably win the largest following.

Ed Breaux, Thornhill, Ontario
AN IDEA
WHOSE TIME
HAS COME

Will you say Yes?
A CHILD-FRIENDLY WORLD

Children who feel seen, loved and honoured are far more able to become loving parents and productive citizens capable of making wise choices. That’s why putting children first is the key to restoring our planet.

Child Honouring offers a unique way forward for humanity – a systemic approach for addressing major challenges we face. Child Honouring can create a stronger and more durable social and ecological foundation in four ways:

1. Healing communities
2. Fostering character growth in children
3. Restoring ecosystems and detoxifying environments
4. Creating learning environments that educate and inspire an entire generation to carry out these tasks

Children are not a partisan concern, and Child Honouring is not pitted against any person or ideology. Its allegiance is to children, and to their families. It speaks emphatically for the birthright of children in every culture to live in a world of love, dignity and security.

GOOD SIGNS ABOUND

• Child Impact Assessments have been introduced in Sweden. By law, all national government decisions that could affect children must now be evaluated to ensure that they are made in children’s best interests.

• Sweden, Norway and the Province of Quebec have banned television marketing to young kids; Greece prohibits TV ads for toys at certain times of the day.

• The government of Ontario has begun to introduce optional full-day early learning for four and five year-olds, with the goal of providing seamless “one-stop” quality care and education for young children along with appropriate support for their parents.

• The science of biomimicry uses nature’s designs and processes to make new materials without fossil fuels and toxic chemicals. (Spiders make webs from strands five times stronger than steel.)

• Solar and wind energy is growing at 40% per year worldwide.

• Ray Anderson’s carpeting company, Interface, is on a path to operate by available sunlight and return no waste product to the Earth.

• Fair trade, organic foods and fibres, and responsible commerce are growing movements for sustainable practices worldwide.

To accelerate such trends into a child-honouring protocol for commerce, and to encourage wide-spread adoption of best ideas, the Centre needs the support of parents and educators, CEOs, policy-makers, grandparents, health professionals, scientists, and faith leaders.

Through its website, training, and other forms of communications and convening, the Centre will be a leading resource for acknowledging people, organizations and governments who are “doing right by the child.”
I just read about child honouring today, and it makes a lot of sense. I work for a police service, so I see the effects of negativity during childhood every day. More often than not, the child is a product of his/her environment. Hopefully Raffi’s philosophy will help to turn that around. I’ve posted his link on my Facebook page, and I sent it to all my friends and family who have young children.

Dianna Stanley,  
Milton, Ontario

SPIRIT OF ONE

No national boundary,  
no religious boundary,  
no cultural boundary;  
We are the same.  
We are citizens of the same world, 
ONE world.  
His Holiness, The Dalai Lama
A campaign to launch and sustain the Centre for Child Honouring

AT THIS PIVOTAL POINT for humanity, with our very future at stake, meeting the irreducible needs of all children offers a unifying ethic by which the cultures of our one world can reorder their priorities – a clear path to a viable future.

Child Honouring is a unique time-release remedy for what ails our world, a remedy that

- starts working immediately,
- gains potency with use,
- amplifies benefits for generations.

Spirit of ONE campaign

- refers to one human family, an essential humanity most visible in the infant of every culture;
- calls each of us to live for the greatest good;
- asks individuals and privately owned business to donate 1% of annual revenues to the Centre For Child Honouring.

Spirit of ONE calls for an extraordinary investment in children, one that will yield enormous returns – social, cultural, and ecological – both now and into the future.

We can, and we must, redesign society for the greatest good by meeting the universal needs of the very young.
Children represent our global future, and the desire to guard them from the many forces that can destroy their hope and innocence is universal. Doing so is an essential part of our broader aspiration to promote human security and to create stable, peaceful societies.

Lloyd Axworthy
HUMANITY MUST CHOOSE ITS FUTURE

Statistics from Canada and the international community show that personal, cultural and planetary challenges threaten our children and our very future as a species.

There is an urgent need for a systemic remedy for humanity, one that connects the dots. A Child Honouring remedy.

PERSONAL

• In recent years, child poverty has risen in 17 out of 24 OECD countries (UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre).

• In Canada, the child poverty rate has not improved in more than 20 years (Campaign Against Child Poverty).

• 1 in 3 females and 1 in 6 males in Canada experience some form of sexual abuse before the age of 18; 60 to 80% of offenders in a study of imprisoned rapists had been molested as children (National Advisory Council of Women).

• 60 million girls and 40 million boys around the world do not have access to basic schooling (Graca Machel, Child Honouring: How to Turn This World Around).

• Corporations in the United States spend $17 billion a year on direct marketing and advertising to children (Susan Linn, Consuming Kids).

• In the U.S, incidence and mortality rates from asthma have more than doubled in the past decade (Dr. Philip Landrigan, Child Honouring: How to Turn This World Around).

• Neurodevelopmental and behavioural disorders such as dyslexia, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, and autism affect 5% to 10% of all babies born in the United States each year (Dr. Philip Landrigan, Child Honouring: How to Turn This World Around).

PLANETARY

• Massive extinction threatens biodiversity, with about 21% of the globe’s mammals, 30% of amphibians, 12% of birds, 31% of reptiles, and 37% of fish species threatened with extinction (World Conservation Union).

• Global warming could fundamentally alter one third of plant and animal habitats by the end of this century (World Wildlife Fund).

• Breastmilk contamination is widespread, showing trace amounts of PCBs and dioxins (Natural Resources Defense Council).

CULTURAL

• Studies from many countries in all regions of the world suggest that up to 80 to 98% of children suffer physical punishment in their homes, with a third or more experiencing severe physical punishment resulting from the use of implements (United Nations Study on Violence Against Children).

• The average Canadian child watches nearly 14 hours of television each week, by the time of graduation, the average teen will have spent more time watching television than time spent in the classroom (Canadian Pediatric Society).

• Almost one-third of the 50 favourite websites listed by Canadian kids incorporate material that is violent or highly sexualized (Media Awareness Network & ERIN Research).

• Childhood obesity is a societal issue that affects 10.3% of children from the ages of 2-5, 16% of children from the ages of 6-19 are obese (Centers for Disease Control).
THE OPPORTUNITY
A compassion revolution

Child Honouring, the book and the project, can bring us back to life.
No initiative I know carries more galvanizing power of truth.
It breaks open the heart and lets the light shine through, to ignite our deepest passions.

Joanna Macy

AS AN ETHICAL CREED that crosses all faiths, cultures and political philosophies,
Child Honouring can become a potent remedy for the most challenging issues facing our world.
The Centre for Child Honouring will work to help create cultures that:

SHOW love for children in every facet of their design and organization.

UPHOLD the human rights of every child and ensure that no child
is neglected, living in poverty, abused, or lacking health care.

ENSURE quality care for children throughout the day with both family support
and child care centres that are staffed by skilled professionals.

VALUE and reward working with children and provide diverse learning environments
for families to choose from, and have abundant teachers and small class sizes.

PROMOTE educational programs where children learn the importance of empathy
and the basics of nurturing.
WE find these joys to be self evident: That all children are created whole, endowed with innate intelligence, with dignity and wonder, worthy of respect. The embodiment of life, liberty and happiness, children are original blessings, here to learn their own song. Every girl and boy is entitled to love, to dream and belong to a loving ‘village’. And to pursue a life of purpose.

WE affirm our duty to nourish and nurture the young, to honour their caring ideals as the heart of being human. To recognize the early years as the foundation of life, and to cherish the contribution of young children to human evolution.

WE commit ourselves to peaceful ways and vow to keep from harm or neglect these, our most vulnerable citizens. As guardians of their prosperity, we honour the bountiful Earth whose diversity sustains us. Thus we pledge our love for generations to come.
PARTNERING

Could this not be the single thought that steers us through the dangerous passage — a world that honours all its children?

Peter Senge

CHILD HONOURING has gained support from leading thinkers in many sectors: governance, education, business, science, religion, and health. It is aligned with the Earth Charter and the UN's Convention On The Rights Of The Child, and echoes both Nelson Mandela's call "to turn this world around, for the children" and the Dalai Lama's plea for a universal ethic for the world's billions regardless of religion.

Child Honouring is affiliated with many local and global partners including:

- Center for Partnership Studies
- Spiritual Alliance to Stop Intimate Violence
- Center for Children's Health & The Environment
- College of Sustainability, Dalhousie University
- Campaign for Commercial-Free Childhood
- The Darwin Project Council
- The Council of Human Development
- Council for Early Childhood Development
- The Club of Budapest and Worldshift Network
- Salt Spring Centre School
- Toxic Free Canada
- The Great Turning

Child Honouring has many more partners and supporters, some of whom are members of the Advisory Council (see page 30).

Tasha Poggemiller,
Vancouver, British Columbia

WHEN I WAS FIVE,
and I was singing along to Raffi, I was inspired.
And now I'm 22 and I'm teaching kids and I'm inspired by Raffi's message.
I think his child honouring philosophy just gives me even more tools to be able to project that hope and inspiration.

Tasha Poggemiller,
Vancouver, British Columbia
This groundbreaking 2006 anthology outlines the unprecedented threats to life at a defining moment in history, and offers a novel and systemic remedy for societal transformation based on honouring our youngest and “most valuable players.” Co-edited by Raffi Cavoukian and psychology professor Sharna Olfman, foreword by the Dalai Lama.

Contributors include:

Fritjof Capra, Mary Gordon
Riane Eisler, Stanley Greenspan
Graca Machel, Dr Philip Landrigan
Joel Bakan, Ray Anderson
Susan Linn, Barbara Kingsolver

Among the books’ endorsers are Stephen Lewis, Vandana Shiva, Roy Romanow, Severn Cullis-Suzuki, The Very Reverend Bill Phipps, Rabbi Schacter-Shalomi, Marlene Brant Castellano, and Gary Zukav.

“I have never seen such an impressive group of people associated with a book. Child Honouring should be studied by world leaders in politics and industry, as well as by school boards and teachers.”

Robert Bateman, O.C.
CHILD HONOURING INITIATIVES

A bold vision for a humane and sustainable world.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

As Raffi points out, “the irreducible needs of all children can offer a unifying ethic by which the cultures of our interdependent world might reorder their priorities.”

Vandana Shiva

WHILE CHILD HONOURING APPLIES to the entire human and global ecology, it stresses the primacy of early learning as the foundation for all that follows. Increasingly research shows that tending the early years well is the best investment societies can make for bulding “social capital” and overall health and resiliency.

“We now understand how early child and brain development sets trajectories in the health, learning and behaviour for life. How we apply this knowledge in our various societies will determine whether we will be successful in the 21st century.”

Dr. Fraser Mustard, Early Years 2 Report / McCain, Mustard, Shanker, 2007

“...a growing body of program evaluations shows that early childhood programs have the potential to generate government savings that more than repay their costs and produce returns to society as a whole that outpace most public and private investments.”

Rand Corporation: The Economics of Early Childhood Policy, 2008
TO HELP TRANSFORM SOCIETIES FOR THE GREATEST GOOD by meeting the needs of their young, the Centre plans to launch nine project initiatives within the sectors of Education, Communications, Innovation and Society.

EDUCATION

While Child Honouring applies to the entire human and global ecology, it stresses the primacy of early learning as the foundation for all that follows. Increasingly, research shows that tending the early years well is the most productive investment societies can make.

The Centre’s education programs are designed to help educators and others who work on behalf of children to enhance and extend their existing Child Honouring practices.

EDUCATION FRAMEWORK

The Centre will assemble a panel of leading national and international education professionals and systems thinkers in order to develop an overall framework around teaching and learning that will eventually apply the Child Honouring lens to primary, middle and secondary schools.

The framework will be based on the Covenant for Honouring Children and its nine Principles – Respectful Love, Diversity, Caring Community, Conscious Parenting, Emotional Intelligence, Nonviolence, Safe Environments, Sustainability, and Ethical Commerce. It will recognize the primacy of early childhood development as the basis of societal health and well-being, and will reflect children’s irreducible needs.

This will be a unique educational document – a framework for teaching and learning based on a single but comprehensive, overarching idea.

The framework will express Child Honouring as a universal ethic – a “code of sustainable conduct” with implications for every facet of both the school curriculum and children’s lives generally. It is a systems approach to education, different from most approaches to curriculum which tend to focus on specific areas of learning and study.

While not a curriculum document itself, the framework will help educators add to existing resources, and create their own child-honouring classrooms based on the concept that Child Honouring is “the children-first way of sustainability.”

The framework is expected to begin as a living, web-based document. The people developing the framework will reach out to teachers, parents and all community members interested in both children and the well-being of society.
CHILD HONOURING TRAINING

Following the development of an education framework, the Centre will train up to 100 consultants a year to introduce the framework to other educators, administrators and parents. These consultants will make presentations in schools, at professional development workshops, to parent-teacher associations, and to community groups, businesses and other organizations.

Consultants will be able to present Child Honouring as a holistic perspective on child development, and also as a philosophy whose principles can enhance every area of a child’s life. They will also be able to assist teachers and parents as they continue to incorporate Child Honouring into their classrooms and home activities.

Weekend workshops will be held once a month throughout the year on Salt Spring Island and will accommodate groups of up to 10 participants per session. The program will begin with teachers, administrators and representatives of teacher-parent associations from British Columbia schools. It will then be adapted and expanded to include teachers and parents from across Canada and the US, and eventually from around the world.

Training will be planned and delivered by educational professionals, some of whom helped develop the education framework. The training content will be adapted as necessary to the specific educational needs of participants.

The training program will include the following topics:

• Introduction to Child Honouring: An overview of the development and principles of Child Honouring.

• Primacy of Early Years: A discussion regarding the evidence-based research on the connections between early development and cognitive, social and emotional competence throughout life.

• Child Honouring and Youth.

• Child Honouring and Education: Techniques and practices for applying Child Honouring in the home and classroom.
SUMMER INTENSIVES FOR EDUCATORS
Program Launch: June 2011

The Centre will provide intensive one-week Child Honouring learning experiences on Salt Spring Island for up to 10 teachers and administrators at a time. Implemented by Child Honouring Trainers and specialists from education and other sectors, this program will involve teachers from primary, middle and secondary schools.

Participants in these intensives will already be working with Child Honouring and its principles in their schools and classrooms. This program will be designed to provide opportunities for further learning, along with time to interact with both leaders and peers.

Much of the work of the Intensives will take place at schools on Salt Spring Island, and will include opportunities for both professional and personal development. As part of their work, participants will design both curriculum materials for educators and classroom activities for students.

COMMUNICATION

These initiatives will raise awareness and knowledge among widespread audiences about the fundamental principles and benefits of Child Honouring. They may also provide fundraising opportunities for the Centre to help sustain its programs.

BELUGA GRADS NETWORK

It is estimated that over 10 million adults have grown up with Raffi’s children’s music. Sharing Raffi’s songs with their own children, “Beluga Grads” can feel a kinship with and responsibility for our planet and for their future. RaffiNews.com now receives many messages of support for Child Honouring from self-identified Beluga Grads.

Beluga Grads are a powerful force for change that can be mobilized to carry the key messages and principles of Child Honouring to family and friends. Beluga Grads could also become an important source of financial support to the Centre, helping to sustain its activities in the long-term.

The Centre, through its own websites, other social networking sites, blogs and e-newsletters – using Raffi’s new, motivational music and video clips – will encourage Beluga grads to create and join interactive networks that can carry Child Honouring and its principles to an ever-wider audience.

This initiative will be organized and directed by the Centre’s Communications Director, who will build on existing connections with Beluga Grads.
SUSTAINABILITY

Child Honouring offers a lens through which we can see our way to a sustainable, healthy world. By putting the universal needs of children first, we can develop strategies to meet all our most pressing needs – building community, restoring the planet’s health, establishing peace, AND creating sustainable financial systems devoted to the wellbeing of children and families.

Both on its own and partnering with other organizations, the Centre will design communications campaigns that aim to make Child Honouring and sustainability both widespread and synonymous in the public mind.

Raffi’s child-honouring music and speeches offer a unique vehicle for spreading informative messages on sustainability to a broad audience. For example, his newly written and recorded song SustainABILITY, first heard in April 2009 at Dalhousie University’s College of Sustainability, provides a musical way to understand sustainability as a code of conduct.

COVENANT POSTERS

The Centre will design and make available posters that feature the Covenant for Honouring Children and its principles, in a number of languages. Posters will be available to schools, hospitals, medical offices, public administration offices, and health centres.

Covenant posters will communicate the core message of Child Honouring to many audiences in a variety of formats. Posters will also be available for sale to the public as a fundraising tool for the Centre.

INNOVATION

This initiative will create a dialogue between leaders of diverse groups as they apply Child Honouring principles across different sectors.

LEADERS-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

The Centre will bring together leaders from diverse sectors for intensive week-long workshops to explore how Child Honouring principles can be applied within and beyond their respective sectors. Each group will generate a list of goals, priorities and tasks to be achieved over a specific period of time.

Participants will include public administrators, business leaders, scientists, health care and legal professionals. The Centre will launch this program with workshops in education, religion and health care.
SOCIETY

These initiatives will convene regional, national and international public forums for elected officials, faith leaders and other professionals. These forums will encourage dialogue on important issues affecting children and society and designed to inspire enduring positive change.

MUNICIPAL FORUMS ON TOXICITY

These projects will highlight children’s unique vulnerability to toxic compounds, and galvanize support for their reduction or elimination. Since local municipalities often have the most direct authority to reduce or eliminate toxins in their communities, they are the most effective places to develop strategies to detoxify public spaces, schools, hospitals and homes.

Forums will bring together community leaders and the public to meet with organizations already working to clean up environmental threats to children’s health. Through discussion and plans for future action, they will enhance existing toxin-awareness and clean-up programs, and help create new ones where necessary.

This initiative will begin close to home – on British Columbia’s Gulf Islands, Vancouver Island, and in Vancouver – where a number of toxin-awareness programs are already underway. Future forums will be held in other municipalities across Canada and beyond.

CHILDREN & NONVIOLENCE INITIATIVE FOR FAITH LEADERS

Led by Raffi, this initiative has already begun. It seeks to bring together the world’s faith leaders to call for a ban on the physical punishment of children. This is one important expression of Child Honouring’s Nonviolence principle and its “First, do no harm” emphasis.

After both formal and informal consultation, this initiative will culminate in a multi-faith declaration, signed by leaders of the world’s major faiths. The Centre will coordinate communication with religious leaders to build consensus, while working to create broad grassroots awareness and support.
NEEDS & PRIORITIES

If we honoured our children and honoured motherhood we would have a completely different global economy and global consciousness, a different global ecology.

Deepak Chopra

SPIRIT OF ONE *
FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Jason Rodham: Campaign Manager
Maureen Moore: Salt Spring Island Campaign Coordinator

The Centre for Child Honouring seeks contributions to support its program development and operational activities over the next three years.

The Spirit of ONE Campaign seeks the support of
- Individuals
- Businesses
- Foundations
- Governments
- Service Clubs

* Individuals and privately held businesses are asked to donate 1% of annual revenue to the Centre.
The campaign will raise awareness and understanding of Child Honouring among the general public and all levels of donors. Towards this end, the campaign includes public speaking engagements, private, public and media events, as well as website communications and social networking efforts.

OPERATIONAL & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT FUNDING
Estimated Requirement: $1,500,000

This will provide the Centre with the resources it needs for initial programs and initiatives, and to attract the leadership needed to achieve its objectives over a three-year period. Costs will include

- recruiting a top tier executive director to facilitate the launch of Child Honouring program initiatives and to establish the organization’s public profile,
- hiring a full-time program director and securing the volunteers and other resources needed to develop and implement program initiatives,
- hiring a communications director to design and implement a robust outreach and education campaign, using a range of traditional and new media and techniques.
CHILD HONOURING
ADVISORY COUNCIL

I WAS INCREDIBLY MOVED to learn of your dedication to what you call Child Honouring. It is such a simple and beautiful concept, as the truest things in life often are. You inspired me as a child and have done so once again as an adult. Child Honouring is a true idea, one that I can honestly feel in my heart.

As Martin Luther King once said, “the arc of the universe is long, but it bends towards justice and truth.”

David Fernandes, Madison, Wisconsin

LESTER R. BROWN, author of 50 books, is founder and president of Earth Policy Institute. His awards include a MacArthur Fellowship, the United Nations Environment Prize, and Japan’s Blue Planet Prize. His latest book is Plan B 3.0: Mobilizing to Save Civilization.

FRITJOF CAPRA, Ph.D., physicist, systems theorist and author, is a founding director of the Center for Ecoliteracy, which promotes ecology and systems thinking in primary and secondary education. His latest book is The Science of Leonardo.

RIANE EISLER, Ph.D., and cultural historian, is author of the international bestseller The Chalice and The Blade and more recently The Real Wealth of Nations.

STANLEY GREENSPAN, MD, is Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Behavioral Sciences and Pediatrics at George Washington University Medical School, a founder and former president of Zero to Three: National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families. He is author of Engaging Autism and Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health.

BUDD L. HALL, Ph.D., is the Director of the Office of Community-Based Research, University of Victoria.

DR. JUDITH G. HALL is a Clinical Geneticist and Pediatrician. She trained at Wellesley College, the University of Washington School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital. She was named one of America’s top 1,000 doctors by American Health Magazine in 1996.

DAVID C. KORTEN, Ph.D., is the author of the international bestsellers When Corporations Rule the World, The Great Turning, and Agenda for a New Economy: From Phantom Wealth to Real Wealth.
FRAN KORTEN, Ph.D., is Executive Director, Positive Futures Network and Publisher of YES! Magazine.

ROSLYN KUNIN, C.M., Ph.D., is President of Roslyn Kunin and Associates Inc., an economic consultancy.

ELISE MILLER, M.Ed., is Founder and Executive Director of the National Institute for Children’s Environmental Health (ICEH).


SHARNA OLeman, Ph.D., is a Clinical Psychologist and Professor of Developmental Psychology in the Department of Humanities and Human Sciences at Point Park College, Pittsburgh. She is the editor of the “Childhood in America” book series, and co-editor of Child Honouring: How to Turn this World Around.

CHARLES E. PASCAL, Ph.D., is the Executive Director of the Atkinson Charitable Foundation, promoting social and economic justice. He has been President of Sir Sandford Fleming College, and has also held deputy ministerial posts with the Government of Ontario. Special Advisor on Early Learning to the Premier of Ontario and author of With Our Best Future in Mind.


CAROLYN POGUE is the author of many books for all ages, including After the Beginning, an ecological tale for children, Seasons of Peace: A Teacher’s Guide, and A World of Faith: Introducing Spiritual Traditions to Teens. She is the co-founder of the Calgary branch of Women in Black and also The Art of Peace: A Camp for Kids.

STUART SHANKER, Ph.D., is Distinguished Research Professor of Philosophy and Psychology at Atkinson College, York University. He is Co-Director of the Council of Human Development and President of the Council for Early Child Development.

JOEL SOLOMON is President and CEO of Renewal, a founding member of the Social Venture Network (SVN) and Business for Social Responsibility (BSR), and Chair of the Board of the Tides Foundation.
RAFFI CAVOUKIAN, C.M., O.B.C.
Singer, author, founder of Child Honouring. Known to millions simply as Raffi, a renowned Canadian songwriter and performer. A global troubadour with two honourary degrees, the Order of Canada and the UN’s Earth Achievement Award. Member of the Council of Human Development and the Club of Budapest.

CHARLES HOLMES

PHILIP J. LANDRIGAN, MD, MSc, FAAP
Pediatrician and international leader in public health, Dr Landrigan is the Ethel H. Wise Professor and Chairman for the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, and Director of the Children Environmental Health Center, New York.

KAREN KRAFT SLOAN

EAMON MURPHY
Managing partner of the law firm Clement, Murphy & Woodward and former chair of a Salt Spring Island daycare. Father of two young children.

ERIN PORTER
Principal of Salt Spring Centre School, mother of three children. With a Masters in Elementary Education, Erin teaches primary and a Montessori math program along with her principal duties.

BERT SIMPSON
Senior Associate, Troubadour Music. Formerly a primary teacher and consultant in inner-city Toronto schools, involved with Raffi and his music since 1976. Current work includes communications, marketing, contracts, and creative development.

JUDI WILSON
Administrative Assistant, Troubadour Music for the past eight years. Roots of Empathy facilitator, school secretary on Mayne Island, BC.
CHILD HONOURING is what my Salt Spring community does very well. My kids were born into a place with relatively sustainable institutions and organizations. First of all, we have a unique governance structure under the Islands Trust Act. Our local politicians have a legislated mandate to preserve and protect the island for future generations – that means children’s long-term interests are put ahead of adult commerce. For my kids it has meant that the island has provided a nurturing home for them – full of freedom, fresh air, water and food with no chemicals, trees to climb, beaches to tumble on, quiet places to hide and mountains to climb. They look at their home as a harbour in every sense of the word, from which they have drawn enormous confidence to set out in life.

On Salt Spring, my kids have had extraordinarily respectful schools, health practitioners, neighbours, family and the business community nurturing them along. I can’t remember any instance of a child being refused donated goods or services from any business for any cause from field trips to grad dances. For the kids who have nothing, there are groups to help ease the pain, and concerned citizens have built affordable housing.

Salt Spring Island is one of the few experimental jurisdictions in Canada that embedded child-honouring principles in our political structure. As a measure of success, I look around at the island’s children and see an incredible group of people who are already going out into the world as amazing citizens replicating what they loved about the island in their new communities. Intuitively, they might sense that if adults are making long-term decisions based on ensuring a child’s well-being, they feel truly honoured and go on to honour themselves and the Earth.

Briony Penn
Author, illustrator, ecology advocate
Salt Spring Island
YOUR SUPPORT

Join this historic initiative to secure our children's future.

The Centre for Child Honouring is a registered Canadian charitable organization. All Canadian donors, and American donors of $500 or more, can receive a tax receipt.

We seek the support of Founding Donors who can help us meet our operational and development objectives.

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The Centre will recognize and thank the contributions of all Founding Donors in various ways, including
- naming opportunities on its program and project initiatives, and within its facilities.
- private appearances by Raffi for corporate/company representatives, employees and their families.
- listing in a quarterly Child Honouring Newsletter.
- listing in the Centre's Annual Report.

We're grateful for your consideration.