

SPOTLIGHT ON JANETTE MCDUGALL

A relative newcomer to the ICF, Janette McDougall plans to continue to apply the ICF multidimensional approach for studying children's functioning and disability in future research endeavors. Janette works in the field of childhood health and disability research. She has been employed as a Research Associate in the Research Program at Thames Valley Children's Centre (TVCC) in London, Ontario for nine years. TVCC is a rehabilitation centre serving more than 5,000 children and youth. Prior to working at TVCC, she was employed as an elementary school teacher! She has both an Honor's Bachelor Degree and a Master's Degree in Sociology from the University of Western Ontario and a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Windsor. She has presented several papers and published a number of articles related to the provision and evaluation of pediatric rehabilitation services and the measurement of childhood health and disability. Janette is currently a doctoral student in the Rehabilitation Sciences Program at Elborn College at the University of Western Ontario, a multidisciplinary program organized around the ICF. Her comprehensive paper, published in *Disability and Rehabilitation*, examines how national surveys of school-aged children conducted in Canada measure the various components of health as described by the World Health Organization's Family of International Classifications (FIC) (i.e., the ICD-10 and the ICF). She is also first author on a paper that provides a health and disability profile of Canadian school-aged children using the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth and the conceptual definitions of health conditions and disability provided by the FIC. Both of these papers have been presented at NACC ICF Conferences. Other recent research projects Janette has been involved with include: studying high-school aged youths' attitudes toward peers with disabilities; examining the roles of physical health and disability status (i.e., having no physical health problems, having chronic physical health conditions and no activity limitations, or having chronic physical health conditions and activity limitations), environment, family, and child factors in children's academic and pro-social behaviour; and evaluating a program designed to involve youth with multiple disabilities in the transitional activities of career exploration, supported goal-setting and planning, skill development, and community experience. Janette is currently working to complete her dissertation, a study that examines how physical health and disability status and contextual factors influence the psychological development of adolescents. Janette is married and has two children, Edward, 11 and Samantha, 7. The "whole gang" enjoyed driving from London to the most recent ICF Conference in Halifax. She has a quite a number of well-placed publications for a young professional, and we ask that you check out two of her more recent ICF publications:

McDougall, J., King, G., DeWit, D., Miller, L., Hong, S., Offord, D., LaPorta, J., & Meyer, K. (2004) Chronic physical health conditions and disability among Canadian school-aged children: A national profile. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 26, (1): 35-45.

McDougall, J., & Miller, L.T. (2003). Measuring chronic health condition and disability as distinct concepts in national surveys of school-aged children in Canada: A comprehensive review with recommendations based on the ICD-10 and ICF. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 25, (16): 922-939.

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