
Keynote Presentation: Governments, Research and the Well Being of Children
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Chair Professor Philip Gammage

The well being of children is a policy goal that all governments espouse and to which nobody could object. The objective performance of countries in meeting this goal, however, is highly variable. In this session I will outline some of the choices governments are facing in this domain, discuss the factors that shape these choices, comment on the role of research in influencing public policy, and conclude with suggestions for steps that could help move policy and practice in directions that support the full development of children and youth. These reflections will draw on my experience in government in Canada, my international work, and my reading of relevant research.

Ben Levin is Canada Research Chair in Education Leadership and Policy at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education in Toronto. In addition to an academic career including 4 books and more than 150 other articles, he has served as chief civil servant (director general) for education in two Canadian provinces."