

## A Family-Researcher Partnership:

# Working together to spread awareness on the 'F-words' in Childhood Disability



Andrea Cross, Peter Rosenbaum, Danijela Grahovac, Diane Kay, Jan Willem Gorter

CanChild Centre for Childhood Disability Research, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

# The 'F-words' in Childhood Disability: Function. Family, Fitness, Fun, Friends, Future



## Background

- In 2012, CanChild researchers published a paper called: "The 'F-words' in childhood disability: I swear this is how we should think!"
- Building on the WHO's International Classification of Functioning (ICF) framework, the article featured key strengths-based ICF themes – Function, Family, Fitness, Fun, Friends, and Future.

# Objective

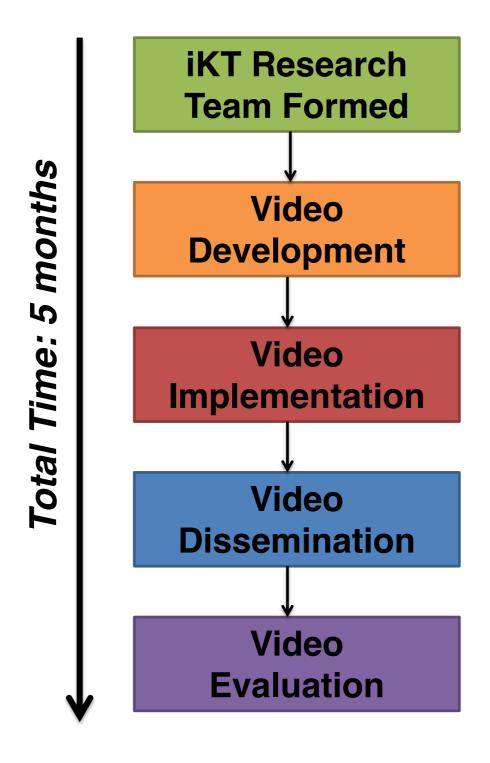
The objective of this integrated Knowledge Translation (iKT) project was to work with families to spread awareness on the 'F-words' ideas through an online awareness video.



## Methods

- Families and researchers worked together through the entire project – developing, implementing, disseminating, and evaluating the video.
- The video, posted on the CanChild website, used written descriptions, parents' reflections, pictures, music, and graphic effects to captivate the audience.
- The video was evaluated by tracking the number of views and through an online survey that collected feedback on viewers' perceptions of the video and the 'F-words' concepts.

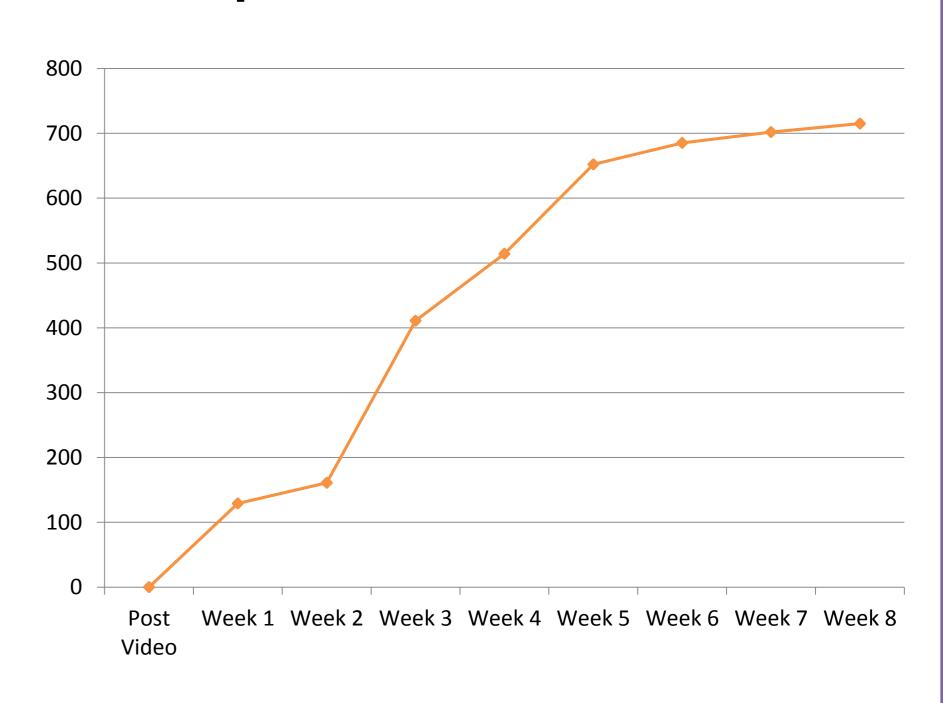
#### The iKT Process/Timeline



## Results **Weekly Dissemination Strategies**

Week	Research Team Implemented – <i>Dissemination Strategies</i>
Week 1	<ul> <li>Video posted on <i>CanChild</i> website</li> <li>Presentations and flyers on video distributed at two conferences</li> </ul>
Week 2	No specific strategies implemented
Week 3	<ul> <li>Emails sent to physician colleagues, McMaster SRS graduate students, <i>CanChild</i> network, family and friends</li> <li>Video shown during Developmental Learner Training Session at McMaster University</li> <li>Posted at Danijela's son's school and shared with teachers</li> </ul>
Week 4	<ul> <li>Posted on CanChild Facebook and Twitter pages</li> </ul>
Week 5 - 8	No specific strategies implemented

## **Spread of Awareness**



## Online Survey Responses - Evaluation of Video and 'F-words' Concepts:

After two months, there were 715 views of the video and 137 survey responses. These findings are based on the 137 survey responses.

## **Viewer Demographics**

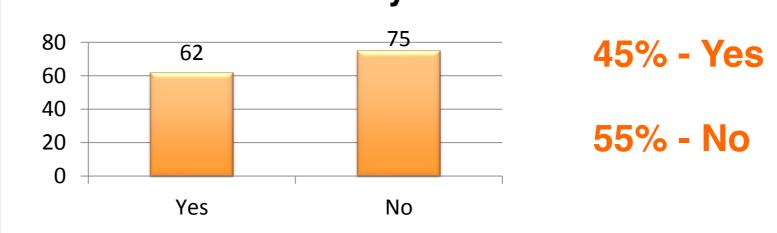
In what country, do you currently reside?

#### 89% of viewers lived in Canada

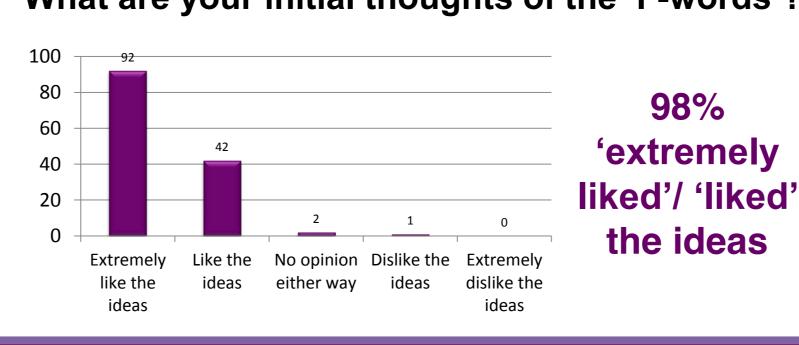
From what perspective are you viewing this video?

	% of Viewers
Physician	27%
Researcher	26%
Therapist	22%
Educator	18%
Student	16%
Friend of someone with a disability	15%
Family Member	13%
Other Health Care Worker	8%
Person with a disability	1%

#### Perceptions of 'F-words' Concepts Have you previously heard of the 'F-words' in childhood disability?



## What are your initial thoughts of the 'F-words'?



#### **Perceptions of Video** What did you like or dislike about

this video?

	Like	Dislike
Length	71	4
Content	84	5
Pictures	56	8
Parent Quotes	81	2
Music	36	18
Graphics	37	5
All of the Above	57	2
Other	7	40

Will you share this video with others? 89% said Yes!

"Great video, will make me view childhood impairments in a different and more positive way." ~ Physician

> "I loved that it will give parents permission to think what they have known all along." ~ Educator

"Very well done & informative video. Thanks for the great enlightening info" ~ Family Member

## Implications

- We were able to spread awareness to a wide audience in a short time.
- Engaging families throughout the project was a critical factor in the success of the video.
- Our hope is to continue building up the 'talk' on the 'F-words' and intrigue families to find out more information.
- The 'F-words' ideas hold great promise for supporting the adoption of a biopsychosocial approach in children's health care.

## **Next Steps**

- This video was the first step to spreading awareness on the 'F-words'.
- Based on the feedback we received from the video, the research team will work together to make minor changes in order to enhance the video.
- By designing a multi-faceted iKT intervention we hope to address the knowledge needs of families raising children with disabilities and to promote the uptake of the 'F-words' concepts in children's health care.