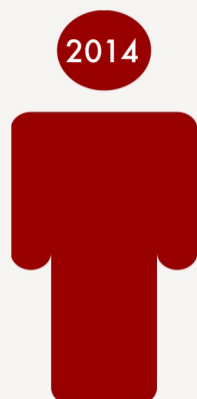


GROUP OF 78 LUNCHEON SPEAKER SERIES



Kimberly Brown

Stop bombing civilians: bringing field evidence to international policy



Over 32,000 civilians were reported killed or injured in 2014 by explosive weapons.

92%

of the casualties were civilian.



Children are the most vulnerable in a conflict



Friday, 12 February 2016



Lunch: 12 noon (please arrive by 11:45)



Palais Imperial Restaurant, 311- 313 Dalhousie St., Ottawa



\$30 for luncheon and presentation

\$5 for presentation only

(For presentation only, please plan to arrive by 12:45 p.m. Coffee and tea will be available.)



RESERVATIONS: Please register by email or phone no later than Tuesday, 9 February.
Group78@group78.org (613) 565-9449

The Group is required to pay for those who reserve but do not come and will ask no-shows to cover the cost.

In recent years, the use of explosive weapons in populated areas has been a major cause of harm to civilians and one that requires urgent international attention. Over 32,000 civilians were reported killed or injured in 2014 by explosive weapons, a number that has been increasing each of the last four years. In populated areas, 92% of the casualties were civilian. Children are the most vulnerable in a conflict. In addition to killing and injuring children, use of explosive weapons in populated areas results in children being denied access to healthcare and the opportunity to go to school. It can also prevent life-saving humanitarian aid from reaching children, causing them to be displaced from their homes, exposed to the risk of separation from their families and communities, and increases their vulnerability to exploitation and abuse.

Reflecting the urgent nature of this humanitarian problem, in 2015 the UN Secretary-General and the head of the International Committee of the Red Cross issued an unprecedented warning, calling on states to stop the use of heavy explosive weapons in populated areas. A number of governments have also raised their concern about this issue and the need to address it. Against this background, discussions are now starting towards developing a political instrument to address this humanitarian problem.

Canada is well positioned to play a leadership role internationally on this issue and it is vital that action is taken now.

Kimberly Brown, a Humanitarian Policy Adviser with Save the Children in London, where she works on children's rights in conflict and humanitarian disarmament, will provide an overview of the issue, outline policy and political steps that can be taken towards a solution and discuss civil society's efforts to curb harm from explosive weapons. Kim previously worked for UNICEF UK, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, the Cluster Munition Coalition, Oxfam GB, and the Canadian Red Cross. She spent several years working as a Programme Delegate for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. She has also worked on disaster preparedness, climate change, the Sustainable Development Goals, protection of civilians in conflict, and the treaties banning landmines and cluster munitions. She holds an M.A. in International Development from Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok and a B.A. in Psychology from the University of British Columbia. She was born in Ottawa, moved to Calgary at the age of 12 and has been based in London for the past 7 years.