ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

AGE-WELL gratefully acknowledges the support of its funder:

The NCE Secretariat manages four national programs: Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE); Centres of Excellence for Commercialization and Research (CECR); Business-Led Networks of Centres of Excellence (BL-NCE); and Industrial Research and Development Internships (IRDI). Through research partnerships between academia, industry, government and not-for-profit organizations, NCE programs turn Canadian research and innovation into economic and social benefits for all Canadians. Since its inception in 1989, the NCE has helped launch over 143 start-up companies; supported the development of more than 45,000 highly qualified personnel (HQP); invested more than $2 billion in research, commercialization and knowledge translation; and leveraged $1.5 billion in partner support to enhance the lives of Canadians.

And the support of its host institution:
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A Message from the Scientific Directors

Technology holds enormous potential to improve independence, to maintain quality of life and to lessen the burden on health care institutions. There is also a tremendous opportunity to use technological solutions to support those families that work tirelessly to support their aging loved ones.

AGE-WELL is the first national initiative that brings together applied and social science researchers, professional and family care providers, as well as industry and non-profit organizations for a common cause: the development of technological solutions to support Canadian seniors and their caregivers.

As a new Network of Centres of Excellence, we have some very ambitious goals: to jump-start research and development in technology and aging, to bring innovative, affordable products to market quickly and to make Canada a world leader in harnessing innovation to improve the lives of older people.

Canadian researchers are already hard at work, from coast to coast and in both official languages. They are exploring not only the development of novel technologies, but also the ethical and regulatory issues associated with this kind of innovation. Crucially, we are committed to reaching out to those who stand to benefit, not only older Canadians, but their families and caregivers. We need their guidance and inspiration in the earliest stages of our work to ensure our success.

AGE-WELL would not have been possible without a massive contribution of time and ideas from the management team, and the research leaders who participated in our successful application to the NCE program. We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to Mike Harcourt, along with Peter Goodhand, Alan Mackworth and Susan Thorning who were actively involved in developing the AGE-WELL vision and who recruited colleagues to serve with them on our inaugural Board.

Our journey has only begun, but we are off to an extraordinary start!

Dr. Alex Mihailidis & Dr. Andrew Sixsmith
Joint Scientific Directors, AGE-WELL
A Message from the Chair of the Board

The creation of AGE-WELL is not only incredibly timely, but visionary. With our aging society there is a pressing need to develop new and innovative means to assist older people to maintain their health, independence and dignity. Technology can be a key.

I am proud and privileged to chair a Board of outstanding individuals committed to achieving the goals of AGE-WELL.

AGE-WELL is an ambitious undertaking and we are proud to have attracted astonishingly talented individuals from across Canada to collaborate in realizing our vision.

We are building bridges. The many professional disciplines and organizations associated with aging and technology are collaborating through AGE-WELL. To achieve our goals everyone with an interest and expertise must contribute – and they are.

AGE-WELL's Board, researchers and staff have an important role to play in Canada and internationally, and I am confident that together we will realize AGE-WELL's vision and potential.

Michael Harcourt
Chair, AGE-WELL Board of Directors

A Message from the Managing Director

Although we rely on the vision and expertise of a host of researchers and partners to deliver the results, we first needed to build the framework to support our extraordinary team.

There was much to do. We had to incorporate federally as a non-profit organization, our provisional Board of Directors had its first meeting where it set up several advisory committees, and we finalized the Funding and Network Agreements that govern our operations.

Our Network Management Office is now established and almost fully staffed at our host institution, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – University Health Network (TRI-UHN) where we have a team of dedicated professionals who are committed to AGE-WELL's success. I would like to extend special thanks to Geoff Fernie, Institute Director, Research at TRI-UHN whose passion and commitment to supporting older adults and caregivers makes Toronto Rehab the perfect home for AGE-WELL.

It has been both a pleasure and a privilege to work with so many talented people across Canada from the beginning and to see AGE-WELL take shape and flourish. I would like to express my gratitude to all who are contributing to the cause: researchers and partners, students and staff, seniors and caregivers.

Bridgette Murphy
Managing Director, AGE-WELL
AGE-WELL NCE Inc. (“AGE-WELL”) is a federally-funded Network of Centres of Excellence to support Canadian research and innovation in the area of technology and aging. Its aim is to help older Canadians to maintain their independence, health and quality of life by developing technologies and services that increase their safety and security, support their independent living, and enhance their social participation.

AGE-WELL comprises 25 Core Research Projects divided into 8 research themes (called Workpackages – WPs), supported by 4 Crosscutting Activities (CC) in knowledge mobilization, commercialization, team-working and training. The network brings together more than 100 funded and affiliated researchers from 26 universities and research centres across Canada. More than 80 industry, government and non-profit partners have already joined AGE-WELL and the number is growing.

**Our Vision**

To harness and build upon the potential of emerging and advanced technologies in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), e-health, information communication technologies (ICTs), and mobile technologies to stimulate technological, social, and policy innovation.

**Our Mission**

To accelerate innovation in the field of technology and aging that will improve quality of life and produce economic and social benefits for Canadians and the global community. AGE-WELL strives to:

- Conduct world-class research in technologies for healthy aging;

- Develop a broad and transdisciplinary understanding of the impacts and implications of assistive technologies for healthy aging, including an in-depth understanding of the needs of older people and their caregivers, as well as the social, ethical, and policy implications thereof;

- Train and mentor students and emerging researchers in unique, applied environments and through a core focus on commercialization, clinical application and knowledge mobilization;

- Foster strong networking and partnerships among academic, public, private, and community sector stakeholders; and

- Position Canada to become a global leader in the development of technologies for healthy aging.
NCE announces $36.6M in funding over 5 years for AGE-WELL

Federal incorporation as a non-profit organization

Research Management Committee meets to review NCE feedback

AGE-WELL publically announced as one of four new NCEs

AGE-WELL Research Leadership Retreat

Call for proposals issued for Core Research Program

Meeting of the Provisional Board of Directors

Inaugural ISAC meeting to review Core Research Projects

Funding Agreement executed, Network Agreement underway

AGE-WELL Reception and first meeting of the full Board of Directors

AGE-WELL Research Underway

Board approves funding for Core Research Program

Roll out of AGE-WELL Seminar Series

Research Management Committee meets to review proposals

AGE-WELL media event with Hon. Minister Wong (Seniors)

Oct 28  Nov 20  Dec 15  Jan 18-19  Feb 2  Mar 10  Mar 24-25  Apr

Nov 18  Dec 12  Dec 18  Jan 19  Feb 23  Mar 15  Mar 25
EXCELLENCE OF THE RESEARCH PROGRAM

Canadian Research Talent

AGE-WELL researchers were recruited from across the country based on their international reputations, research expertise, commitment to contribute to a national initiative to produce innovative solutions for older adults and caregivers and to build links with Canadian industry and policy makers.

The AGE-WELL program is constructed on the idea that we must build bridges across the sector to encourage collaboration and drive innovation. We believe that the challenges facing older adults and caregivers can best be solved through their direct collaboration with social scientists, clinicians, engineers and computer scientists and with the full participation of industry and not-for-profit organizations. This highly collaborative approach is a distinct strength of this Network.

Leadership

In a short period of time, AGE-WELL has already become a recognized authority in technology and aging both domestically and internationally. For example, AGE-WELL co-led with the Alzheimer Society of Canada the development of a white paper for the World Health Organization (WHO) to help set R&D priorities in the area of technology and dementia. The white paper was presented in March 2015 at the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Global Action on Dementia in Geneva.

Research Excellence

In early 2015, we carried out a thorough and robust review of projects in our Core Research Program. Each of the research project teams included in the initial application submitted full proposals that were reviewed by our International Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC) and Research Management Committee (RMC). By March 31, the AGE-WELL Core Research Program was approved to launch by the AGE-WELL Board of Directors.

Early Achievements

- Recruited expertise to the Network that spans all disciplines necessary for technology development and innovation, including social and applied science, health policy and economics, knowledge translation and technology exploitation

- United research, industry and community leaders in the field in a single network for the first time

- Launched the AGE-WELL Core Research Program consisting of investments in 25 project teams across Canada

- Recognition as an international leader in the field of technology and aging and participation in important international meetings such as the WHO Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE) (Budapest, Hungary, Sept 2015) and the WHO Global Forum on Innovation for Ageing Populations (Kobe, Japan, Oct 2015)
Vision for Training and Mentorship

AGE-WELL is committed to attracting, developing, and retaining outstanding Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP), including graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, research associates, summer students, technicians and other professionals.

The core of our training program revolves around “Knowledge Partnerships” between higher education and industry, service, and public sectors working together towards mutually beneficial results and outcomes.

Through our Core Research Program we aim to provide a unique training environment based on scientific excellence and real-world applicability that exposes HQP to multidisciplinary research environments within a truly collaborative and experiential environment in the area of technology and aging. Our goal is to introduce HQP to ideas and approaches that go beyond their typical academic training and to develop understanding and skills in knowledge mobilization, user-driven research, ethics, and social and economic impact.

During the summer of 2015 we issued an open call to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to apply for research funding. The response was overwhelming—a heartening demonstration that the next generation of researchers are ready to add their great minds to the cause.

Early Achievements

- Laid the groundwork for the AGE-WELL training and mentorship program called EPIC – Early Professionals, Inspired Careers available in September 2015
- Approved funding for 134 HQP through the Core Research Program
- Launched a national, open competition for Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Awards in Technology and Aging which garnered 160 high-quality applications from 23 institutions across Canada and offered funding to 29 of these
- Established a provisional trainee-led HQP Network and recruited an AGE-WELL HQP to sit on the Research Management Committee
- Developed a partnership with Mitacs (www.mitacs.ca) to provide Canadian companies access to AGE-WELL researchers and their expertise to support the development of technologies to older adults
NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIPS

Building a Knowledge Community

Great ideas grow through communication and collaboration. We are investing significant resources to support networking opportunities, bringing researchers and partners together to build an active knowledge community. We are working to create an engine for generating multifaceted solutions to the complex challenges related to technology and aging—a catalyst for new concepts, approaches and ways of thinking.

International Activity

While developing AGE-WELL at home, we are simultaneously pursuing international opportunities to maximize the benefits of our efforts by partnering with key initiatives overseas such as the Active and Assisted Living Joint Programme (AAL-JP). The AAL-JP funds projects in public-private partnership in the field of information and communication technology (ICT) for active and healthy aging.

Stakeholder Engagement

We consulted our partners extensively during the development phase of the AGE-WELL application and will continue involve them in shaping strategic directions of the network through participation on our Industry Advisory Committee and Community Advisory Committee.

We also launched membership in the “AGE-WELL Community” with an online sign-up for members of the public, seniors and caregivers to get involved in AGE-WELL activities including user design consultations and networking events.

Business Development

To further our plans to commercialize research findings and create innovative products, we have developed strong industry partnerships with companies such as IBM, Philips Health Care, Blackberry and many others. Our goal is to exploit these linkages to improve the ability of both existing companies and start-ups to gain access to cutting edge research ideas and to get great products and services to market quickly.

Early Achievements

• Established partnerships with more than 80 organizations from the private, public and non-profit sectors, including major research organizations such as European Union’s Active and Assisted Living Joint Programme (AAL-JP) which will translate into new funding opportunities for AGE-WELL researchers

• Developed the Core Research Program in collaboration with Canadian industry and non-profit companies by requiring that all funded projects have at least one contributing partner to support R&D, knowledge mobilization and/or commercialization

• Created a knowledge sharing partnership with Canadian Centres on Aging to advance the work of our respective networks of researchers and trainees

• Invited a visiting researcher from Austria to work in the AGE-WELL Network Management Office for 6 months to strengthen international ties, foster collaboration, and share information about evidenced-based practices
Events & Workshops

In January 2015, AGE-WELL hosted a leadership retreat for AGE-WELL researchers, partners, and board members to build upon the funded research plan and to celebrate the launch of the AGE-WELL Network. The Honourable Alice Wong, Minister of State (Seniors) held a press conference during this event to publicly announce federal funding support for AGE-WELL.

Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting

We began planning AGE-WELL’s inaugural Conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM) during the early months of network operations. Our first conference is scheduled to coincide with the Canadian Association on Gerontology’s (CAG) 44th Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting – From Possibility to Practice in Aging: Shaping a Future for All – to be held in Calgary in October 2015. We owe a debt of gratitude to CAG for generously supporting our inaugural conference.

We have scheduled speakers and panel sessions that will focus on developing collaborative solutions that will be meaningful and important to all of our stakeholders.

Early Achievements

- Launched the AGE-WELL website (www.agewell-nce.ca) and social media presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Flickr and Vimeo
- Developed a communications strategy for the network
- Established Crosscutting Activities in the areas of Knowledge Mobilization, Commercialization and Technology Transfer, Transdisciplinary Working and Training and Mentorship, which work together to facilitate real-world impact of AGE-WELL research and hired expertise to support the work of each of these areas
- Launched two national seminar series available as a live web-based series to all network members and affiliates
Governance

Early in our development, we recruited several outstanding individuals to our Board of Directors and achieved full membership by March 2015. The Board has three standing committees including an Executive and Nominating Committee, Finance and Audit Committee and a Research Management Committee.

Four advisory committees to the Board serve to represent the interests of all members of the network to ensure that AGE-WELL activities remain responsive to the interests of stakeholders. These include an International Scientific Advisory Committee, Commercialization and Technology Development Committee, Industry Advisory Committee, and a Community Advisory Committee.

Collaboration and Communication Tools

We are developing the system infrastructure to support cross-Network research tools such as the AGE-WELL Forum Research Portal. The AGE-WELL Forum Research Portal was developed to provide NCEs with a data repository and internal portal for research management. Plans are underway to develop other tools and data repositories to support network activities under the leadership of our Core Facility in Collaborative Research Technology (The IRMACS Centre, Simon Fraser University).

Early Achievements

- Incorporated federally as not-for-profit organization under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (NFP Act) on November 18th 2014
- Established the Network Management Office at the Toronto Rehab Institute – UHN and recruited key management and administrative personnel
- Finalized the NCE Funding Agreement in March 2015 and began the process of signing universities and research centres to the Network Agreement
RESEARCH PROGRAM

Program Structure

AGE-WELL's research program is designed as a set of integrated research themes. It is organized by 3 overarching questions:

1) What are the needs of older adults and caregivers and how could technology be used to meet those needs?

2) What technology-based systems and services should be used to enhance the health, well-being of older adults and to support independent living?

3) How can innovation be fostered in the short and long-term to benefit older people, health care providers and Canadian Industry?

AGE-WELL's Core Research Program consists of 25 projects organized into 8 Workpackages (WP). Details of all the projects can be found at www.agewell-nce.ca/research.

Workpackages

WP1: NEEDS-OA Understanding the Needs of Older Adults
Co-Leads: Arlene Astell, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences; Uwe Glässer, Simon Fraser University

To most effectively harness the power of technology and to translate it into practical solutions it is crucial that the people who will be using it are consulted and fully involved from the early stages right through product testing and marketing. NEEDS-OA will be centred on understanding the needs of older adults related to technology, and on developing tools to include them in the technology development.

WP1.1: RRITE- Rural/Remote Indigenous Technology Needs Exploration
Co-Leads: Megan O’Connell, University of Saskatchewan; Debra Morgan, University of Saskatchewan

Co-Leads: Arlene J. Astell, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences; Debra Fels, Ryerson University

WP1.3: OA-INVOLVE- Older Adults’ Active Involvement in Aging and Technology Research and Development
Co-Leads: Susan Kirkland, Dalhousie University; Judith Sixsmith, Simon Fraser University and University of Northampton

The data and tools produced by NEEDS-OA will benefit all AGE-WELL projects and partners and will have significant influence over the overall technology and aging field. Not only will NEEDS-OA help to guide research and development within AGE-WELL, it will provide critical market intelligence for our partners.

WP2: NEEDS-CG Understanding the Needs of Caregivers
Co-Leads: Janet Fast, University of Alberta; Louise Demers, Université de Montreal

Family caregivers are critical to the health and support of older people. It is commonly presumed that providing assistive technology will lighten their burden, but we still lack solid research evidence. The aim of NEEDS-CG is to gain a better insight into how to better support caregivers. The goal is to develop novel technological solutions that can help them to provide more effective and efficient care, to reduce the burdens and consequences of care and also to enhance the quality of life of caregivers. We plan to develop strategies to assist caregivers in making more informed decisions on the selection
of technologies to assist them in their use and to provide peer support.

**WP2.1: INTOCARE- Innovative Technology for Caregivers**  
Co-Leads: Ben Mortensen, University of British Columbia; François Routhier, Université Laval

**WP2.2: MovIT-PLUS- Portal for the Systematic Monitoring and Training of User-Caregiver Dyads after Provision of Assistive Technologies**  
Co-Leads: Claudine Auger, Université de Montréal; Sara Ahmed, McGill University Health Centre

**WP2.3: CARE-RATE- An Online Assistive Technology Rating System for Caregivers**  
Co-Leads: Jan Polgar, University of Western Ontario; Frank Rudzicz, Toronto Rehab Institute - UHN

**WP2.4: ATforCC- Assistive Technologies that Care for the Caregiver**  
Lead: Janet Fast, University of Alberta

The research will provide information on caregivers that will be critical throughout the development of new technologies, and will be invaluable market data for our partners.

**WP3: TECH-FAI Technology for Supporting Functional Autonomy and Independence**  
Co-Leads: Bill Miller, University of British Columbia; Hélène Pigot, Université de Sherbrooke

Approximately one-quarter of Canadian seniors reported having some kind of physical, cognitive, or sensory impairment that affected their abilities to perform the common activities of daily living. TECH-FAI research focuses on two areas: technologies that can support older adults in the home and community with cognitive tasks and technologies that address physical impairments and disabilities that older adult face that often severely restrict their mobility and ability to remain independent.

**WP3.1: VIGIL- Mobile Robots for Telepresence and ADL (Activities for Daily Living) Assistant**  
Co-Leads: François Michaud, Université de Sherbrooke; Goldie Nejat, University of Toronto

**WP3.2: CoPILOT- Collaborative Power Mobility for an Aging Population**  
Co-Leads: Joelle Pineau, McGill University; Bill Miller, University of British Columbia

**WP3.3: DIY-AIDE- Adaptable Intelligent Domestic Environments**  
Co-Leads: Jesse Hoey, University of Waterloo; Hélène Pigot, Université de Sherbrooke

TECH-FAI will result in novel technologies that can be transferred to market through our partners, including robotics, smart home systems, and new application of artificial intelligence and sensing.

**WP4: TECH-APS- Technology for Active Participation in Society**  
Co-Leads: Ron Baecker, University of Toronto; David Kaufman, Simon Fraser University

Social interaction and support are consistently identified as key aspects of seniors’ quality of life. Lack of communication has been shown to lead to isolation and loneliness, which can result in problems such as depression and cognitive decline for older adults. TECH-APS will explore novel technologies that encourage and enable greater social interaction for older adults, and supporting social participation including technologies for collaborative play, learning and knowledge sharing.
WP4.1: CONNECT-TECH- Promoting Social Connectedness through New and Innovative Communications Platforms  
Co-Leads: Ron Baecker, University of Toronto; Sandra Black, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

WP4.2: CONNECT-PLAY- Promoting Social Connectedness through Playing Together- Digital Social Games for Learning and Entertainment  
Co-Leads: David Kaufman, Simon Fraser University; Louise Sauvé, TELUQ

WP4.3: CONNECT-CREATE- Promoting Social Connectedness through Collaborating on Digital Storytelling and Knowledge Creation and Sharing  
Co-Leads: Karyn Moffatt, McGill University; Cosmin Munteanu, University of Toronto

TECH-APS will be new technologies and tools that will help to actively engage older adults in society. These technologies will be of great interest to not only our industrial partners, but also our community and clinical partners who wish to be able to better engage their clients in various activities and goals.

WP5: TECH-DD Technology for Reduction and Prevention of Disease and Disability  
Co-Leads: Rafik Goubran, Carleton University; Frank Knoefel, Carleton University

Chronic conditions such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, or physical injuries due to falls and other accidents have significant human and financial costs to the Canadian economy and healthcare system. However, it has been shown that closely monitoring chronic conditions can significantly reduce their effects. In addition, regular activity and exercise in older adults is associated with an overall improvement in health, functional capacity, quality of life, and independence.

WP5.1: AMBI-MON- Ambient-Based Physiological and Functional Monitoring  
Co-Leads: Rafik Goubran, Carleton University; Frank Knoefel, Carleton University

WP5.2: PRED-FALL- Technologies to Predict, Prevent, and Detect Falls  
Co-Leads: Steve Robinovitch, Simon Fraser University; Fabio Feldman, Fraser Health

WP5.3: IIES-PHYS- An In-home Intelligent Exercise System for Physical Rehabilitation, Enhancing Musculoskeletal Function, and Preventing Adverse Events  
Co-Leads: Rajni Patel, University of Western Ontario; Mandar Jog, University of Western Ontario

TECH-APS will produce technologies and tools that will help to actively engage older adults in society. These technologies will be of great interest to not only our industrial partners, but also our community and clinical partners who wish to better engage their clients in various activities and goals.
RESEARCH PROGRAM

WP6: TECH-MCH Technology for Maintaining Good Mental and Cognitive Health
Co-Leads: Eleni Stroulia, University of Alberta; Lili Liu, University of Alberta

Currently, 747,000 Canadians have some type of cognitive impairment, including dementia, and this number is expected to double by 2031. Furthermore, 20% of Canadian seniors are living with conditions such as mental illness, anxiety and depression. Pain tends to be under-reported and not treated, resulting in agitation and aggression, while mood disorders often go untreated.

WP6.1: MEN-ASSESS- ICT Applications for Screening, Assessment and Interventions to Enhance Mental Health
Co-Leads: Mark Chignell, University of Toronto; Lili Liu, University of Alberta

WP6.2: COG-ASSESS- Automated Assessments of Cognitive Impairment Using Environment-Based Sensing
Co-Leads: Eleni Stroulia, University of Alberta; Lili Liu, University of Alberta

WP6.3: PAIN-ASSESS- Development, Implementation and Evaluation of an Automated Pain Detection System for Older Adults with Dementia
Co-Leads: Thomas Hadjistavropoulos, University of Regina; Babak Taati, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute - UHN

TECH-MCH will result in new technologies in an area that has been ignored for the most part in the technology and aging field. It will provide tools that can be transferred to market through our various community and clinical partners who can make these tools widely available to the older adult population.

WP7: POLICY-TECH Health Systems, Practice, Policy, and Regulatory Issues
Co-Leads: Paul Stolee, University of Waterloo; Don Juzwishin, Alberta Health Services

While technological innovation offers tremendous new opportunities, there are also challenges in relation to policy, regulation and decision-making in the care of older persons. It is also important to understand how different sectors and stakeholders can work together to develop innovative solutions.

WP7.1: PRI-TECH- Policy and Regulatory Issues in Enabling Technological Innovation
Co-Leads: Don Juzwishin, Alberta Health Services; Paul Stolee, University of Waterloo

WP7.2: DRIVE- Developing Region health InnoVation Ecosystems
Co-Leads: Josephine McMurray, Wilfrid Laurier University; Heidi Sveistrup, University of Ottawa

WP7.3: 3DHC- Data-Driven Decision-making in Healthcare
Co-Leads: Joon Lee, University of Waterloo; John Hirdes, University of Waterloo

POLICY-TECH will deliver in-depth information and data that will be crucial for all AGE-WELL partners as they attempt to bring new technologies and tools to the market. The research will also drive new healthcare policies across all provinces.
RESEARCH PROGRAM

WP8: ETHICS-TECH Ethical, Cultural, and Social Aspects of Technology
Co-Leads: Jeff Jutai, University of Ottawa; Jerome Bickenbach, University of Lucerne

The use of new advanced technologies in the care and support of older adults poses significant social and ethical questions, particularly in areas such as robotics, artificial intelligence and sensors that collect potentially sensitive data. ETHICS-TECH will develop advice and methodology to assist both researchers and policy makers who are exploring aging, disability and technology. We will also investigate ethical, privacy, and security factors that are most likely to contribute to disparities in the usage of emerging technologies.

WP8.1: AT-SELECT- Understanding the issues around adoption of e-decision support for self-selection of assistive technology by elders
Co-Leads: Manon Guay, Université de Sherbrooke; Claudine Auger, Université de Montreal

WP8.2: ADT - Aging, disability and technology: Understanding and advancing Canadian policies for technology access
Co-Leads: Rosalie Wang, University of Toronto; Michael Wilson, McMaster University

Co-Leads: Virgine Cobigo, University of Ottawa; Jeffrey Jutai, University of Ottawa

ETHICS-TECH will provide crucial information on the barriers and facilitators for AGE-WELL technology adoption by older adults and caregivers.

Crosscutting Activities

In addition to the Core Research Program, AGE-WELL has 4 Crosscutting Activities to develop best practice and provide support to researchers and partners across the network.

Our primary goal is to use research to benefit Canadians and industry by driving innovation and commercializing new products, systems and services. We also seek to influence policy and practice to enhance the health and quality of life of older adults, and to create new business opportunities for Canadian industry and social enterprises. AGE-WELL has 2 Crosscutting Activities focusing on knowledge mobilization and fostering commercialization:

CC1: Knowledge Mobilization (K-MOB)
Co-Leads: Karen Kobayashi, University of Victoria; Lynn McDonald, University of Toronto

AGE-WELL researchers will actively engage with stakeholders and end-users in an integrated knowledge mobilization approach that will focus on developing practical solutions to real-world problems.

CC2: Commercialization and Technology Transfer (TECH-TRANS)
Co-Leads: Geoff Fernie, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – UHN; Ryan D’Arcy, Simon Fraser University

We will generate new, disruptive and transformative products and services that can be brought to the commercial market by Canadian firms. We will strengthen the economic base by establishing new start-up companies and will generate opportunities for long-term economic growth for our partners.
AGE-WELL aims to build a vibrant knowledge community within the Canadian aging and technology sector. Two crosscutting activities support collaborative working and capacity building:

**CC3: Transdisciplinary Working (T-WORK)**  
*Co-Leads: Pia Kontos, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – UHN; Judith Sixsmith, Simon Fraser University and University of Northampton*

We see this as more than just communications within projects or between themes, but as an engine for generating new concepts, approaches and ways of thinking about how technology can benefit our aging populations. Transdisciplinary working integrates diverse perspectives from scientific and non-scientific sources to create new ideas and solutions to hard problems.

**CC4: Training and Mentorship (TRAIN)**  
*Co-Leads: Susan Jaglal, University of Toronto; Veselin Jungic, Simon Fraser University*

AGE-WELL will provide a unique training environment that will go beyond normal disciplinary training. To achieve this we have a dedicated crosscutting activity that will champion and support HQP training that will emphasize hands-on experience through novel training events and programs. Trainees will work closely with industry and community partners, will develop their ideas with end-users and develop skills in entrepreneurship and knowledge mobilization.
Network Community
*as of September 2015

Member Universities and Research Centres

Carleton University  Université de Montréal
Centre de Recherche de Institut Universitaire de Gériatrie Université de Sherbrooke
de Montréal  Université Laval
Dalhousie University  University Health Network
First Nations University  University of Alberta
Laurentian University  University of British Columbia
McGill University  University of Guelph
McGill University Health Centre  University of Ottawa
McMaster University  University of Regina
Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences  University of Saskatchewan
Ryerson University  University of Toronto
Simon Fraser University  University of Victoria
TÉLUQ - Université du Québec  University of Waterloo
The University of Western Ontario  Wilfred Laurier University

Partners

Active and Assisted Living (AAL)  famil.net
ADL Smartcare  Fraser Health
Alberta Health  GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre
Alberta Health Services  Gilbrea Centre, McMaster University
Alzheimer Society of Canada  Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital
Aunege  GRAND NCE
Baycrest  i-Edit
Baycrest Centre for Learning Research and Innovation  IBM
Blackberry  Institute for Life Course and Aging, University of Toronto
Burnaby Multicultural Society  IVPSA, Université Laval
Canadian Association on Gerontology  JLG Health Solutions Inc.
Canadian Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation  Keebee
CATCH, University of Sheffield  Kinova
Centre de Santé et de services sociaux de la Montagne  Kiwanis
Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Rehabilitation of Greater Montreal (CRIR)  Lawson Health Research Institute, University of Western Ontario
Centre on Aging, University of Manitoba  Ludoscience
Centre on Aging, University of Victoria  March of Dimes Canada
Centre Universitaire Jean-Francois  MDA Space Missions
CERAH, Lakehead University  MEDTEQ
Chartwell Retirement Residences  Mircom
CIRRIS, Université Laval  Mitacs
City of Surrey  MultiMension
Clearpath Robotics  Ontario Brain Institute
Communitel  Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
ComSante, Université du Quebec à Montréal  PATH (Partners Advancing Transitions in Healthcare)
CRIUGM, Université de Montréal  Patterson Medical
CrossWing Inc.  Philips Healthcare
Employment and Social Development Canada  PhysioAtlas
ENGAGE Biomechanics  Point Grey
Extendicare  Port Moody Heritage Society
NETWORK COMMUNITY

Network Investigators

Sara Ahmed, McGill University Health Centre
Phillippe Archambault, McGill University
Arlene Astell, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences
Claudine Auger, Université de Montréal
Ronald Baecker, University of Toronto
Éric Beaudry, Université du Québec
Jerome Bickenbach, University of Lucerne
Sandra Black, Sunnybrook Health Sciences
Carrie Bourassa, First Nations University of Canada
Mark Chignell, University of Toronto
Virginie Cobigo, University of Ottawa
Ryan D’Arcy, Simon Fraser University
Janet Fast, University of Alberta
Fabio Feldman, Fraser Health
Debra Fels, Ryerson University
Geoff Fernie, Toronto Rehab Institute- UHN
Uwe Glässer, Simon Fraser University
Rafik Goubran, Carleton University
Manon Guay, Université de Sherbrooke
Thomas Hadijstavropolous, University of Regina
John Hirdes, University of Waterloo
Jesse Hoey, University of Waterloo
Kristen Jacklin, Laurentian University
Susan Jaglal, University of Toronto
Mandar Jog, University of Western Ontario
Veselin Jungic, Simon Fraser University
Jeff Jutai, University of Ottawa
Don Juzwishin, Alberta Health Services
Dahlia Kairy, Université de Montréal
David Kaufman, Simon Fraser University
Susan Kirkland, Dalhousie University
Frank Knoefel, Carleton University
Karen Kobayashi, University of Victoria
Pia Kontos, Toronto Rehab Institute- UHN

Joon Lee, University of Waterloo
Lili Liu, University of Alberta
Lynn McDonald, University of Toronto
Josephine McMurray, Wilfrid Laurier University
François Michaud, Université de Sherbrooke
Bill Miller, University of British Columbia
Ian Mitchell, University of British Columbia
Karyn Moffatt, McGill University
Debra Morgan, University of Saskatchewan
Ben Mortensen, University of British Columbia
Cosmin Munteanu, University of Toronto Mississauga
Goldie Nejat, University of Toronto
Ioannis Nikolaidis, University of Alberta
Megan O’Connell, University of Saskatchewan
Norm O’Rourke, Simon Fraser University
Rajni Patel, University of Western Ontario
Johane Patenaude, Université de Sherbrooke
Hélène Pigot, Université de Sherbrooke
Joelle Pineau, McGill University
Jan Polgar, University of Western Ontario
Johanne Queenton, Université de Sherbrooke
Stephen Robinovitch, Simon Fraser University
François Routhier, Université Laval
Frank Rudzicz, Toronto Rehab Institute- UHN
Louise Sauvé, TELUQ
Judith Sixsmith, Simon Fraser University
Paul Stolee, University of Waterloo
Eleni Stroulia, University of Alberta
Heidi Sveistrup, University of Ottawa
Babak Taati, Toronto Rehab Institute- UHN
Michel Tousignant, Université de Sherbrooke
Rosalie Wang, University of Toronto
Michael Wilson, McMaster University
Herbert Yang, University of Alberta
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Managing Director, AGE-WELL

Rick Schwartzburg (Observer)
Senior Program Manager, NCE Secretariat

Andrew Sixsmith (Observer)
Scientific Director, AGE-WELL

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Professor, University of British Columbia

Lawrence Normie
Principal Consultant, Lawrence Normie Consulting (LNC)

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Nick Roy
Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

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Professor, Imperial College Business School, UK

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Dieter Fox
Professor, University of Washington

Rick Schwartzburg (Observer)
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Scientific Director, AGE-WELL

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Professor, University of British Columbia
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Geoff Fernie
Institute Director, Research, Toronto Rehab Institute – UHN; Co-Lead AGE-WELL CC2 (TECH-TRANS)

Nadine Henningson
Executive Director, Canadian Home Care Coalition

Amy Hwang
PhD Candidate, University of Toronto

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Professor, University of Ottawa; Co-Lead AGE-WELL WP8 (POLICY-TECH)

Karen Kobayashi
Professor, University of Victoria; Co-Lead AGE-WELL CC1 (K-MOB)

Pia Kontos
Senior Scientist, Toronto Rehab Institute – UHN; Co-Lead AGE-WELL CC3 (T-WORK)

Jim Mann
Community Member and Alzheimer’s Advocate

Richard McAloney
Director, Technology Management & Entrepreneurship Impact Centre, University of Toronto

Milos Popovic
Senior Scientist, Toronto Rehab Institute – UHN; Professor University of Toronto

Rick Schwartzburg (Observer)
Senior Program Manager, NCE Secretariat

AGE-WELL Administration

Scientific Directors

Alex Mihailidis, Toronto Rehab Institute- UHN

Andrew Sixsmith, Simon Fraser University

Network Management Office (Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – UHN)

Bridgette Murphy, Managing Director

Aoife Conway, Administrative Coordinator

Martin Morandell, Visiting Researcher/International Programs Specialist

Laurent Moreno, Business Development and Partnerships Manager

Samantha Sandassie, Education and Training Administrator

Jeanie Zabukovec, Research and Partnerships Administrator

Core Facility in Collaborative Research Technology (The IRMACS Centre, SFU)

Pam Borghardt, Managing Director

Brian Corrie, Technical Director

Byron Ribble, Collaboration Tech Support

Media and Public Relations

GoldFenix Communications
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT

To the Members of
AGE-WELL NCE Inc.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of AGE-WELL NCE Inc., which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2015, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the period from November 18, 2014 to March 31, 2015, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management’s responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors’ responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors’ judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity’s preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of AGE-WELL NCE Inc. as at March 31, 2015, and the results of its operations, changes in net assets and its cash flows for the period from November 18, 2014 to March 31, 2015 in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

Ernst & Young LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants
LICENSED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Toronto, Canada
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015
AGE-WELL NCE INC.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2015 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due from the University Health Network [note 5]</td>
<td>4,640,887</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
<td>135,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred contributions [note 3]</td>
<td>4,505,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>4,640,887</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total fund balances</td>
<td>4,640,887</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the Board:

Mike Harcourt, Director

Barbara Stymiest, Director
### AGE-WELL NCE INC.

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**

For the period ended March 31, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networks Centres of Excellence grant [note 3]</td>
<td>209,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>28,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative salary benefits [note 5]</td>
<td>43,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>49,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>59,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>28,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess of revenue over expenses</strong></td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning of period</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets, end of period</strong></td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See accompanying notes
## AGE-WELL NCE INC.

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the period ended March 31, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excess of revenue over expenses for the period</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in non-cash working capital balances related to operations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from the University Health Network</td>
<td>(4,640,887)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
<td>135,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred contributions</td>
<td>4,505,185</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash provided by operating activities                                               —

Net increase in cash and cash equivalents during the period                           —

Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period                                       —

Cash and cash equivalents, end of period                                              —

See accompanying notes
1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The Networks of Centres of Excellence Program [the “NCE”] was created by the Government of Canada to mobilize Canadian research talent in the academic, private and public sectors and apply it to the task of developing the Canadian economy and improving the quality of life of Canadians. The NCE program is a program of the Government of Canada administered jointly by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council [“NSERC”], the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council [“SSHRC”] and the Canadian Institutes of Health [“CIHR”] in partnership with Industry Canada and Health Canada.

In addition to the above Federal funding, AGE-WELL NCE Inc. [the “Network”] is expected to receive partner funding, mostly from various industry partners who partner with the Network in various programs and projects.

The Network is a not-for-profit organization incorporated as a corporation on November 18, 2014 without share capital under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act and is exempt from income taxes.

The Network has been established to achieve the following objectives:

- Establish a network of national and international research centers, industry and institutions that can develop and implement new technologies for healthy aging;
- Conduct world class research in the field of technologies for healthy aging;
- Develop a transdisciplinary understanding of the technological and methodological aspects of technology for healthy aging, including an in depth understanding of the needs of the population and the social, ethical, and policy implications;
- Accelerate innovation through the training and mentorship of highly qualified personnel in unique, applied environments and through a core focus on commercialization, clinical application and knowledge mobilization;
- Foster strong networking and partnerships among academic, public, private, and community sector stakeholders that will support the outcome of the Network and its partners; and
- Create capacity for Canada to establish its position as a global leader in the development of technologies for healthy aging.

The Network is operating under a draft Host Institution Agreement with the University Health Network [“UHN”] under which UHN will serve as the host institution for the Network, providing facilities and services for the Network’s administrative center.
In addition, the Network entered into a Networks of Centres of Excellence Network Agreement [the “Agreement”] with UHN and a number of Universities and research centres within Canada [the “Network Members”]. The Agreement outlines how the Network’s funding of certain research activities carried out at Network Members are to be used and the obligations that the Network Members have with respect to such funding.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Part III of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada [“CPA Canada”] Handbook – Accounting, which sets out generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations in Canada and includes the significant accounting policies summarized below.

Revenue recognition

The Network follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions which include government grants. Grants are recognized in the accounts when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when initially recorded in the accounts. Externally restricted contributions are deferred when initially recorded in the accounts and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are recognized.

Research programs expenses

Research programs expenses are recorded as expenses when they become payable. Committed research grants that will become payable in the future are summarized and disclosed as commitments in the notes to the financial statements.

Financial instruments

Financial instruments, including accounts payable, are initially recorded at fair value and are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, net of any provisions for impairment.

Contributed materials and services

Contributed materials and services are not recognized in the financial statements.

3. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred contributions represent unspent resources externally restricted for program expenses in future years. Changes in the deferred contributions balance are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance, beginning of period</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts received during the period [note 4]</td>
<td>4,715,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts recognized as revenue during the period</td>
<td>209,815</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, end of period</td>
<td>4,505,185</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. CONTRIBUTIONS

The Network currently generates substantially all of its revenue from the NCE grant. The ability of the Network to continue operations is dependent upon this grant agreement remaining in effect.

The NCE agreed to contribute funding of $36,605,194 for operations over a period of five years from 2015 to 2019. The funding is to be received according to the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NSERC</th>
<th>CIHR</th>
<th>SSHRC</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2,357,000</td>
<td>1,858,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>4,715,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>5,343,000</td>
<td>2,752,944</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>8,095,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>5,580,000</td>
<td>1,941,560</td>
<td>564,000</td>
<td>8,085,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>5,020,000</td>
<td>1,671,672</td>
<td>1,420,000</td>
<td>8,111,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>3,800,000</td>
<td>2,797,018</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>7,597,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22,100,000</td>
<td>11,021,194</td>
<td>3,484,000</td>
<td>36,605,194</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The annual contributions noted above will be released subject to:

- Parliamentary appropriation of the funds in each fiscal period;
- Satisfactory progress, as determined by the NCE Secretariat, towards predetermined milestones for the Network;
- Continuing eligibility of the UHN as the NCE Network Host and the Network; and
- Compliance with the terms of the funding agreement.

Funding of $4,715,000 [note 3] has been received for the period ended March 31, 2015.

5. RELATED PARTIES

[a] The Network is related to UHN by virtue of the fact that UHN is the host institution under the NCE program.

Under the NCE Network Host Agreement, UHN provides office space and certain administrative and information technology support services to the Network at no cost.

[b] All UHN employees engaged in the Network’s programs or administration have the same benefit and terms, as set out in employment terms and usual practice and rules followed by UHN, as a host and ends with the Network’s fulfilment of project terms or tenure.

[c] Based on the funding arrangement between the Network and the NCE, the NCE funds are to be administered by the host institution. The amount Due from UHN on the statement of financial position represents the funds held by UHN for the Network’s NCE program.

Related party transactions are recorded at the exchange amount, being the amount of cash consideration paid or payable in respect of the transaction.

6. FINANCIAL RISKS

The Network is not exposed to significant credit, interest rate or currency risk.