

## AGE-WELL-Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists Partnership Seeking Qualified Postdoctoral Trainees

**Project Description:** This position is the outcome of an AGE-WELL partnership with the Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists (OSOT). The aim of the initiative, *A Vision for Enabling Ageing Well in Ontario*, is to promote the evidence-based value of using an occupational lens to respond to the needs of a growing older adult population. As a knowledge mobilization initiative, the project profiles the evidence-informed work that occupational therapists are doing and/or could be doing to enable ageing well across the occupational transitions experienced by older adults. The outcome of the project is a dynamic website that contains stand-alone modules. The modules will fit within the overall conceptual framework of enabling ageing well across occupational transitions. Each module is focused on one key life course occupational transition (e.g., enabling retirement planning, enabling self-care of chronic illness). In turn, the evidence-based, enabling strategies, tools and technologies employed by occupational therapists to support each occupational transition are illustrated through narratives elicited from older adults, their caregivers and occupational therapists. Oversight for the project is provided by OSOT's, Senior Advisory Council (SAC), which is comprised of academics from three Ontario Universities as well as practitioners and service provider administrators (see list of collaborators below). The project is to run from September 2018 to August 2019 with a possibility of a one year renewal.

**Postdoctoral Trainee Role Requirements:** A qualified postdoctoral trainee is sought to take a leadership role in the development, facilitation and evaluation of this knowledge mobilization project. This includes the collection, curation, dissemination and promotion of evidenced-based illustrations of the value of an occupational lens in responding to the occupational transition needs of older adults. The trainee will collaborate with relevant OSOT practice team leads, occupational therapy students, occupational therapy practitioners, older adults, as well as occupational science and occupational therapy academics. The key role expectations include:

- develop a project action plan and ensure timelines are met
- further refine the website module framework that highlights the strategies, tools and technologies used by occupational therapists to enable ageing well
- work with OSOT staff to develop website design
- update literature searches to support ongoing module content development
- identify and engage contributors and content experts (i.e., OSOT practice leads, older adults, practitioners, academics)
- ensure communication with all contributors including quarterly meetings and progress report updates with OSOT's Senior Advisory Council
- develop and implement a rigorous knowledge mobilization framework and evaluation strategy
- engage in both qualitative (narrative) and quantitative data collection and analysis
- identify sustainable funding source resources (e.g., MITACS partnerships)
- promotional activities e.g., presentations at community organization meetings
- disseminate evaluation results to scientific conferences and journals

**Qualifications:** Applicants should have a PhD (or near completion) or equivalent degree. Preference will be given to applicants with academic backgrounds in occupational science/occupational therapy and who have experience with ageing populations. Candidates with academic/work backgrounds in related fields that include a focus on ageing, technology/environmental design and social participation will also be considered. Additional qualifications include:

- ability to start project by September, 2018
- familiarity/background/interest in occupational therapy approaches to enabling ageing well
- knowledge of policy and practice issues related to seniors' health and social care
- excellent writing and editing skills
- excellent communication, project coordination, collaboration skills
- expertise in knowledge translation and knowledge mobilization implementation and evaluation processes
- familiarity with website design
- experience with the use of qualitative methods to elicit narratives from older adults
- experience with quantitative methods and analysis
- expertise in critically evaluating the applicability of evidence-based literature to project objectives

**Application:** Applicants should submit a C.V., together with a cover letter with the subject line "OSOT-AGE-WELL postdoctoral fellowship application" describing current research/KT interests and how they align with the project's goals. A list of three references with complete contact information must be provided, who could be called upon to write letters of recommendation. Letters will be required if the applicant is short-listed. Applications must be sent as soon as possible to [Stephanie.Markowitz@uhn.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Markowitz@uhn.ca). Review of applications will be conducted by OSOT and AGE-WELL and will begin May 31st 2018. Applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

#### OSOT Seniors Advisory Council

Barry Trentham PhD, OT Reg(Ont.) (Chair) Assistant Professor University of Toronto	Barbara Cawley OT Reg (Ont.) Vice-President Client Services VHA Home Care Solutions	Colleen McGrath PhD, OT Reg(Ont.) Assistant Professor Western University
Christie Brenchley OT Reg.(Ont.), Executive Director, Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists	Catherine Donnelly PhD, OT Reg(Ont.) Associate Professor Queen's University	Aaron Yuen MScOT OT Reg(Ont.) Corporate Manager of Volunteers and Community Services William Osler Health System
Briana Zur PhD Retired Occupational Therapist		