Creating the Future: AGE-WELL 2020-2025
Today’s Objectives

• Current state of the AGE-WELL Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE)

• New strategic directions, including AGE-WELL’s vision and mission

• Proposed directions for AGE-WELL 2.0 (2020-2025)

• How to get involved in AGE-WELL 2.0

• Your thoughts and ideas on the future of AGE-WELL, and how it can best serve Canadian seniors
Participation is critical

• Please actively engage throughout today’s session
• Use your workbooks
• Engage in group discussions
• Use social media to post about today (and follow us):

#agewell2020
@agewell-nce
CHECK-IN POINT #1

1. Who is in the room?
2. What are your interests in technology and aging?
3. Have you heard of AGE-WELL, and/or are you currently part of AGE-WELL?

10 Minutes
The Rising Tide
Further Complications....

Caregiver Support Ratio, United States

Source: AARP Public Policy Institute calculations based on REMI (Regional Economic Models, Inc.) 2013 baseline demographic projections.

Note: The caregiver support ratio is the ratio of the population aged 45–64 to the population aged 80-plus.
“Healthy aging” is the ability to remain independent in our lives, and to actively participate in society (the way we want to).

We can all age well, even in the face of disease, impairment, and disability.
INTRODUCING AGE-WELL
Canada’s Technology & Aging Network

by the Numbers*

*as of September 2017

398
HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL (HQP)

141
Industry & Community Partners

44
Federal & Provincial Departments & Agencies

$36.6M
FUNDING (2015-2020) from the Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE)

$22M+
CASH AND IN-KIND Contributions from Partners

150+
RESEARCHERS

37
MEMBER UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH CENTRES across Canada
AGE-WELL is the only pan-Canadian network that brings together a broad range of stakeholders to develop solutions to healthy aging.
Our Vision

Canada’s leadership in technology and aging benefits the world.
Our Mission

To develop a community of researchers, older adults, caregivers, partners and future leaders that accelerates the delivery of technology-based solutions that make a meaningful difference in the lives of Canadians.
We Produce Real-World Products

Technologies

Services

Policy & Practice
Our Values

**Excellence** – Based on a strong and leading scientific research foundation

**Collaborative Impact** – Using a transdisciplinary approach we share knowledge, ideas and resources across disciplines and stakeholder groups to generate better outcomes

**Capacity-building** – We train the best and brightest academic and industry talent

**Leadership** – We are recognized globally in the area of technology and aging

**Innovation** – We are engaged in a continuous process to create new ideas and solutions

**Integrity** - We uphold the highest ethical and intellectual standards in our research and business activities

**Equity** – We are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion in all aspect of our network
Drivers of Success

- Needs-driven approach
- Collaborative networked research communities
- Actively engaged partners
- Emerging researchers and entrepreneurs
- Sustained long-term commitment
CHECK-IN POINT #2

1. Do our vision, mission, and value statements resonate with you?
2. What would you like to see different?
3. Are we missing anything?

15 minutes
AGE-WELL’s Core Business

- Research
- Training
- Knowledge Mobilization & Commercialization
- Networking & Partnerships
AGE-WELL’s Research Program

Currently, AGE-WELL projects are organized into 8 research themes called Workpackages (WP) and supported by 4 Crosscutting (CC) activities.

WPs are organized by three overarching research questions:

1. What are the needs of older adults and caregivers?
2. What technologies and services should be used?
3. How can we foster innovation?
What are the needs of older adults and caregivers?

WP1 – Understanding the Needs of Older Adults

• **Sample Project:** Older Adults' Active Involvement in Aging and Technology Research and Development

WP2 – Understanding the Needs of Caregivers

• **Sample Project:** Assistive Technologies that Care for the Caregiver
What Technology-based Solutions can meet those needs?

WP3 – Technology for Supporting Functional Autonomy & Independence
- **Sample Projects**: Smart Homes, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence, Smart Wheelchairs

WP4 – Technology for Active Participation in Society
- **Sample Projects**: Social Connectedness App, Digital Social Games, Digital Storytelling

WP5 – Technology for Prevention, Reduction of Disease and Disability
- **Sample Projects**: Fall Detection, Compliant Flooring and Stick-on Hip Protectors, Rehabilitation Systems, Health Monitoring Systems, Wearable Technologies

WP6 – Technology for Maintaining Good Mental and Cognitive Health
- **Sample Projects**: Information Communication Technology (ICT) applications for screening, assessment and intervention for cognitive health
How do we foster innovation?

WP7– Health Systems, Practice, Policy, and Regulatory Issues

• *Sample Project*: Policy and Regulatory Issues in Enabling Technological Innovation

WP8– Ethical, Cultural, and Social Aspects of Technology

• *Sample Project*: Privacy, Security, and Ethics of the use of Emerging Technologies: Development and Validation of a Framework for Research and Policy
Training Future Leaders

• >400 HQP (highly qualified personnel)
• 170 completions of our *Innovators of Tomorrow* Certificate
• EPIC (Early Professionals, Inspired Careers)
• Annual Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Awards
• The majority of Core Research Program (CRP) funding is to support HQP
Knowledge Mobilization & Commercialization

• “KTEE” (Knowledge and Technology Exchange and Exploitation) is integrated across network activities

• >50% budget supports knowledge mobilization or commercialization focused activities

• Our investments support our KTEE priorities

• Crosscutting Activities provide tailored project support in KTEE as well as research into best practices
Networking and Partnerships

• > 200 partners spanning government, private, public and academic sectors

• Project and network level partners have an advisory role to Scientific Directors

• AGE-WELL Catalogue developed to share network supported products and intellectual property (IP) with partners who can choose to move products forward

• Host an annual national competition that identifies new solutions and brings new teams into the network
Snapshot of Achievements

• Global research leadership and network visibility

• 66 funded projects across all funding programs have so far produced 72 solutions

• >400 HQP are involved with AGE-WELL

• Supporting 12 start-up companies

• Maintaining focus on impact and entrepreneurship

• Developed our own Performance Management Framework

• Launching 3 pilot AGE-WELL National Innovation Hubs
CHECK-IN POINT #3

1. Are there any questions or clarifications needed about the current network and our accomplishments?
2. Do you have any comments on the current state of the art of AGE-WELL, and what you feel we should be improving in our final two years?

10 Minutes
TOWARDS
AGE-WELL 2.0
What should AGE-WELL look like in 2020 and beyond?
The Future of AGE-WELL – Meeting our Vision

• Build critical mass in Canada in the field of technology and aging

• Developing infrastructure, support services, and partnerships that will be long-lasting (beyond the life of AGE-WELL) and move Canada to the forefront of this field

• AGE-WELL’s legacy will be the community that it has built and the future leaders that it has trained, which will help us to achieve our network vision
AGE-WELL 2.0 Goals

1. Continue to **drive culture change** within the research community that will significantly increase the likelihood of real world impact.

2. Invest in those areas that will maximize return on investment in terms of **social and economic benefits** to Canada.

3. Further establish **support structures** required by the research community and its partners.

4. Significantly **influence policy and practice** related to the use of technology to support Canadian seniors.
AGE-WELL 2.0 Operating Model

The operating model defines how AGE-WELL will deliver the social and economic outcomes required by our strategy (mission, vision, and value statements), and to achieve our objectives

AGE-WELL 2.0 Operating Model = Programs + Partners + Processes
AGE-WELL 2.0 Program Areas of Focus

• All program areas will focus on key areas of importance to AGE-WELL and our stakeholders
What is a "Challenge"?

A Challenge is an important but difficult and complex problem area that demands innovation and real-world solutions.

A challenge is NOT just about problems, it may be about social and economic opportunities and making a positive contribution to Canadian society.
How does AGE-WELL define a Challenge Area?

A **Challenge Area** is more than ordinary research questions or political priorities.

- Result in significant social and economic benefits to older adults
- National and/or global in scale
- Difficult to accomplish, yet offer hope of being ultimately solvable
- Demand transdisciplinary collaboration
- Must capture popular imagination and political support
- Pushes the scientific envelope
- Helps AGE-WELL achieve its vision and strategic direction
Identifying Challenge Areas

A systematic approach was followed:

1. Environmental scan of National, Provincial, and International level policies on aging (over 200 identified)

2. Workshops to consolidate and develop a long list of potential challenge areas using thematic analysis and sorting

3. To Be Completed - Internal and external consultation to finalize short list of areas (online surveys, in-person)
Proposed Challenge Areas

- Aging workforce
- Healthcare for seniors
- Health service organization and delivery
- Caregiving
- Autonomy and independence
- Overcoming the digital divide
- Financial wellness
- Safety, security and abuse
- Transport and mobility

- Healthy lifestyles
- The Silver Economy
- Equity, diversity and inclusion
- Lifelong learning
- Cognitive health
- Social participation
- Isolation and loneliness
- Aging in place and supportive homes and communities
- Global issues
Screening of Potential Challenge Areas

In deciding which of these areas to include in AGE-WELL 2.0, we need to apply the following “lenses”:

– Potential for great research
– Potential for technology to play a significant role
– Potential for innovative and scalable solutions
– Potential for social and economic impact

Ultimately, which of these areas will “Move the Needle” when it comes to supporting older adults in Canada, and in AGE-WELL meeting its vision?
CHECK-IN POINT #4

1. Does the concept of “challenge areas” resonate with you (or someone you might know, work with, etc)?
2. What are your thoughts on the initial list of challenge areas that we presented?
3. Do you see technology playing a role in these challenge areas?
4. Will these areas ”move the needle” towards achieving our objectives and vision?
5. Are we missing any? Should any be removed? Can any be combined?

45 Minutes
AGE-WELL 2.0 Core Projects will:

– Focus on leading-edge technology-based solutions to support older adults and caregivers
– Deliver not only the technology but the practice, policy, and service delivery models that are needed for the solution to be effective
– Be user-centred and driven by real-world problems and challenge areas
– Have economic and social impact
– Cross more than one challenge area
We have to examine issues around service delivery, practice, & policy
Core projects will centre at the intersections of these three products.

There can be different “entry” points in these projects— the technology, the service, or the policy/practice.
Why are we changing?

1. To better ground projects in areas that are of key importance for Canada and Canadian seniors and caregivers
2. To push the envelope towards great science and real-world impact
3. To better integrate the projects and their outcomes in terms of the product types that AW is developing
4. To provide more accessible “language” around understanding the goals of our network
5. To support stronger connections and collaborations between challenge areas and projects
From CC Activities to Network Support Units

Objectives

1. To provide projects/Workpackages/Innovation Hubs with agile support in key areas
2. To commission research in key areas that are of importance to the network

Proposed new areas:

- Knowledge Mobilization & Commercialization
- Network-Based Activities
- Policy
- Ethics & Practice
- Evaluation & Impact
- User-Driven Research

These will be Network Management Office (NMO)-led with researcher and partner support
Why are we changing?

1. To provide a more flexible and agile model to the way we support these activities in the network (including research on new best practices in key areas)

2. To better leverage the distributed approach and network built through AGE-WELL 1.0

3. To be able to focus on specific research topics related to developing new best practices in each of these areas

4. To more easily engage network members and partners
CHECK-IN POINT #5

1. What do you think about the new core project structure?
2. Will the new core project structure result in better outcomes?
3. Do you think that the new requirements of the core projects are feasible?
4. Do you think that this new structure will support the active engagement of stakeholders and partners?
5. Will the new CC structure support the activities of the network?

20 Minutes
Innovation Programs

The program will support projects through the different stages in the innovation “pipeline”

These will be 2-year (renewable) projects focusing on one or more of the three AGE-WELL products (tech, service, policy/practice)

Programs will include:

– Catalyst projects
– Strategic Investment Accelerator Program
– Stakeholder-driven projects
– Team development
Why are we changing?

1. To support more projects at different stages of the innovation pipeline
2. To give more time to funded projects to achieve impact
3. To provide opportunities for stakeholders (older adults & caregivers) to receive funding directly from the network
Training Program

Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) are the most significant resource and investment in AGE-WELL.

Our goal is to attract and support the highest quality HQP, and to train the innovators of tomorrow.

The current EPIC program will be expanded to:

- Be more customizable for trainees
- Include a wider range of offerings across more disciplines
- Involve a broader range of stakeholders as "trainees" (e.g. older adults, care providers, industry members)
- Formalize training offerings beyond the network
- Develop an active alumni program
Why are we changing?

1. To better prepare our trainees for future academic and non-academic careers

2. To provide an expanded range of offerings to our HQP

3. To include a more diverse group of HQP in our programs, including stakeholders

4. To develop EPIC into an income generating program of the network
Special Programs

During AGE-WELL 1.0 several programs were developed and established as a specific need arose, which will now be formalized in AGE-WELL 2.0

These will include:

- **International Initiatives Program (IIP) - AAL-JP, International exchanges, and other co-funding opportunities**
- **Partner-Driven Research Program (PDRP) – Projects that are identified, commissioned, and 100% funded by our network partners**
Why are we changing?

1. To formalize existing programs within the current network
2. To establish formal processes and procedures related to these new programs
3. To plan accordingly required funding to support these initiatives
4. To provide additional incentives for partners to join the network
1. What do you think about the changes proposed to these other programs?
2. Will they help to facilitate new partnerships and stakeholder involvement?

10 Minutes
GETTING INVOLVED
Now is the time to get involved in AGE-WELL 2.0
Entry Points into AGE-WELL 2.0

• Apply to the Core Research Program
• Apply to Innovation Programs
• Apply to Special Programs
• Involve students and trainees in EPIC Program
• Be part of the consultative process
• Volunteer to be part of advisory boards
• Participate in research & development projects
• Join as a network partner
AGE-WELL 2.0 Core Research Program

• September 2018 - Open call for new core research projects

• December 2018 - Deadline for proposals

• January to February 2019 - Review of proposals by AGE-WELL Research Management Committee

• March 2019 - Successful projects will be notified and given seed funding for one year

• These projects will be included in the AGE-WELL 2.0 proposal (submitted to NCE June 2019)
What will the Request For Proposals (RFP) entail?

• The RFP will outline the specific requirements for core projects
• This includes:
  • Areas of interests that projects must fit within (e.g. challenge areas)
  • Requirement of a transdisciplinary team with the needed expertise
  • Well-developed KM and/or commercialization plan
  • Strong HQP training involvement
  • Contributions from a minimum of one external partner (cash or in-kind)
  • Specifications for detailed budget and justification
How will proposals be judged?

- Challenge
- Area Fit & Need
- Real-world Impact
- Integration
- Team & Partners
- Overall Challenge Area Integration
Becoming involved as a stakeholder

Stakeholder involvement in all aspects of the network is the cornerstone of AGE-WELL

There are many opportunities for stakeholders to become involved in AGE-WELL (1.0 & 2.0):

- Join a project – we can help with the matchmaking
- Provide consultation on a project
- Sign up to be a study participant
- Provide input and consultation on our renewal process
- Join an AGE-WELL committee
- Volunteer to be a “relevancy” reviewer for received applications
Becoming involved as a partner

Partnerships with industry, community, and government are critical in the success of our projects.

It is a requirement of any project that receives funding from AGE-WELL that a partner is involved and contributing in a meaningful way.

We are currently developing our new Partner Engagement Strategy, and welcome input on what should be involved in order to make AGE-WELL more attractive to current and future partners.
CHECK-IN POINT #7

1. Do you have any specific questions about the upcoming request for proposal?
2. Are there any details that you would like us to include when the RFP is developed and released?
3. Are there other ways that we can engage stakeholders and partners in the RFP?

10 Minutes
Strengthening the AGE-WELL Community

With AGE-WELL 2.0 we will start to put into place drivers, enablers, and actions that will ensure AGE-WELL’s long-term success.

We will focus on AGE-WELL as both an NCE and as a corporate entity—with the latter being critical in the long-term viability of AGE-WELL.

Part of this process is exploring ways to diversify AGE-WELL, its activities, and funding models.
Diversification

AGE-WELL 2.0 will start to focus on new avenues for diversifying the activities of AGE-WELL, but while still maintaining focus on our mission, vision, and values.

We will also start to create “legacy initiatives” that will continue to support Network goals beyond the timeline and scope of the NCE (e.g. Support Units, Innovation Hubs).
CHECK-IN POINT #8

1. Any final questions or comments about today?

2. Are you willing to stay involved in this consultative process? If yes, please email renewal@agewell-nce.ca with your name and contact information.

5 Minutes
THANK YOU

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www.agewell-nce.ca
AGE-WELL National Impact Challenge

Contestants will compete for prizes totalling over $100,000 in cash and in-kind services by showcasing how their solution could positively impact older Canadians or their caregivers.

http://agewell-nce.ca/impact
AGE-WELL Annual Conference
Innovation in Action
October 16 -18, 2018
Sheraton Wall Centre | Vancouver, BC

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Brendan Byrne
Chief Innovation Officer
TELUS Health

www.agewell-nce.ca/AGEWELL2018

Join us for engaging demonstrations and presentations that spotlight real-world solutions to support healthy aging. AGEWELL2018 is open to everyone interested in technology and aging.