



**AGEWELL** ANNUAL CONFERENCE

***From Innovation to Impact:  
Powering Canada's AgeTech Ecosystem***

November 2-4, 2026 | Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

## **Call for Abstracts** **2026 AGE-WELL Annual Conference**

***November 2 - 4 | Ottawa, Ontario, Canada***

Join us for the **2026 AGE-WELL Annual Conference** (#AGEWELL2026) and discover how Canada is driving AgeTech research and innovation worldwide. Showcase your cutting-edge work, connect with a dynamic network of researchers, partners, thought leaders, older adults and caregivers, and the public, and help shape the future of AgeTech.

### **General Information**

The conference will be held **November 2 - 4, 2026 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada**.

- November 2: EPIC Programming / EPIC-AT Annual Meeting / Pre-Conference Events
- November 3-4: AGE-WELL Conference

### **Submission Information**

The theme of this year's conference is ***From Innovation to Impact: Powering Canada's AgeTech Ecosystem***. Applicants are encouraged to submit abstracts that address this theme with a focus on technology-enabled solutions. Solutions in the AGE-WELL context may include a technology itself or a service, policy or practice related to AgeTech.

Abstracts may be submitted for a poster, oral presentation (trainee research blitz, research talk or symposia), workshop, or pre-commercial demo for inclusion in the AGE-WELL "Drinks and Demos" Reception and Showcase. Proposals for posters, research talks and trainee research blitz trainee presentation and workshops must be submitted by **June 5, 2026**. The deadline for symposia

submissions is **June 26, 2026**, reflecting the additional time required to develop and coordinate a cohesive group of presenters and symposium proposal. The instructions for submitting an abstract are detailed in the sections below.

Submitters will be asked to select the AGE-WELL Challenge Area that is best aligned to their abstract content. You can read about AGE-WELL Challenge Areas here: <https://agewell-nce.ca/challenge-areas>. Where multiple Challenge Areas are relevant, please select a *primary* Challenge Area connected to your work.

### **Who May Submit**

Abstract submissions are encouraged from investigators, trainees, and partners from any discipline whose work is focused on AgeTech. Submitters do not need to be current members of AGE-WELL (e.g. funded or affiliate researcher, funded or affiliate highly qualified personnel (HQP), startup affiliate, partner etc.).

A limited number of travel stipends are available to eligible AGE-WELL HQP who are trainees (undergraduate and graduate students or postdoctoral fellows) to present at the conference. Please see **Appendix A** for more information.

Industry, community, academic and non-profit organizations wishing to promote their organizations or exhibit commercial products are referred to the [Sponsorship and Exhibitor Prospectus](#) on the AGE-WELL Conference webpage.

### **Presentation Formats @ AGEWELL2026**

Abstracts may be submitted for the following program streams:

#### **1. Research Talks (Investigators and HQP) Concurrent Programming: November 3-4, 2026**

Research Talks are 10-minute oral presentations. Accepted abstracts will be included in either concurrent or mainstage sessions depending on thematic alignment of received abstracts.

Presentations should include a brief overview of the major points / highlights of a particular research project or program, reporting on work completed. Presenters are encouraged to co-present with a partner, older adult or caregiver involved in their project.

Research talk abstract submissions are not to exceed 250 words. They should include the following information: a) a short statement of the objectives b) method c) results d) conclusions.

#### **Application Deadline: June 5, 2026**

Please contact [conference@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:conference@agewell-nce.ca) for any questions.

#### **2. “Research Blitz” 3-minute presentation (HQP Only) Concurrent Programming: November 3-4, 2026**

Rapid-fire research presentations from highly qualified personnel (HQP). HQP are defined as trainees at all levels (undergraduate, graduate, post-doctoral) and research staff, such as research associates, research assistants, and technicians.

The 3-minute format allows presenters to share the essential aspects of their work and its

significance.

Research blitz abstract submissions are not to exceed 250 words. They should include the following information: a brief overview of the major points / highlights of a particular research project or program, reporting on work completed.

**Application Deadline: June 5, 2026**

Please contact [conference@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:conference@agewell-nce.ca) for any questions.

### 3. Symposia

#### **Concurrent Programming: November 3-4, 2026**

A symposium is a collection of papers/presentations contributed by a group of individuals (typically 3–4 presenters and a Moderator) who address a common theme or research question. Each symposium is 90 minutes in length, with participants delivering presentations relevant to the shared theme. Presentations should include a brief overview of the major points / highlights of a particular research project or program, reporting on work completed.

A recruited and designated Moderator must be named in the abstract submission. The Moderator can be but doesn't have to be one of the presenters. They will be responsible for introducing speakers, timekeeping, facilitating Q&A, and will be expected to provide a brief comment highlighting connections between the presentations and the overall symposia theme. The Moderator should be an experienced facilitator with subject matter expertise and familiarity with the panelists. They must be capable of guiding dynamic discussion, encouraging audience interaction, and managing time effectively throughout the session.

Symposia should reflect the diversity of the AgeTech ecosystem including but not limited to gender and equity, geographic representation, sectoral diversity, and a diversity of perspectives. Proposals are encouraged to include perspectives from across sectors—such as academia, healthcare, industry, community organizations, and policy—to demonstrate interdisciplinary collaboration, and include speakers from a range of career stages, including trainees and Early Career Researchers. Meaningful inclusion of individuals with lived experience as active contributors to the session is strongly encouraged.

Symposia must adhere to one of the following themes:

1. Beyond the Pilot: Pathways to Real-World Adoption of AgeTech
2. Responsible Innovation in Technology and Aging: Ethical Frameworks, Oversight, and Accountability
3. Co-Creation and Community Engagement as Drivers of Innovation
4. Addressing Barriers to Access, Inclusion, and Digital Participation

Symposia abstract submissions are not to exceed 250 words for the overall session description and 250 words per individual presentation abstract (combined into one file). Submissions should clearly articulate the overall objective of the session and explain how each presentation contributes to the broader discussion.

**A limited number of symposia slots are available; priority will be given to proposals that present a well-integrated and compelling program. The Moderator is responsible for collecting individual abstracts and submitting them together as a single file.**

**Application Deadline:** June 26, 2026

Please contact [conference@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:conference@agewell-nce.ca) for any questions.

#### 4. Workshops (1-4)

##### **Concurrent Programming: November 3-4, 2026**

Workshops are designed to engage the audience in learning and/or planning activities and may allow for the demonstration and application of techniques and skills. These are 90-minute sessions allowing for in-depth presentation, interaction and discussion.

Workshop abstract submissions are not to exceed 250 words. They should include the following information: a) title of workshop, b) statement of purpose and objectives, c) workshop format (e.g., interactive process), d) anticipated learning outcomes. Workshops must be interactive.

**Application Deadline:** June 5, 2026

Please contact [conference@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:conference@agewell-nce.ca) for any questions.

#### 5. Poster

##### **Poster Sessions will be scheduled on Nov 3 and 4, 2026**

AGEWELL2026 will feature poster sessions open to all network participants on Tuesday, November 3 and Wednesday, November 4. Only one first-authored poster per person is permitted.

All accepted posters with trainee first authors will be automatically entered into the trainee poster competition; the first author will be required to present their poster during a specified time slot. Please note that in this instance, 'presenting' means to stand beside the poster and be available to respond to questions that may arise from viewers.

The Poster Session is a display presentation. Material is mounted on a poster board, which is staffed by the author (this is mandatory) for a designated period of time. Abstracts must be informational and must report on *work completed*.

Poster abstract submissions are not to exceed 250 words. They should include the following information: a) full author details, b) a short statement of the objectives, c) method, d) results, e) conclusions.

**Application Deadline:** June 5, 2026

Please contact [conference@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:conference@agewell-nce.ca) for any questions.

#### 6. Pre-Commercial Demo @ AGE-WELL Reception and Showcase Evening Reception Nov 2 OR Nov 3

AGEWELL2026 will feature our popular "Drinks & Demos" event. **This demo option is reserved for pre-commercial technologies or knowledge mobilization products such as toolkits, websites, etc.**

Abstracts must not exceed 250 words. and should include a detailed description of the demo and demo set-up (a table and chairs will be provided).

AGEWELL2026 will include an exhibit hall spanning November 2-4 requiring a separate application. Industry, community, academic and non-profit organizations wishing to promote their organizations

or exhibit commercial products are referred to the [Sponsorship and Exhibitor Prospectus](#) available on the AGE-WELL Conference webpage.

**Application Deadline: June 5, 2026**

Please contact [conference@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:conference@agewell-nce.ca) for any questions.

**How to Submit**

Abstracts will be submitted through [AGE-WELL's Oxford Abstracts Portal](#). Applicants must have an Oxford Abstracts account to submit a conference abstract. The steps for accessing AGE-WELL's Oxford Abstracts Portal with or without an existing account are detailed in **Appendix B** of this document.

**Abstract Acceptance**

The abstract author identified as the Presenter in the submission portal will be informed of the status of their submission (accepted/not accepted, presentation type etc.) in Summer 2026.

**All individuals attending the conference will be required to register and pay the registration fee.**

**Questions?**

For more information about the conference, please visit <https://www.agewell-nce.ca/conference>. Questions about conference applications can be directed to [conference@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:conference@agewell-nce.ca).

## APPENDIX A: Trainee Travel Stipend

A limited number of travel stipends (up to \$500 CDN) are available to AGE-WELL member trainees (undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows with full “HQP” status in the AGE-WELL Forum Portal) to apply towards the cost of attending and presenting at *AGEWELL2026*. Stipend funds will be made available via reimbursement post-conference. Receipts for eligible expenses will be required.

If you are not currently an AGE-WELL trainee and would like to become an affiliate member, please email [training@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:training@agewell-nce.ca).

Applications for AGE-WELL trainee travel stipends are available through the conference abstract application module (in the Oxford Abstract Portal).

See the ‘How to Submit’ section above. Travel stipends are not guaranteed due to available funding.

### *Travel Stipend Eligibility:*

- AGE-WELL trainees in good standing with AGE-WELL have signed and returned all required documents and have made progress towards earning the Innovators of Tomorrow Certificate, if required for their stream.
- AGE-WELL trainees receiving a stipend to attend must present a poster, oral presentation (3- or 10-minute), or pre-commercial demo at the AGE-WELL Conference.

### *Eligible Expenses:*

- Return economy class airfare or ground transportation, including baggage fees.
- Accommodation.
- Food and non-alcoholic beverages.

Please note that conference registration is *not* an eligible expense for the travel stipend.

## **APPENDIX B: How to Access AGE-WELL's Oxford Abstracts Portal to Submit Conference Abstracts**

You can access the 2026 AGE-WELL Conference Abstract Submission Form by [clicking here](#).

When you arrive at the Oxford Abstracts submission page, you will be prompted to create a login. Please follow the steps to create an Oxford Abstracts account. By creating an account, you will have the opportunity to create, edit, and track your abstract after submission.

\*If you already have a login, please feel free to use your existing login to proceed to the submission form.

Once you are logged in you will be redirected to the AGE-WELL Annual Conference Abstract Submission page. (If redirection does not occur, simply stay logged in and return to this page to access the link a second time.)

Please ensure you enter accurate information into all applicable fields. The abstract title and abstract will be printed in the program as entered. Please do not use all caps in the title or abstract.

You have the option to save progress and return to edit your abstract submission up to the point of submission. Once you submit, your abstract will be considered complete and cannot be edited further. Your submission will not be considered until it is submitted. so ensure you do so before the submission deadlines: **June 5, 2026 (posters, talks, blitzes, demos, workshops)** and **Jun 26, 2026 (symposia)**.

If you would like to submit multiple abstracts (i.e. for a Research Blitz presentation and a Poster) you will need to submit two separate abstracts, one for each category of submission.

You should receive a confirmation when you submit your abstract. If you do not receive a confirmation, please check your 'spam' folders or contact us at [conference@agewell-nce.ca](mailto:conference@agewell-nce.ca).