



Welcome to CFN's newsletter, keeping the Canadian Frailty Network community up-to-date on news, events and funding developments, and other information on improving care for frail older Canadians.

## It's Possible: CFN 2015-16 Annual Report

**CFN** has just published its [2015-16 Annual Report](#). The report celebrates how the collective efforts of a CFN community of more than 3,500 stakeholders will make system change and improved care for older frail citizens "possible". Achievements from the fiscal year and cumulative successes were highlighted, among these: the name change to Canadian Frailty Network better reflecting our mission to advance interventions to improve the care of the frail; the great breadth of our research investments involving 88 projects, which will inform and advance the full continuum of care; citizen engagement being embedded into every aspect of CFN; and over 300 of the next generation of scholars, researchers and health and social care professionals enrolled in our Interdisciplinary Training Program.



The CFN annual report provides an overview of the full spectrum of Network activity. We encourage all with an interest in the care Canada's older frail citizens to read, and share this document to continue building awareness and potential collaborations.

## Network renewal application to the NCE: a transformative plan for Canada presented

The next phase of CFN's mission to transform care for older frail Canadians was tabled as part of the rigorous renewal application process for the next five-year Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) funding cycle.

CFN's five-book proposal was submitted to the NCE June 30, followed by an all-day meeting with the NCE's Expert Panel of impartial international experts in July, and a final presentation to the NCE Standing Selection Committee in September. The NCE Steering Committee is now undertaking the final review and is expected to make a public announcement on renewal in early December.

CFN presented a very strong track record of achievement for the first term, which included excellent foundational research, knowledge translation and HQP training. With more than \$30 million in partner contributions, the research program for the second term will focus on transformative grants and partnered research to support broader and more aggressive

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Canadian Frailty Network (CFN) is a not-for-profit organization focussed on frailty, funded in 2012 by the Government of Canada's Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) program and hosted by Queen's University and Kingston General Hospital.



NCE RCE

CFN's mandate is to improve the care of frail older Canadians and their families within the Canadian healthcare system by supporting and catalyzing original research and innovations to advance intervention with real potential to improve assessment and treatment of frailty across all settings of care, including advance care planning and end-of-life care. We also train and support the next generation of healthcare professionals and scientists.

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knowledge transfer exploitation and exchange (KTEE), honing in on systematic identification of frailty and developing a pan-Canadian strategy. These principles/strategies will also drive the growth of our HQP programming and citizen engagement.

The renewal application process was a year-long team effort, and the collaborative strength of CFN involving contributions from so many network stakeholders was at the heart of a very strong proposal and presentations.

The CFN team that presented to the Expert Panel included:

**John Muscedere**, CFN Scientific Director and CEO  
**Russell Williams**, CFN Board Chair, and **Steven Liss**, CFN Board Member  
**Jayna Holroyd-Leduc**, CFN Knowledge Translation Committee Chair  
**Denise Stockley**, CFN Education & Training Committee Chair

**John You**, **Paul Hébert**, and **Marilyn Macdonald**, CFN Theme Leads; **John Hirdes**, CFN Network Investigator  
**Stephen Samis**, CFN Partner (CFHI)  
**Jacobi Elliott**, CFN Interdisciplinary Fellow and Member, CFN Citizen Engagement Committee  
**Carol Barrie**, CFN Executive Director and COO

Of course, extensive review of the proposal and presentations occurred, led by members of the CFN Research Management and other committee members, and volunteer reviewers from outside the Network. A “red team” panel (independent group of experts) was also convened to duplicate the NCE Expert Panel experience, providing our presenters with evaluation, question preparation and to identify areas of improvement in the renewal application prior to submission. CFN appreciates the volunteer efforts of the “red team” panelists:

**Susan Marlin**, President & CEO, Clinical Trials Ontario (Chair)  
**David Hogan**, Brenda Strafford Foundation Chair in Geriatric Medicine, University of Calgary  
**Karina McInnis**, Executive Director, University Research Services, Queen’s University

**David Phipps**, Executive Director - Research & Innovation Services, York University  
**Anthony Tang**, MD, Scientific Director, Canadian Arrhythmia Network  
**Bill Tholl**, President & CEO, HealthCareCAN  
**Ross Upshur**, MD, Scientific Director, Bridgepoint Health

*We are very grateful to all for your efforts on behalf of Canada’s older frail citizens.*

## Keep informed and connect with CFN ...

[Click here](#) for upcoming webinars in the CFN Frailty Webinar Series.

Follow us on [Twitter](#) (@CFN\_NCE) and connect via [LinkedIn](#)



## CFN goes to the Hill ...

The non-partisan parliamentary [Health Research Caucus](#), with Research Canada, holds events to foster relationships and understanding among Canada’s elected officials and policy makers, regarding the value of Canadian health research as a catalyst to improve health and generate economic benefit.

Recognizing the prevalence of frailty among older adults in Canada, and the impact on Canadian healthcare systems, the Health Research Caucus this year elected to hold an event on frailty and older Canadians. Research Canada subsequently invited CFN to co-host this event, as the only organization in Canada completely devoted to this vulnerable population.

Research Canada expects this to be a sold-out event, and the number of committed sponsors is three times the normal number.

Attendance is by invitation only, and invitations go to all MPs and Senators and their senior staff, as well as Deputy Ministers. To improve visibility and accessibility for MPs, the event will be held in the Speaker’s Lounge in the Centre Block on Parliament Hill. The event is a reception where parliamentarians have an opportunity to visit the various kiosks and speak one-on-one with researchers.

CFN has worked with Research Canada and the Caucus to develop a themed program and to identify leading frailty researchers, and we are gratified to have so many CFN Network investigators, authors and committee members among them.

For more information on the program and speakers, check out the Research Canada website:

[Frailty among the Aged in Canada will be held: Monday, October 24, 2016 from 3:30 to 6:30 pm ET.](#)

# CFN National Frailty Forum

In June 2015, for the first time in Canada, CFN gathered researchers, members of the public, clinicians, policy-leaders, NGOs, industry leaders, healthcare administrators, HQP and international healthcare professionals to catalyze the development of a national strategy on frailty.

As a result of the initial Forum, a landmark paper was published in the Canadian Journal on Aging – ([CJA DOI:10.1017/S0714980816000301](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0714980816000301)). The open-access paper articulates the rationale, possible strategies and potential pitfalls for the systematic implementation of frailty assessment within the Canadian healthcare system.

Five multi-disciplinary working groups were also struck to consider many of the frailty assessment tools and the various policy and care implications of frailty assessment.

## Working Groups and Co-Leads:

### Identification of frailty for improved advance care planning and end-of-life care

- James Downar, University of Toronto
- John You, McMaster University

### Social and Societal Implications of frailty

- Melissa Andrew, Dalhousie University

### Tools for evidence-based frailty screening

- John Hirdes, University of Waterloo
- Darryl Rolfsen, University of Alberta

### Ethical and legal implications of frailty

- Mary McNally, Dalhousie University
- William Lahey, Dalhousie University

### Health policy and economic implications of frailty screening

- Bill Tholl, HealthCareCAN
- Jennifer Kitts, HealthCareCAN

The second National Forum was held May 12-13, 2016, and the outcomes of the deliberations of these groups were presented for feedback, as part of panels including government officials, representatives of national groups like the CMA, CIHI and CFHI, and, of course, citizens and caregivers. Forum attendees also were fortunate to hear from keynote speakers André Picard, Health and Public Policy Reporter and Columnist, The Globe and Mail; Hazel McCallion, Chancellor, Sheridan College and Former Mississauga Mayor; and The Hon. Hugh D. Segal, CM, Master, Massey College.

The papers from the working groups will be published in a special supplement to the Canadian Journal of Aging.



Another outcome of the Fora has been outreach profiling frailty health screening and related issues with healthcare leadership across the country, including government, healthcare and other organizations:

- the CFN Scientific Director and Board Chair have met with provincial and federal health ministry leaders across the country;
- op-eds have appeared in national publications;
- CFN representatives have spoken or are scheduled to speak on the topic at numerous conferences such as the Hill-Times *Innovation in Seniors Care Forum*, the OHA *Senior Friendly Care: Action and Beyond* conference, the CIHI *Focus on Seniors and Health System Performance* webinar series;
- CFN contributed to a joint submission to federal government consultations on Canada's Innovations Agenda: [Making the case for the NCE program in Canada's Innovation Agenda](#)

## Ensuring a more equitable healthcare system: addressing the needs of Canada's frail older adults

Canadian Frailty Network (CFN) recently submitted a brief to the federal Finance Committee 2017 pre-budget consultations.

Frailty is a common yet under-recognized health state associated with functional decline, multiple health problems, cognitive impairment and poorer health outcomes in late life. At present, there is little evidence to guide the care of our frail elderly population – estimated at over 1.2 million – and it is unknown if current therapies are beneficial, cause harm, are cost-effective or waste scarce healthcare resources. Of the \$220 billion spent on healthcare per year in Canada, 45% is spent on those over 65 years, although they account for only 15% of the population,

and 20% of all healthcare costs occur in the last year of life; the majority in those with multiple medical conditions and frailty.

We believe that age and frailty should be incorporated into federal healthcare funding models, and that by implementing standardized *case finding* frailty assessment in the healthcare system and producing evidence-based interventions and practices, true socioeconomic benefit to Canadians will result including improved quality of life and more efficient healthcare resource utilization.

[Click here to read our submission and learn more about frailty assessment.](#)



# Citizen engagement = enhanced quality in all we do

**C**anadian Frailty Network values the meaningful and appropriate involvement of citizens (patients and their family and friend caregivers, as well as the interested general public) in research, policy and program development, from agenda setting and planning to decision making, implementation and review. We believe – and evidence suggests – that when citizens are engaged in decision making, it improves the patient experience, contributes to more cost-effective services and enhances the overall quality of our health and social care systems.

In 2014, the CFN Board of Directors struck a working group to look at citizen engagement within the Network. This group developed a policy which was adopted by the Board in December 2014, and the group transitioned to a formal advisory committee reporting to the Scientific Director and CEO.



Joyce Resin

Chaired by Board member Joyce Resin, the mandate of the [Citizen Engagement Committee](#) is to assist CFN in ensuring patients and family/friend caregivers, as well as the broader community, are involved in CFN strategic and operations planning, and in improving the patient and caregiver experience in the work CFN undertakes and funds. This includes citizens participating on the CFN Board of Directors, Research Management Committee, and most advisory committees; and in all CFN-funded research or KT projects, in a meaningful way, as knowledge users.

**Committee members are listed below; [click here to review their bios.](#)**

**Angus Campbell**, Executive Director, Caregivers Nova Scotia

**Kelly Kay**, Executive Director, Seniors Care Network

**Joyce Resin** (Chair), Public Engagement Consultant and Member, CFN Board of Directors

**Jacobi Elliott**, University of Waterloo and CFN Interdisciplinary Fellow

**Barb MacLean**, Executive Director, Family Caregivers of British Columbia

**Kelli Stajduhar**, Associate Professor and Associate Director, Research and Scholarship, School of Nursing; Research Affiliate and faculty member at the Centre on Aging (COAG), University of Victoria

**Jerold Hodge**, Seniors Patient Advisor with the Mid-West Toronto Health Link

**Alies Maybee**, Public Consultant; SPOR Team Lead and Patient Advisor, Patients Canada

## **Giving Voice to Older Canadians Living with Frailty**

At the 2015 National Conference, CFN hosted a world-café style participatory meeting of 60 citizens, citizen advocacy representatives, researchers, healthcare professionals, policy makers and industry partners. Participants explored and voted on a range of topics and strategies for engaging frail elderly Canadians and their caregivers in research, healthcare decision making and policy setting. A discussion paper produced from the meeting was published in Research Involvement and Engagement, [Giving voice to frail elderly Canadians: Engaging frail elderly Canadians in research, healthcare settings \(2016 2:23//DOI: 10.1186/s40900-016-0038-7\)](#).

## **Education and Training**

CFN has made Citizen Engagement a module within its unique Interdisciplinary Training Program and a requirement for all program participants. Dr. Jacobi Elliott, a CFN Interdisciplinary Fellow and member of the CFN Citizen Engagement Committee, worked with CFN to develop and deliver a presentation providing a broad overview of citizen engagement with a focus on frail older Canadians, in addition to a series of case studies. A similar module is also being developed for researchers and knowledge users involved in research and knowledge translation initiatives. CFN Interdisciplinary Fellows interact with a Patient or Family/Friend Caregiver Mentor during their fellowships, and recruitment and training materials are being developed for mentors.

The Citizen Engagement Committee is also working on developing a set of guidelines for lay summaries. The creation of these guidelines will aid in communicating research and other healthcare related material to a broader audience, thus helping engage citizens and the general public.

## **Research Priority Setting**

CFN held a Research Priority Setting Process Competition in 2015-16 and awarded a directed services contract in an effort to determine patient-centred research priorities relating to healthcare of frail older Canadians. This will be done through a consultative process aligned with the James Lind Process that calls for equal input from the perspectives of frail older adults and their caregivers, as well as clinicians and allied health professionals. Dr. Katherine McGilton and Dr. Martine Puts from the University of Toronto are the project leads for this work. Results are expected in June of 2017.

**We are certain that our commitment to citizen engagement throughout the work we do and fund, will result in more relevant research, improvement in the design of the research to address ethical and social concerns, improvement in the dissemination of our research findings and therefore, will increase the likelihood that it will make a difference in policy and practice to improve the lives of frail older Canadians.**

## Interdisciplinary Fellowship Online Collaborative Projects

A key component of the CFN Interdisciplinary Fellowship Program is the Online Collaborative Project. Fellows collaborate to identify and minimize barriers to the effective, ethical, and economically viable care of frail older adults. The goal is to cross-pollinate research, knowledge translation, policy, and mobilization efforts across disciplines. The project also prepares Fellows with the proclivity and skills to make ethical and equitable interdisciplinary decisions about practice, policy, prevention, and advocacy.

An example of our successful collaborations involved:

**Arne Stinchcombe** (Fellowship under supervision of Michel Bédard, University of Ottawa)

**Joseph Enright** (Fellowship under supervision of Megan O'Connell, University of Saskatchewan)

**Katherine Kortés-Miller** (Fellowship under supervision of Mary Lou Kelley, Lakehead University)

**Kimberly Wilson** (Fellowship under supervision of Carla Rice, University of Guelph)

The team collaborated to explore the experience of aging for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) older adults. In particular, the group examined literature to explore the current state of research on LGBT aging in the areas of sexuality and dementia within the context of long-term care. Despite a paucity of literature on the topic they found it is clear that older LGBT adults, with or without dementia, face numerous forms of discrimination and obstacles to quality

care from multiple fronts. They further explored the layers of stigma which serve to further marginalize this vulnerable group, presenting challenges which negatively impact their sexual rights and quality of life in long-term care.

This project generated a publication and presentation at a key conference:

- Wilson, K., Stinchcombe, A., Kortés-Miller, K. & Enright, J. (in press). Support Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Older Adults in the Health and Social Environment. *Counselling and Spirituality*.
- Enright, J., Stinchcombe, A., Kortés-Miller, K., Wilson, K. (2015). *Sexuality and intimacy in long-term care (LTC): considering the needs of LGBT residents with dementia*. 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Summit of the Knowledge Network in Rural and Remote Dementia Care (October 27-28). Saskatoon, SK.

Drs. Stinchcombe, Wilson and Kortés-Miller have since expanded this work and have submitted two articles for peer-reviewed publication and will be presenting at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America (November 16-20, 2016) in New Orleans, LA., having received the [Honourable Sharon Carstairs Bursary](#) from CFN to attend.

These emerging investigators also leveraged their CFN fellowship funding by obtaining two grants for further research delving into this area: a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Development Grant, and funding from the Law Commission of Ontario.

## Around the Network ...

### CFN welcomes Dr. Fabian Lim to the International Scientific Advisory Committee



Fabian C.L. Lim is Associate Professor of Exercise Physiology in the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Nanyang Technological University. He is also Principal Investigator with the Exercise Physiology Laboratory, which conducts translational research by bridging the gap

between basic science and applied research at the integrative biology level, i.e. human as a whole organism.

Previously, Professor Lim was the founding Executive Director at the Singapore Sport Institute, and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Department of Physiology, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore. After graduating from the Universities of Oregon and Queensland, he spent 20 years in Exercise Physiology Research to enhance health, safety and performance of military personnel at DSO National Labs.

[Click here](#) to find out more about Dr. Lim and the other members of our International Scientific Advisory Committee.

### Congratulations to CFN Board Member Sharon Straus!



Sharon was recently named to The College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists by the Royal Society of Canada. She is Director of the Knowledge Translation (KT) Program at the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, as well as Deputy Physician-in-Chief of St. Michael's,

and Vice Chair, Medicine (Mentorship, Equity, Diversity) and the Division Director for Geriatric Medicine at the University of Toronto. Dr. Straus also holds a position on the CFN Board of Directors, as well as a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Knowledge Translation and Quality of Care.

In bestowing this honour upon Dr. Straus, The Royal Society of Canada cited her well-deserved international reputation and her standing as an outstanding Canadian health researcher and leader in the field of knowledge translation science, creating bridges between current best evidence about health problems and the quality of health care that people actually receive.

This year's cohort will be presented to the Society on November 18 in Kingston. [Click here](#) to view more on Dr. Straus, and other members of CFN's Board of Directors.

## Honouring Duncan Sinclair, CFN Board Member

The Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts at Queen's University was filled on September 26 to hear the guest lecturer for this year's Duncan G. Sinclair Lectureship in Health Services and Policy Research, Canada's Minister of Health, the Honourable Jane Philpott.



Minister Philpott's lecture touched on a wide range of health policy topics – such as the relevance of the Canada Health Act, affordability and accessibility to pharmaceuticals and palliative home care, mental health, and home care.

In an interview after the event she cited the three most pressing issues facing health care policy today as being indigenous health, fragmentation in the healthcare system, and the aging population, in particular how to keep the system sustainable as our population ages.



This was the sixth edition of the lectureship, which recognizes the contributions and interest in health policy of CFN Board Member Dr. Duncan G. Sinclair.

Dr. Sinclair is an emeritus Professor of Physiology and Fellow of the School of Policy Studies of Queen's University, and Former Vice-Principal (Health Sciences) and Past Dean, Faculty of Medicine at Queen's, where he was the first non-MD to serve as a Dean of Medicine in Canada.

Dr. Sinclair has also contributed widely beyond the confines of academe, and his astute and pragmatic leadership has often been called upon in healthcare reform in Ontario, and nationally. In Ontario, he served on the Ministry of Health's Steering Committee for review of the Public Hospitals Act, was a member of the Premier's Council on Health, Well-Being and Social Justice, and as chair of the Health Services Restructuring Commission (HSRC) of Ontario from 1996 until its sunset in 2000, his diplomatic leadership led to a re-defined health system in Ontario. Nationally, Dr. Sinclair was a member of the National Forum on Health, and served as the founding Chair and acting CEO of Canada Health Infoway.

## CFN partners with CIHR and Queen's University to host 2016 Summer Program in Aging

The Summer Program in Aging (SPA) is the CIHR Institute of Aging's flagship training program for graduate students. SPA has been held annually in sites across Canada since 2006, and Queen's University and Canadian Frailty Network were delighted to partner with CIHR to host the 10th anniversary Summer Program in Aging.



The Summer Program in Aging 2016 focused on the theme of Recognizing Frailty and Improving Care, aiming to build knowledge and capacity in the field of frailty research.

SPA 2016 built knowledge and capacity by offering trainees the opportunity to network with one another, to learn about the issue of frailty, and to develop new skills pertinent to their academic or professional success. [Click here to meet the trainees.](#)

Over the five days, trainees participated in interactive learning sessions and small group sessions with mentors, and benefitted from lectures by speakers from a range of academic, private, government and not-for-profit organizations. [Click here to view the expert presentations.](#)

Trainees also interacted with senior researchers and decision makers from government and industry as guests at a dinner hosted by Canadian Frailty Network as part of its 2016 National Forum, featuring keynote speaker André Picard, health and public policy reporter and columnist at The Globe and Mail, and after-dinner speaker Hazel McCallion, the retired nonagenarian mayor of Mississauga and Chancellor of Sheridan College.

## Expanded Research/KT on CFN Website

We recently undertook a revamp of the research evidence on our website. Now enhanced information is available on each of the 88 CFN-funded projects, ranging from the project team to publications, and targeting our various audiences. As studies are completed and results are available, researchers can delve into the project objectives and study methodology, care providers can view evidence-based results that can influence care plans, and older adults and their families can view results addressing conditions they deal with on a daily basis. We invite you to take a look at our [funded projects](#), as well as the [principal investigators](#) who have undertaken them.

**Keep informed and connect with CFN ...**

[Click here](#) for upcoming webinars in the CFN Frailty Webinar Series.

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## In other news ...

### Government of Canada seeks your views on caregiving

The federal Employment Insurance (EI) program helps Canadians during major milestones throughout their working life. The Government has stated a commitment improving the EI program so that it is better aligned with today's labour market realities and is responsive to the needs of Canadian workers and employers.

An issue currently being examined is the introduction of more inclusive caregiving benefits for Canadians who provide care to a family member. The Government is consulting with Canadians between October 6 and November 4, 2016, to gather their thoughts on what is important to them and how they could benefit from additional support. [Click here to share your views.](#)

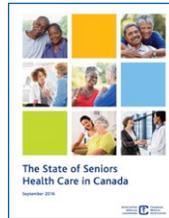


### A Month of Action: Oct. 8 to Nov. 10

CHPCA (Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association) is asking Canadians to advocate for quality hospice palliative care at their local, regional and national levels and act as champions for end-of-life care in Canada!

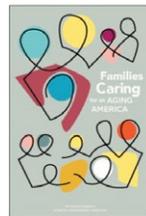
[Check out their website](#) to become a HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE CHAMPION, and become part of a movement to promote better access to hospice palliative care and the palliative approach to primary care; support for caregivers; research, training and education; and advance care planning.

### Two new reports on caring for older adults released this month



"[The State of Seniors Health Care in Canada](#)", produced by the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), highlights inequities of care across the country, showing that where a senior lives is the biggest factor that determines their ability to get timely access to quality health care. The federal government

has committed to signing a new Health Accord with provincial and territorial governments. In the [CMA's 16th Annual National Report Card](#) on Healthcare, 84 per cent of those surveyed identified a strategy for seniors' health as the top funding priority for a new accord.



The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine recently released a report entitled Families Caring for an Aging America, which provides an overview of family caregiving of older adults, and its personal impact on the caregivers' health, economic security and well-being. The report was

compiled by an expert committee with the goal of finding out more about family caregivers of older adults in the U.S., as well as addressing their needs and aiming to minimize the obstacles they encounter. Download the report [here](#).

## Register now for upcoming CFN webinars

**Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at noon ET:**

**Clinical trial of in-bed cycling in elderly, mechanically-ventilated patients (E-CYCLE)**

Michelle Kho, McMaster University

**Wednesday, November 30, 2016 at noon ET:**

**Improve decision making involving frail elderly and caregivers on location of care**

France Légaré, Laval University

**Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at noon ET:**

**Piloting of volunteer & healthcare provider partnership to provide navigation for rural, frail older adults**

Wendy Duggleby, University of Alberta,  
Barbara Pesut, University of British Columbia

*CFN's webinar series is a bi-monthly forum where leading Canadian and international experts share research and insights on advancements in assessing and caring for frail older adults.*

# Opportunities

## CIHR launches Patient-Oriented Research Collaboration Grants.

### Applications due December 13, 2016. [View the full funding opportunity.](#)

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is pleased to announce the launch of the [Patient-Oriented Research Collaboration Grants](#). The objective of this funding opportunity is to catalyze research that aligns with the [SPOR Capacity Development Framework](#) and the [SPOR Patient Engagement Framework](#) by:

- Building capacity in Canada's health system for patient-oriented research through projects conducted by integrated teams; and,
- Increasing the number of clinician scientists meaningfully involved in patient-oriented research by integrating them in patient-oriented research teams.

The deadline for applications is December 13, 2016. For more information, please see the [funding opportunity page](#).

## Canadian Harkness Fellowships

### Applications due November 14, 2016.

The Canadian Harkness Fellowship Award enables talented Canadians to participate in the [Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice](#), a core program of The Commonwealth Fund's International Program in Health Policy and Innovation.

The Commonwealth Fund, in collaboration with the Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement (CFHI), offers a unique opportunity for promising mid-career professionals — academic researchers, government policy-makers, clinical leaders, senior hospital managers and journalists -- to spend a year in the United States to study healthcare delivery system reforms and critical issues on the health policy agenda in both the U.S. and Canada. [Learn more about the Canadian Harkness Fellowship Program.](#)

## POSTER ABSTRACT DEADLINES

**October 21, 2016** – Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association and the Gerontological Nursing Association of Ontario – 19<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the CGNA: *Shaping Healthcare for those who Shaped Canada*. Ottawa – May 4-6, 2017. [Call for abstracts.](#)

**October 28, 2016** – CADTH Symposium – *What does the evidence say? Measuring value in theory and the real world*. Ottawa: April 23-25, 2017. [Call for abstracts.](#)

**October 31, 2016** – National Health Leadership Conference (Canadian College of Health Leaders + Canadian Healthcare Association). Vancouver: June 12-13, 2017. [Call for abstracts.](#)

**November 1, 2016** – Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Annual Conference – *Honouring our past. Shaping our future*. Charlottetown: June 21-24, 2017. [Call for abstracts.](#)

**December 12, 2016** – International Conference on Frailty and Sarcopenia Research. Barcelona, Spain: April 27-28, 2017. [Call for abstracts.](#)

## Job Posting: Tier 1 Canada Research Chair with SFU Gerontology

Simon Fraser University Gerontology has an opening for a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Aging and Health funded by CIHR. The deadline for applications is October 15, 2016. Screening of applicants will commence on November 1, 2016. The search will remain open until the position is filled. [Click here to read the full job posting.](#)

## Council of Canadian Academies – Board of Governors

The Council of Canadian Academies (CCA) is a not for profit organization supporting evidence based, expert assessments to inform public policy development in Canada. Further details about the organization and its activities can be found on its [website](#).

The Government of Canada can nominate four candidates to the Board of Governors, and applications are currently sought from diverse and talented Canadians from across the country. For more information, [please click here](#). Interested candidates should apply by **October 14, 2016** to the following email address: [ic.cca\\_secretariat\\_secretariat\\_du\\_cac.ic@canada.ca](mailto:ic.cca_secretariat_secretariat_du_cac.ic@canada.ca).

**Have an event or a competition you'd like to promote?**

Submit your details online: <http://www.cfn-nce.ca/stay-in-touch/promote-your-event/>

# Upcoming events

- **October 18-21, 2016 – Montreal:** [21<sup>st</sup> International Congress on Palliative Care](#).
- **October 19-20, 2016 – Montreal:** [Research Centre on Aging \(CDRV\) International Symposium](#) – *Biology of Aging: Paving the way for healthy aging*
- **October 20, 2016 – Toronto:** Health Quality Transformation Presents: Quality Matters 2016
- **October 20-22, 2016 – Montreal:** [Canadian Association on Gerontology \(CAG\) Annual Scientific & Educational Meeting](#) – *Fostering Innovation in Research on Aging*
- **October 21-23, 2016 – Toronto:** [Ontario Long Term Care Clinicians \(OLTCC\) & Long Term Care Medical Directors Association of Canada \(LTCMDAC\) 2016 Conference](#): *Controversies in Long Term Care*
- **October 24, 2016 – Sudbury (Webinar):** [15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Canadian Rural Health Research Society](#) (mini-conference via webinar)
- **October 24-25, 2016 – Edmonton:** Canadian Health Information Management Association (CHIMA) [HIM by the Book: Turning the Page on Data Quality and Integrity, Standards and Governance](#)
- **October 25-27, 2016 – Vancouver:** [Canadian Home Care Association \(CHCA\) – 2016 Home Care Summit](#)
- **October 30 – November 2, 2016 – Toronto:** [Critical Care Canada Forum 2016](#)  
The Critical Care Canada Forum is a 3-day conference focusing on topics relevant to those involved with the care of critically ill patients, wherever the patients are located. **Canadian Frailty Network is pleased to present a new stream focused on Frailty. CFN Scientific Director and CEO, Dr. John Muscedere, will also speak on *Frailty: Pathobiology and Implications in the ICU – Are chronic critical illness and frailty the same?* (Morning of Tuesday, November 1, 2016)**
- **Tuesday, November 1, 2016 (1:30 to 3:30 pm ET) – CIHI webinar:** **Seniors Health Care: Setting the Context and Prioritizing Areas for Improvement**  
CIHI (Canadian Institute for Health Information) is offering a three-part webinar series: *A Focus on seniors and Health System Performance*. **Canadian Frailty Network Scientific Director and CEO, Dr. John Muscedere, will speak at the first webinar.** The first webinar will provide an overview of issues in seniors care in the current Canadian healthcare system and consider the emerging challenges. It will highlight what is required to better understand and support the needs of different senior populations, and explore how conceptual frameworks can be used to look at issues from a health system perspective. Subsequent series webinars: Dec. 1, 2016 and early 2017. [Register here \(log-in required\)](#).
- **November 7-9, 2016 – Ottawa:** [Palliative Care Matters Consensus Development Conference](#).  
The Conference is phase two of a three-part initiative, with a goal of developing a consensus statement on palliative care. Co-chaired by **CFN Board Member Fred Horne, former Alberta Minister of Health**, and Karen Macmillan, Covenant Health Senior Operating Officer, the conference brings together the public with experts and Canada's leading national health organizations.
- **November 9-12, 2016 – Vancouver:** [The College of Family Physicians of Canada Family Medicine Forum](#)
- **November 16-17, 2016 – Toronto:** [2016 Infoway Partnership Conference](#): A Conversation About Digital Health
- **November 23-25, 2016 – Toronto:** [Ontario Long-Term Care Association \(OLTCA\) Conference](#): *This is Long Term Care*
- **November 24-25, 2016 – Toronto:** [Ryerson University National Institute on Aging Conference](#): *Re-Thinking Ageing 2016*
- **January 25-28, 2017 – Winnipeg:** [Canadian Nursing Students' Association \(CNSA\) 2017 National Conference](#): *Celebrating diversity – breaking barriers through the exploration of cultural safety*
- **April 20-22, 2017 – Toronto:** [Canadian Geriatrics Society 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting](#)

**Save the date:**

**Canadian Frailty Network Annual Conference / Toronto: April 23-25, 2017**

- **July 23-27, 2017 – San Francisco:** [International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics World Congress](#): *Global Aging and Health: Bridging Science, Policy, and Practice*.  
The IAGG is the largest worldwide conference on aging, with over 6,000 attendees expected. **Canadian Frailty Network Scientific Director Dr. John Muscedere, together with international Network partners, will be presenting a pre-conference workshop on July 22, 2017 (1 to 5 pm) on *Implementation of Frailty Screening in Health Systems*.**



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