

ANNUAL SUMMARY

2022-2023



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3 ----- **About Us**
- 4 ----- **Vision, Mission & Values**
- 5 ----- **APPTA Framework**
- 6 ----- **Our Team**
- 7 ----- **Our Priorities**
- 8 ----- **Elder Abuse Task Force**
- 9 ----- **Policy Rounds**
- 10 ----- **Academic Publications**
- 11 ----- **Research Roundups**
- 12 ----- **Visions for Change**
- 13 ----- **Policy Challenge Testimonials**
- 14 ----- **Partnerships**
- 15 ----- **Thank you**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



AGE-WELL NCE is a federally-funded Network of Centres of Excellence established in 2015 to support Canadian research and innovation in the area of technology and aging. AGE-WELL is dedicated to the development and delivery of technologies, services and policies/practices that benefit older adults and caregivers. Its aim is to help older Canadians maintain their independence, health and quality of life through technology-based solutions that increase their safety and security, support their independent living, and enhance their social participation.

New Brunswick
Health Research
Foundation



Fondation de la
recherche en santé
du Nouveau-Brunswick

The New Brunswick Health Research Foundation (NBHRF) was created in July 2008 with a mandate to co-ordinate, support and promote health research in New Brunswick. The long-term vision of NBHRF is to provide leadership and support to enhance New Brunswick's health research capacity and competitiveness. This will ultimately lead to a healthier population through economic development opportunities and improvements in health policy and the health services delivery system.

ABOUT US

Launched in 2017 with a single goal in mind, the AGE-WELL National Innovation Hub Advancing Policies and Practices in Technology and Aging (APPTA) is putting innovative aging and technology research into the hands of the people who can use it. It takes on average 17 years for research to be translated into action. By bringing together a dynamic team of young professionals to support an integrated network in research, policy, and innovation, APPTA aims to bridge that gap and mobilize aging and technology research in ways that can improve the lives of older Canadians.





VISION

To drive policy innovation that improves the future of aging in Canada.



MISSION

APPTA aims to advance evidence-informed decision-making that positively impacts the lives of older Canadians by mobilizing the power of research & technology, collaboration, and innovation.



VALUES

There is always a way to do it better.

APPTA translates quality aging and technology research into actionable policy options for the federal, provincial, and territorial governments of Canada. Our efforts are aimed at ensuring the best and latest evidence is informing policy decision-making that impacts the lives of older Canadians.



We go further when we work together.

APPTA takes a connectivity approach to complex challenges in aging, bringing people together from east to west, north to south, to share their best ideas and work collectively on potential solutions that will benefit older Canadians.

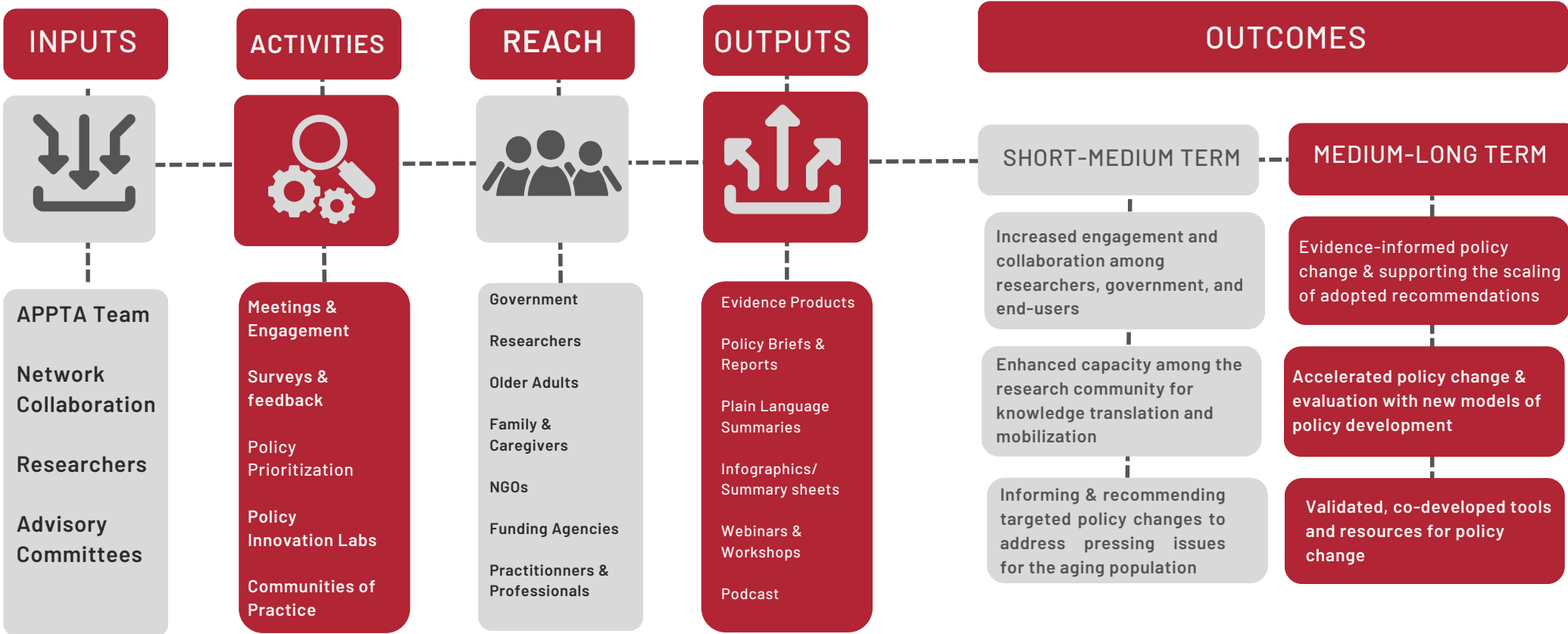


Everyone has the potential to innovate.

APPTA offers a suite of education programs and learning opportunities that are designed to build the knowledge translation skills needed to bring great ideas to fruition.

ADVANCING POLICY AND PRACTICE IN TECHNOLOGY AND AGING FRAMEWORK

A Logic Model



OUR TEAM



DR. DANIEL DUTTON
SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR



NORMA CHINHO
KNOWLEDGE BROKER



JENNA RODDICK
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS



PATRICK PATTERSON
KNOWLEDGE BROKER



DANIEL SMILEY
RESEARCH & LOGISTICS SPECIALIST



CASSY HEMPHILL
COMMUNICATIONS AND
ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR



ENOBONG UDOFA
PROJECT COORDINATOR



Our Priorities

We have maintained our five broad policy priorities where research evidence has the potential to influence innovative practices and inform the work of jurisdictions. We aim to identify and engage with researchers and subject matter experts in the fields of interest to collaborate on evidence products for our network.

- 
- Integration of virtual care mechanisms along the care continuum**
 - Facilitators of social isolation and loneliness**
 - Investments in assistive technology**
 - Stabilizing the health care workforce**
 - Alternative housing and care models to enable aging in place**

A Task Force to understand and bring light to issues of abuse toward older adults

This year, we established a task force of prevention networks, advocacy organizations, and other NGOs focused on supporting and serving older adults to gain insight into the issue of abuse toward older adults (referred to often as Elder Abuse).

We were extremely fortunate to have collaborated with such fantastic and crucial organizations to understand the prevalence of abuse, types of abuse, the current context and efforts ongoing in Canada and Globally. This culminated in the development of goals informed by the task force and analysis of the various recommendations and resources that have been developed by researchers and organizations over the last decade. We look forward to sharing this report.



Policy Rounds

Policy Rounds was launched as a joint effort between APPTA and AGE-WELL. It is a public webinar series that aims to translate research in technology and aging into short policy briefing presentations.



Dr. Melissa Northwood who shared the lessons learned and policy implications for health information management from the implementation of an interRAI check-up in community support services, specialized geriatric services, and primary care.



Dr. Lori Letts who discussed how a project evolved from an initial app development conceptualized to be applied by rehabilitation professionals in primary care, to a population-based health application for self-management and prevention,



Dr. Martin Sénéchal presented on the cost-effectiveness and long-term impact health outcomes of the Band-Frail program for older adults living with frailty and type 2 diabetes.



Dr. Sandra Magalhaes who presented their research on frailty and the important implications for supporting community-dwelling older couples to reduce its negative outcomes.



Gord Turner who presented on CareLink Advantage, a practical tool that allows the older adult caregivers to do their job better and more easily while avoiding stress and burnout.

To present your work through this series, contact Norma Chinho chinho@dal.ca

Academic Publication

This year we published an article expanding on research initially conducted in 2020 by Tessa Weinberg as part of her MSc practicum placement with APPTA. The article entitled, “Long-Term Care Staffing Policies Pre-COVID-19 and Pandemic Responses: A Case Comparison of Ontario and British Columbia” was published in Volume 49, Issue 1, of Canadian Public Policy.

It reviews pre-pandemic long-term care staffing policies in British Columbia and Ontario and compares their staffing-related COVID-19 prevention measures in 2020. Ontario’s policies before 2020 corresponded with lower staff-to-patient ratios than in B.C., which may have been a factor in Ontario’s pandemic responses in long-term care. The article suggests some strategies that could help achieve long-term care staffing resiliency and strengthen quality of care.

The article can be accessed online [here!](#)



JURISDICTIONAL SCAN VIRTUAL HEALTHCARE IN CANADA



Jurisdictional Scan: Virtual Care across Canada

Virtual healthcare encompasses various forms of remote healthcare delivery (i.e., telemedicine, remote monitoring and digital health tools) and has become increasingly important in recent years, particularly due to the COVID-19 pandemic causing many healthcare providers to shift to remote consultations.

In this jurisdictional scan, we focused on the different virtual healthcare platforms available across the provinces and territories in Canada. After an examination of the virtual healthcare landscape in Canada, we scanned and analyzed the available platforms, categorizing them based on our findings into primary care/point of entry services, medication management services, mental health services, and electronic medical records (EMR).

Click [here](#) read the document!




Research Roundups



As knowledge brokers, translating relevant and timely literature and programming information is at the forefront of how we support our network. This year, we were delighted to launch a new product that supports our stakeholders and brings forward relevant evidence from the literature and programs being implemented across the globe. Our Research Roundup series will continue to bring forward work that aligns with our five priority areas on a bi-monthly basis.


RESEARCH ROUNDUP
Small Home Long-Term Care
Housing Models



AGEWELL **APPTA**
NATIONAL INNOVATION HUB • CENTRE NATIONAL D'INNOVATION **POPRAVIT**

[Click here to read!](#)

RESEARCH ROUNDUP
Non-Monetary Strategies for
Care Staff Retention



AGEWELL **APPTA**
NATIONAL INNOVATION HUB • CENTRE NATIONAL D'INNOVATION **POPRAVIT**

[Click here to read!](#)

RESEARCH ROUNDUP
Client-Directed Funding
Models



AGEWELL **APPTA**
NATIONAL INNOVATION HUB • CENTRE NATIONAL D'INNOVATION **POPRAVIT**

[Click here to read!](#)

| Visions for Change

Winners of this year's Policy Challenge had the exclusive opportunity to work closely with policy experts and learn firsthand how to align their research findings with a Canadian policy priority. This year, we were fortunate to mentor three research trainees in our program:



Lyne Ouellet whose key policy question is 'What tools or resources are effective in helping older adults and/or their caregivers navigate support services/the healthcare system?'

Click [here](#) to read Lyne's Policy Challenge!



Isaac Adedeji whose question is 'How can government leverage resources and supports (inclusive of technologies) to better enable persons living with dementia to remain at home, or existing level of care?'

Click [here](#) to read Isaac's Policy Challenge!



Ashley-Ann Marcotte whose question is 'What is the effectiveness of interventions that aim to enhance digital literacy in older adults?'

Click [here](#) to read Ashley-Ann's Policy Challenge!

Policy Challenge Testimonials

"The APPTA Policy Challenge provided the opportunity to students and stakeholders to come together and work collaboratively. Working with a capable student and policy mentors to identify current promising practices, and ultimately use them to inform policy decisions and program development, was an excellent experience."

– APPTA Government Stakeholder/Mentor

"Participating in the policy challenge was an amazing experience! I learned a lot and really appreciated the support from the APPTA team throughout the challenge. It truly feels like an accomplishment to be able to create a report and presentation for stakeholders knowing that the work you've done will be seen and could actually help inform policy."

– Policy Challenge Trainee

Partnerships

One of our core values at APPTA is that we go further when we work together. We know that the best approach to solving complex challenges is to work collaboratively toward new solutions. Over the past year, our team has formed important new partnerships in knowledge translation to ensure that research in aging and technology is accessible to larger audiences.

Partner Spotlight

In September, we co-hosted an Aging in Place webinar with Numana tech and brought together a panel of leaders in Quebec, New Brunswick, and National organizations who are shaping the future for aging in place. Panelists discussed their work, insights, and perspective on how we can innovate within our social and health systems landscape and learn from each other to improve the lives of older Canadians. We discussed the potential for social innovation and technological interventions to play a role in how we age in place.

Webinar

Challenges and opportunities for Aging in Place: lessons from QC, New Brunswick, Canada and Globally

Monday, September, 26th, 2022

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm EST



Joanne Castonguay
Health & Welfare
Commissioner
Quebec



Constance Vanier
Director, Community Health
Canadian Red Cross



Michael Chrostowski
Senior Manager, Business
Development & Industrial
Relations
AGE-WELL NCE



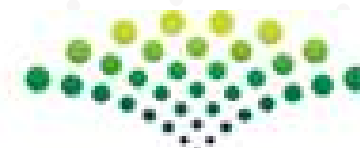
Jane Breckenridge
Deputy Director,
Monitoring, Evaluation,
Knowledge Transfer Unit



Andy Bleadon
Communities Director
ECH Alliance



Moderation by Pascal Beauchesne



NUMANA

Catalyseur d'écosystèmes technologiques

Partnerships

One of our core values at APPTA is that we go further when we work together. We know that the best approach to solving complex challenges is to work collaboratively toward new solutions. Over the past year, our team has formed important new partnerships in knowledge translation to ensure that research in aging and technology is accessible to larger audiences.

Partner Spotlight

We partnered with a group of medical students in Atlantic Canada who led a task force to survey preferences and experiences related to recruitment for their future positions as physicians. We hosted a session with provincial recruiters, physicians, funding agencies, and other medical students in which the task force leads presented on their toolkit, which brings forward recommendations from the medical student perspective.

Watch the presentation [here!](#)

Read the briefing note [here!](#)



**DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY**



**CENTRE DE FORMATION MÉDICALE
DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK**



Faculty of Medicine



**CFMS
FEMC**

Canadian Federation of Medical Students

Partnerships

One of our core values at APPTA is that we go further when we work together. We know that the best approach to solving complex challenges is to work collaboratively toward new solutions. Over the past year, our team has formed important new partnerships in knowledge translation to ensure that research in aging and technology is accessible to larger audiences.

Partner Spotlight

This year, APPTA and MEKTU co-hosted two government showcases to highlight the results and impacts of some of the Healthy Seniors Pilot Projects that are ongoing in New Brunswick. These showcases put researchers in front of government stakeholders from across the country to discuss their projects and lessons learned.

Learn more about the Healthy Seniors Pilot Project [here!](#)

We also launched 5 more podcast episodes to highlight some more incredible projects being completed under the HSPP program.

Listen to the podcast episodes [here!](#)





THANK
YOU!