

GRC ANNUAL REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022 ó MARCH 31, 2023)

Established in 1982, the Simon Fraser University Gerontology Research Centre (GRC)

promotes and conducts innovative interdisciplinary research and knowledge mobilization.

generating high-quality research and knowledge mobilization. The GRC supports a full-time Research & Communications Coordinator; several post-doctoral fellows, an active bi-annual publications program; and hosts workshops and conferences (Gerontology Lecture Series, John K. Friesen Conference, Ellen M. Gee Memorial Lecture Fund). The GRC maintains an

Research on planning, design, development and evaluation of housing, care facilities, community environments and enabling technology.

2. **Changing Demography and Lifestyles** ó Examination of the impact of changes in the timing of life events and in retirement, pension and income support policy and programs.
3. **Health Promotion/Population Health and Aging** ó Examination of determinants and consequences of population aging and health, development and evaluation of programs that assist seniors to improve their mental and physical health, resilience, ability to cope with chronic illness and prevention of disability.
4. **Prevention of Victimization and Exploitation of Older Persons** ó Research and development of programs that prevent financial, psychological, physical and sexual abuse of older people, and facilitate access to rights and services.
5. **Technology and Aging Research** ó

In addition to these six thematic areas, the COVID-19 pandemic has required that the GRC pivot its research activities in order to participate in the knowledge-based response to this crisis over the last several years.

The GRC is a Schedule A Centre and comes under the direct authority of the Dean of Arts and Social Sciences. The GRC is governed by the GRC Steering Committee which provides guidance to the GRC Director; fosters the interests of the GRC within Simon Fraser University and the wider academic community; reviews the position of Director and recommends reappointment or succession; reviews the strategic plan of the GRC and provides guidance in its primary goals, resources and feasibility.

The GRC Director (Prof. Wister) was appointed Sept. 1, 2016, and reappointed Sept. 1, 2019, and again in Sept. 1, 2022 for a 4 year term until August 31, 2026. The GRC's Steering Committee represents the current aging-related research environment at Simon Fraser University and the wider community, and updated its constitution in 2020.

The Centre is overseen by a **Steering Committee** comprised of:

Scott Lear, Chair of GRC Steering Committee, Professor, Health Sciences, SFU

Andrew Wister, GRC Director, Professor, Gerontology, SFU

Habib Chaudhury, GRC Associate Director, Chair/Professor, Gerontology, SFU

Nancy Olewiler, Director, School of Public Policy, SFU

Nadine Shuurman, Professor, Geography, SFU

Steve Robinovitch, Professor, Engineering Science, SFU

Dawn Mackey, Associate Professor, Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology, SFU

Dan Levitt, Chief Executive Officer, KinVillage

GRC core researchers and staff are listed below:

Director: Dr. Andrew Wister, Sept. 1, 2016 ó present

Associate Director: Dr. Habib Chaudhury, Sept. 1, 2022 ó August 31, 2025

Research Associate/Prof. Emerita: Dr. Gloria Gutman, Sept. 1, 2015 ó present

University Research Associate: Dr. John Best, Aug. 1, 2019 ó present

Post-Doctoral Fellow: Dr. Lun Li, Sept. 1, 2019 ó present

Post-Doctoral Fellow (BC Real Estate): Dr. John Pickering, Feb. 1, 2022 ó present
 Post- Doctoral Fellow (Health System Impact): Dr. Jennifer Ferris, Oct. 1, 2022 ó present
 Manager, CLSA Data Collection Site: Dr. Heather Stewart, Sept. 1, 2016 ó present (plus 7 RAs)
 Graduate Student RAs: PhDs ó Boah Kim; Eireann O-Dea; MAs ó Sogol Haji Hosseini; Isaac Adedeji;
 Research & Communications Coordinator: Sarah Qiu, Mar. 15, 2022 ó present
 Manager (Department & GRC): Anne Marie Barrett, Sept. 1, 2015 ó May. 12, 2023
 Manager (Department & GRC): Dora Lau, May. 12, 2023 ó present

1. **CLSA** - The GRC continues to house and run two labs that support data collection associated with the 20-year (2012-2032) Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) with over 51,000 participants. One of the 11 national Comprehensive Cohort Data Collection Sites in Canada is situated at the Surrey Campus (data from cell to society); the other is at the Vancouver Campus (HC) - one of only four Computer Assisted Telephone Interview Sites in Canada. All staff (12) had to be retrofitted to remote work during the previous year and transitioned back to in-person or hybrid work in 2022. In addition, several CLSA COVID-19 studies were funded (see below), and staff were realigned to collect these data. The GRC supports several researcher cluster numerous publications based on CLSA data (including multimorbidity, resilience, social isolation, caregiving and mental health and COVID-19). A three-year grant funded by the Canadian Foundation for Innovation in support of the CLSA Follow-up 3 was received last year (April 2021 ó March 2024. Total: \$24,550,211 National; Direct to Wister at SFU - \$1,273,698). A 2021-2027 \$52 Million CIHR grant was funded to support CLSA (over \$1 Million to GRC - Wister). Also, a new CLSA Healthy Brains, Healthy Aging Initiative funded by the Weston Family Foundation grant, including collaboration with the ImageTech lab under the director of Carolyn Sparrey (April 2021 ó March 2024. Total \$12,000,000 National; Direct to Wister at SFU - \$231,054).
2. **Pandemic Research** - The GRC has received several grants (see grant list), and has submitted new grants in the areas of social isolation, health behaviours, mental health, technology and resilience specific to COVID-19 and post-pandemic recovery based on national and international collaborations. Significant funds (multi-million) come directly to the GRC Core Members (see supplementary file). A large number (23) of recent publications pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic were published over the last year (2022), and several more are being produced, including 18 peer reviewed

articles based on the CLSA COVID-19 Surveys (see publication list for articles published up until March 31, 2023).

- 3. New Post-Doctoral Fellows** - With respect to new human resources, a Health Systems Impact post- doctoral fellow (Ferris, J.) was hired October 2022 to conduct research in the areas of multimorbidity clusters and surveillance among older adults; and another hired in the Real Estate Foundation of BC (REFBC) fellow position (Pickering, J) in rural aging, social isolation and resilience. Also, the prior REFBC post-doc (Gan, D.) has transitioned into a CIHR post-doc (supervisors: Chaudhury & Wlster) with GRC top-up funds during this period. These new post-docs add to several continuing ones. One .5 FTE URA post-doc (Best, J.) works in the area of mental health and aging. A part-time post-

3. The GRC continues to collaborate with community organizations (see CIHR partnership grants, MSFHR seniors centre collaboration grants, and newly funded SSHRC IS grant).

February 1, 2021 – January 31, 2023

Principal Investigator (**Andrew Wister**), Co-Inv. (**H. Chaudhury**). Partner (NGO J gcmj { 'Ci kpi 'd{ 'Wpkgf 'Y c{ 0 COVID-19 Community Wellbeing and Socioeconomic F gr tkxvkqp 'lp 'DE < Gpxkqpo gpvnl'Uecp 'vqy ctf u'P gli j dqwtj qqf 'Uqeknl'Ecr kcrf 'UUJ TE" Partnership Engage Grant- Special Initiative COVID-19. 1 year (\$24, 850).

September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2022

Principal Investigator (T. Cosco), Co-Inv **A. Wister**, (A. Sixsmith, C. Sparrey, & T. Uej k j qtuv 'UHW 0 EQXK -

(CLSA) Research Team (**Wister, A.** & 17 others). (2022). Factors associated with willingness to receive a COVID-19 vaccine among 23,819 adults aged 50 years or older: An analysis of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging. *American Journal of Epidemiology*. 191(6):987-998. doi: 10.1093/aje/kwac029. PMID: 35166332; PMCID: PMC8903402.

Beauchamp, M., Joshi, D., McMillan, J., Erbas, Oz U., Griffith, L., Basta, N., Kirkland, S., Wolfson, C., Raina, P. & Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) Team **Wister, A.** and 17 others). (2022). Assessment of Functional Mobility After COVID-19 in Adults Aged 50 Years or Older in the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2022 Jan 4;5(1):e2146168. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.46168. Erratum in: *JAMA Netw Open*. 2022 Feb 1;5(2):e220927. PMID: 35019980; PMCID: PMC8756318.

Beringer, R., DeVries, B., **Gutman, G.**,

Team (**Wister, A.** & 19 others). (2022). Stressors and perceived consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic among older adults: a cross-sectional study using data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging. *CMAJ Open*. 10 (3): E721-E730. doi: 10.9778/cmajo.20210313.

De Rubeis, V., Gonzalez, A., De Groh, M., Jiang, Y., Erbas Oz, U., Tarride, J., . . . Anderson, L. & Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) Team (**Wister, A.** & 15 others) (2023). Obesity and adverse childhood experiences in relation to stress during the COVID-19 pandemic: An analysis of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging. *International Journal of Obesity*, 1-10.

De Vries, B.,

Longitudinal Study on Aging. *CMAJ Open*. 11(1):E140-E151. doi: 10.9778/cmajo.20210320.

Li, L., Wister, A., & Mitchell, B. (2022). Examination of the healthy caregiver effect among older adults: Findings from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging. *Gerontology*. doi: 10.1159/000526251.

Li, L. (2022). The impact of caregiver burden on the health of older adults: A review of the literature. *The International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, 36(3), 399-422. doi: 10.1177/08982643221101010

Liu-

Pickering, J.,

Ferdous, F., Roberts, E (Eds), *(Re)designing the Continuum of Care for Older Adults*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-20970-3_8.

Wister, A. V., & Kadowaki, L. for the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Forum of Ministers Responsible for Seniors. (2022). *Social Isolation Among Older Adults During the Pandemic*. Employment and Social Development Canada.

Chaudhury, H., Seetharaman, K., Hung, L., Wong, J., Alison, F., Freeman, S., Groulx, M., & Randa, C. (Accepted to conference proceedings February 23, 2023). *Co-creating Supportive Neighbourhood Built Environment through the Lens of People Living with Dementia - F go UECRG'uwf { ö0Oral presentation at the BC Patient Safety & Quality Forum 2023, Vancouver, BC, Canada, June 6 ó 8, 2023.*

Chaudhury, H., Seetharaman, K., Hung, L., Wong, J., Alison, F., Freeman, S., Groulx, M., & Randa, C. (Accepted to conference proceedings January 30, 2023). *Eq-creating Supportive Neighbourhood Built Environment through the Lens of People Living with F go gpvcö'Rcr gt'r t gupvcvkp"cv'j g"44pf "DkppkcnEpcpf kcp"l gtqpvrqi kcnP wulpi "* Association (CGNA) Conference, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. April 20-22, 2023.

Gutman, G. Success factors & key stakeholders to build the gerontech ecosystem. Invited address. Hong Kong Council of Social Services Annual Gerontechnology Platform Summit, virtual, Dec.1, 2022.

Chaudhury, H., Seetharaman, K., Hung, L., Freeman, S., Groulx, M., Phinney, A., & Tcpf c.'E0öO gj qf qmji kcn'cpf "Gj kcnTghgevkpu'htqo "T gugtej "qp"P gki j dqwtj qpf - Dwn'Gpxktqpo gpv'cpf "F go gpvcö'Rcr gt'r t gupvcvkp"cv'j g"l gtqpvrqi kcnCuuqekvkp" of America, 75th Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, Nov. 2-6, 2022.

Gutman, G., Karbakhsh, M., & Stewart, H. (2022). Prevalence and predictors of increased verbal/physical conflict during COVID-19: CLSA findings. Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. Indianapolis, IN, November 2-6, 2022.

[Abstract: *Innovation in Aging*, 6 (Suppl.1), 29-30.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igac059.109>.

Li, L., Wister, A., ("O kej gm"D0*4244."P qxgo dgt"6+0Gzco kpcvkp"qh'j g"J gcnj { " Ectgi kxgt"GhgeVCo qpi "Qrf gt"Cf wnu'Hkpf kpi "htqo "j g'Epcpf kcp"Nqpi kwf kpcnUwf { "qp" Ci kpi 0C'r qugt'r t gupvgf "cv'j g"l gtqpvrqi kcnUqekgv "qh'Co gtlec"l UC +4244"Cppwcn' Uekpvhle"O ggvkpi . "P qxgo dgt"4/80kpf kpcr qku."kpf kpc."WU'

Li, L., (" Ngg."l 0*4244."P qxgo dgt"7+0Vgej kpi "i gtqpvrqi { "v"uqekcn'y qtnluwf gpv< Cr r n'kpi "j g"zr gtgpvcn'hgctpkpi "wulpi "gj pqi tcr j k'kpvgtxky 0C'r t gupvcvkp"cv'j g" I gtqpvrqi kcnUqekgv "qh'Co gtlec"l UC +"

80Kpf kpcr qnku. "Kpf kpc. "WUO'

Ngg. [0'('Li, L. *4244. 'P qxgo dgt '7-0Y j cv'cpf 'j qy 'f kf 'k'y qtnAC"u{ ugo cvk' t'gxky "qh' yj g'k'pvtxgpvkpp"uwwf kgu'qh'e'j cpi kpi 'r gtegr vkpp"vy ctf u'qif gt "cf wmu0C"r t'gugp'cvkpp"cv'y g" I gtqpvqmi kcn'Uqekgv' "qh'Co gtlec" *I UC +4243 'C'ppwcn'Uekgp'khe'O ggkpi . 'P qxgo dgt '4/ 80Kpf kpcr qnku. "Kpf kpc. "WUO'

QøF gc. 'GO' **Gan, D.**, Wang, C., **Chaudhury, H.**, **Wister, A.**, Quay, L., & Au, D. ðEgo o wpcn'lw r qt v' r tgf leu' d'gwgt 'o gpvni'j gcmj 'f gur kg'pgki j dqtj qqf deprivation: Integrated knowledge translation among older adults during COVID-3; Ø'Rquvt" presented at the Gerontological Association of America, 75th Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, Nov. 2-6, 2022.

Gutman, G. Good news ó 2SLGBTQ+ older adults are resilient and resourceful: Highlights from an online Canada-y kf g'uwtxg{ "cpf 'ENUCø'EQXK -19 survey. Invited keynote address, Planning with Pride conference, Nov. 2, 2022.

Gutman, G. Current status and implications of age-friendly DX cities in North America. Invited presentation, International Age-Friendly Digital Transformation (DX) City Forum, International Society for Gerontechnology 13th World Conference, Daegu, Korea, Oct 25, 2022.

Aspnes, E., Bergschold, J., Charness, N., Fang, M. L., **Gutman, G.**, Hsu, Y., Kearns, W., Kort, H. S. M., Marquine, T., Nap, H., Zandi, D. & Zhang, W. WHO-ISG Collaboration on assistive technologies for healthy aging in place: A round table discussion. International Society for Gerontechnology 13th

Scientific and Educational Meeting of the Canadian Association on Gerontology, Regina, Sask., Oct. 20-22, 2022.

Gutman, G., Karbakhsh, M., & Stewart, H. Prevalence and perpetrators of elder abuse among heterosexual and LGB older adults: findings from the CLSA, presented at the 51st Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting of the Canadian Association on Gerontology, Regina, Sask., Oct. 20-22, 2022.

Hopper, S., **Best, J., Wister, A.,** ('Eueq."V05Uqekqgeppqo le"cpf "hguvf ng"eqpvtkdwqtu" vq"o gpcn'j gcnj "tgukepeg'y kj kp"y g'ENUC0'Rquvgt'r tguqpvkqp"cv'y g"73uv'Cppwcn' Scientific and Educational Meeting of the Canadian Association on Gerontology, Regina, Sask., October, 20-22, 2022.

Jang, K., Pezzutto, E., Reel, K., **Gutman, G.** ('Mwt."V0Ego rctkpi 'rj {ulekcpu0'cpf " cewg'ectg"qeevr cvkpcn'y gtr kwu0'r gtegr vkpu'qh'cf xcpeg'ectg'r rppkpi 'y kj "o kqtkv " older adults. Paper presented at the 51st Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting of the

Gutman, G. How can we modify our environment to better accommodate us as we age?
Presented at College and University Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC) virtual
conference, May 19, 2022.

Wister, A. and Gutman, G. Chaired and Co-organized the 29th John K. Friesen
Conference entitled Safer & Better: Re-visioning Elder Care Across the Shelter-Care
Continuum, Vancouver, B.C., June 2, 2022.

Chaudhury, H. DemSCAPE and Happy Cities Community Forum, Joseph and Rosie
Segal Centre at Harbour Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada. January 30, 2023.