



**NICE**

National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly

Initiative nationale pour le soin des personnes âgées

*We care together*

*Ensemble pour le bien-être des aînés*

# National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly

*Initiative nationale pour le  
soin des personnes âgées*

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*Network Manager*

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Government of Canada  
**Networks of Centres  
of Excellence**

Gouvernement du Canada  
**Réseaux de centres  
d'excellence**

# NICE: Context & Background

- Unprecedented growth in number and proportion of elderly in Canada
  - 2005, 4.2 million seniors, 13.2% of population<sup>1</sup>
  - 2036, 9.8 million seniors; 24.5% of population<sup>1</sup>
  - Increasingly multicultural older population<sup>2</sup>
- Shortage of professionals and students specializing in the care of the elderly
- Gaps in interdisciplinary care of the elderly
- Gaps in evidence-based care of the elderly

1. Martin Turcotte and Grant Schellenberg, *A Portrait of Seniors in Canada: 2006*, Ottawa, ON: Statistics Canada, 2007, p. 12.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 23; A. Bélanger and É. Caron Malenfant, *Population Projections of Visible Minority Groups, Canada, Provinces and Regions: 2001 – 2017*, Ottawa, ON: Statistics Canada, 2005.



# NICE: A short history...

- Funded through Networks of Centres of Excellence – New Initiative Grant
- One of only 5 “New Initiative” networks funded
- Incorporated non-profit, 2006
- Housed at Institute for Life Course and Aging, University of Toronto
- One of only 3 networks awarded International Partnership Initiative grant (2007)
- Over 900 members
  - Diverse disciplines and professions



# NICE: Network Goals

- Networking
- Knowledge Transfer
  - Move research into action
    - Professional development
- Improve education in geriatrics and gerontology
- Improve student recruitment into geriatrics and gerontology



# International Collaboration for the Care of the Elderly (ICCE)

- Only NCE-NI to be awarded additional funding through International Partnership Initiative of NCE and International Development and Research Centre (IDRC)
- New partnerships with researchers and organizations in:
  - Australia
  - England
  - India
  - Scotland
  - Switzerland
  - China
  - Germany
  - Israel
  - South Africa



# Knowledge Transfer

- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
  - Active exchange of information between creators and users of new knowledge
  - Bringing creators and users together early in the process
- The role of NICE
  - Make good research accessible to practitioners



# NICE “Theme Teams”

- Action towards interdisciplinary care: Forging unique links
  - Interdisciplinary teams
  - Bridging research and practice
- Interdisciplinary environments for students
- Seniors’ involvement in the teams
- Creators and users work together for solutions to issues in the provision of care
- Develop user-friendly tools using **evidence-based research**, translate into practice



# Theme Team Tools

## ■ Caregiving

- Caring Calendar
- Respect All Poster
- Grandparenting Resources
- When to Consult Self-Assessments
- PSW Support Program (in progress)

## ■ Elder Abuse

- Caregiver Abuse Screen
- Indicators of Abuse Screen
- Elder Abuse Suspicion Index
- *En Mains* (In Hand)
- Institutional Abuse Resources



# Theme Team Tools

## ■ Dementia Care

- Forthcoming tools with Alzheimer Society Canada

## ■ End-of-Life Issues

- Capacity and Consent (Ontario edition)
- What to Expect When Someone Close to You is Dying

## ■ Mental Health

- Depression: Assessment and Treatment for Older Adults
- Are My Older Patients at Higher Risk of Depression?



# Committee Progress

## ■ Curriculum Development

- Interdisciplinary core competencies in providing care to older adults

## ■ Professional Development

- National network
- Continuing education, professional development officers
- Clinical policy makers and setters
- Introduce tools into practice



# Student Initiatives

## ■ **NICE *Student Mentorship Program***

- Match students up with Theme Team and Committees
- Work in return for stipend to attend *Annual NICE Knowledge Exchange*

## ■ **Recruiting Post-Secondary Students**

- Career and educational resource links
- Mentorship Database
- Geriatric Interest Groups

## ■ **Intergenerational Outreach to Secondary School Students**

- School presentations made by seniors and health care practitioners to interest students in careers with older adults
- Help combat ageist attitudes among youth



# Community-Based Projects

## ■ NICE Elder Abuse Team: Knowledge to Action

- Funded by Human Resources and Social Development Canada
- Leadership by seniors across Canada
- Tool development and dissemination
- Presentations by seniors to raise awareness about elder abuse

## ■ Bridging Aging and Women Abuse

- Funded by Status of Women Canada
- Resources for older women and service providers developed by working group of older women who have experienced abuse

## ■ Homeless2Home: A Knowledge Exchange

- Funded by Human Resources and Social Development Canada
- Community forum of service providers and policy makers, organized by formerly homeless youth, middle-aged and older adults
- Showcase promising approaches to housing from those with “lived expertise”



# Annual NICE Knowledge Exchange

- Fourth Annual: May 20-21, 2009
  - Victoria University, University of Toronto
- Partnered with Seniors Health Research Transfer Network Annual Assembly
- 300+ attendees
- Keynotes, interactive workshops, panel sessions
  - Knowledge transfer workshops
  - Elder abuse; international KT in aging; ethnicity and aging; practitioner-led change
- Sponsorship from government and industry



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Annual **NICE**   
Knowledge Exchange 2009



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# How to get involved?

- Visit website to become a member
  - [www.nicenet.ca](http://www.nicenet.ca)
- Participate in Theme Team or Committee
- Disseminate tools and resources
- Sponsor network activities
  - Annual NICE Knowledge Exchange
  - Theme Team & Committee Work



# Questions?

- Visit website and click “Join”
  - [www.nicenet.ca](http://www.nicenet.ca)
- Contact me
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