

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024



ALBERTA ASSOCIATION
ON GERONTOLOGY

Improving the Lives of Older Albertans

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ALBERTA ASSOCIATION ON GERONTOLOGY

A province-wide, interdisciplinary, membership-based, not-for-profit organization in operation since 1975.

Mission

To advance health and social system policy, education, and practice in Alberta, inspired by a future where older persons are engaged and empowered, living in inclusive communities with strong social connections and accessing care and services that enhance quality of life.

Vision

To be a leading force for healthy aging and an enhanced quality of life for older Albertans.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Alberta Association on Gerontology is 44 years old. It was incorporated in 1980 with the goal of improving the lives of the aging population in Alberta ([Provincial Archives of Alberta](#)). Our role continues to be a collaborative change agent for healthy aging and improving the quality of life for older Albertans. Increasing healthy years of life and the quality of life is even more important today than it was in 1980. Between 2013 and 2023, the proportion of Albertans aged 65 and older increased from 12% to 16% of our total population. By 2051, 1 in 5 Albertans will be over 65.

The two-year Alberta Association on Gerontology's Future Policy Forum culminates this year. It began with a series of 8 webinars that were attended by over 800 individuals. Thanks to a \$160,000 grant from Alberta Health, the Culture Change Project made it possible to lead a series of 6 additional initiatives. [The Enhancing Seniors Services Workforce Think Tank](#): The Conditions of Work are the Conditions of Care and Service was held on December 5, 2022. Participants praised the cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary approach that enabled "radical collaboration", fostering innovative solutions and holistic strategies to improve care services for older Albertans. Bringing together diverse perspectives creates a synergy that enhances problem-solving capabilities that the AAG expects to contribute to more effective, comprehensive care solutions for older Albertans.

The term, "radical collaboration" comes from the 2024 Alberta Innovates Inventures Innovation Event (May 28-30). Certainly, radical collaboration is what Vivien Lai, Marlene Raasok, and Lynne Mansell have helped the AAG to accomplish over the last year. As part of the Stakeholder Collaborative Committee, leaders of the Community-Based Seniors Serving Sector, Housing, Continuing Care, Healthcare, Education, Older Adult Organizations, and Alberta Government Ministry representatives met monthly to exchange ideas to work toward a future of healthy aging. The World Health Organization defines healthy aging as, "the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables wellbeing in older age." Healthy aging is about creating the environments and opportunities that enable people to be and do what they value throughout their lives.

AAG collaborated with Healthy Aging Alberta and United Way Calgary on the first Healthy Aging Alberta Summit, Reimagining Aging: Leading the Way for An Integrated Approach, October 10-12, 2023. Rather than having two separate events, collaborating to hold one event attracted over 626 people: 390 in-person and over 236 virtual participants, with additional watch parties from across the province. It was a truly cross-sectoral event with representatives from Community-based Senior Serving Organizations, the Health and Housing sectors, Federal, Provincial, and Municipal government, Family and Community Support Services organizations, private service providers and citizens attending. The Summit was a powerful catalyst to foster meaningful insights, collaborative efforts, and inspiration for community-driven approaches to healthy aging. Similarly, the March 6, 2024, AAG's Enhancing Individual Wellbeing in Diverse

Communities: From Intention to Action for Inclusive Living virtual workshop was a showcase for Alberta's innovative approaches to inclusion and diversity.

This year, you have had a taste of our revamped Networking and Nexus events and will soon experience our new website. Together with the work of our Strategic Collaborative Committee and events helped us to build stronger partnerships with our members and the community at large. Next year we will work on a new strategic plan, which will focus the work of the Board for the next three years.

The AAG mourns the passing of Vivien Lai on Friday, October 20th, 2023. She leaves an incredible legacy to Alberta's continuing care system and AAG. Vivien's career with the Government of Alberta in planning and policy development shaped the continuing care system in Alberta. Vivien was a committed member of AAG, having served as President of the Edmonton Chapter and the Alberta Board. She was the visionary leader for AAG's Future Policy Forum Culture Change Project and Culture Change initiatives, whereby she sought to foster a culture and community conducive to healthy aging. We are thrilled to honour Vivien Lai and her vision of improving quality of life with the establishment of the Vivien Lai Changemaker Awards.

Good things happen through the hard work of many people. Our new webmaster Greg at Image Stop and Gail Kostiw, our very committed communication assistant, work hard behind the scenes. Thank you. I would also like to recognize the very assiduous retiring Board members Lynne Mansell, Catarina Versaevel, and Lydia Shiao for many years of dedicated service. Thank you to all our members for their commitment to AAG.

Sincerely,



Sharon Anderson MEd., MSc, PhD
President, Alberta Association on Gerontology

ALBERTA ASSOCIATION ON GERONTOLOGY: 2023/24 HIGHLIGHTS

<p style="text-align: center;">Futures Policy Forum <i>Developing a culture & community to support Alberta’s transformation agenda for community and continuing care</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Membership & Communication <i>The foundation for a membership-based and system-focused organization</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Organizational Strength <i>Policies and procedures, financial management, and partnerships enabling continued value</i></p>
<p>Stakeholder Collaborative Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30-35 stakeholders from across Community-Based Seniors Serving Sector, Housing, Continuing care, Healthcare, Education, Older Adult Organizations, Ministry representatives. • (9 meetings for learning and action planning). <p>Webinars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 Webinars • Report including recommendations for action (May,23) <p>Culture Change Project: 5 Initiatives:</p> <p>Focused Cross-Sector Engagement & Action Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce Think Tank-Dec 2023. • Cross-Sector Mapping of Healthy Aging Framework -Sept 2023 (with Healthy Aging Alberta) <p>Broad Stakeholder Engagement—Thought Leadership for Healthy Aging in a Future with Longevity & Diversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Aging Summit: Reimagining Aging; Leading the Way for An Integrated Approach. • Community Forum: From Intention to Action. <p>Recognition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changemaker Awards. 	<p>Membership: Significant Increase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated benefits opportunity <p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAG Mag • New “News & Views • Updated website <p>Presentations at National Conferences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Association on Gerontology Conference 2023: Poster on Workforce Think Tank • National Community-Based Serving Sector Conference June 2024: Oral Presentation • Canadian Association on Gerontology 2024—Symposium Submission collaborative work with Healthy Aging Alberta, Connecting Communities and People for Living Well, Caregivers 	<p>Policies and Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated for 2024/25 <p>Financial Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget <p>Partnerships are evolving positively</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative projects with Healthy Aging Alberta were very successful; plans underway for 2024-25. • Collaborative initiatives with Alberta Continuing Care Association for their 2023 conference. • Now planning with Alberta Innovates and Alberta Continuing Care Association for a technology initiative. • Ministry presentations at Strategic Collaborative Committee & major events, positively received by all parties.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024/25 AND BEYOND: 4 INTENTIONS

- ✦ **System Transformation**—4 challenge areas: Community Ecosystems for Living Well; Technology Innovation; Health & Social Services Workforce and Caregivers; Culture Change for Living Well with Longevity & Diversity.
- ✦ **Knowledge Mobilization:**
- ✦ **Member Value.**
- ✦ **AAG Sustainability.**

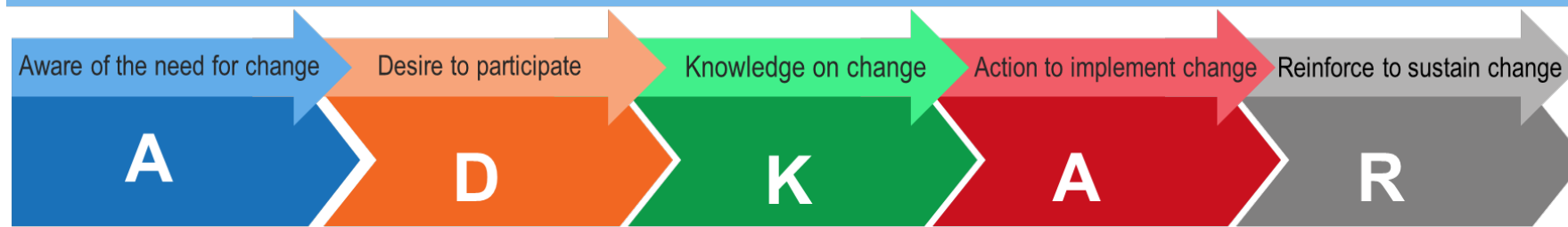
✓ *IMPACT OF AAG AND CROSS-SECTOR WORK IN 2023/24*

SETTING OUR SIGHTS ON ALBERTA'S FUTURE SYSTEM FOR HEALTH WITH A GROWING AND AGING POPULATION (ALBERTA HEALTH REFOCUSING HEALTH)

- ✦ A modern and cost-effective health & social care system, enabled by communities anchored in social determinants of health, with connected services and choices for living well as AI age.
- ✦ Seamless journeys for individuals with the right care/support at the right time, across sectors represented by the 4 organizations in Alberta Health in collaboration with the Ministry of Seniors, Social and Community Services.
- ✦ A system where the workforce and family caregivers are valued and supported to sustain care and maintain their own wellbeing.
- ✦ Enhanced local decision-making.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS—AAG thanks Webinar Sponsors, Ministries (Health, Seniors, Community and Social Services) for their support and participation, Partner Collaborators for their ongoing involvement.

MOBILIZING THIS FUTURE: DEVELOPING A CROSS-SECTOR CULTURE & COMMUNITY FOR CHANGE IMPACTS 2023/24



Awareness	Desire	Knowledge	Action	Reinforcement
<p>Broad Reach with survey input re value of learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 Webinars reach over 700 unique individuals Healthy Aging Summit with over 300 in person & 200 online Diversity Forum with 100 attendees 	<p>Engaged & Supportive Change Champions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Collaborative Committee (30-35 people @ 8 meetings) <i>Webinars, Culture Change Projects with Survey Input re Intent to Share with Colleagues</i> 	<p>Action plans: Cross-sectoral Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Webinar Report, recommended changes 2023 Workforce Think Tank Progress Report Healthy Aging Framework: Cross-Sector Mapping for Connected Community Ecosystems + Action Plan 	<p>Enhanced trust & climate for cross-sector collaboration with government & cross-sector stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> evident in Strategic Collaborative Committee, work to date & plans for 24/25 AAGMag with practice relevant material—evidence of use 	<p>Strategic Collaborative Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly Valued by participants to support & motivate continued change <p>Vivien Lai Change Maker Recognition Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizing front-line change

M. Raasok

Marlene Raasok, Chair, Policy Committee &
Chair, Futures Policy Forum & Culture Change Initiative

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership				
AAG Membership	2020- 2021	2021- 2022	2022- 2023	2023- 2024
Total for Province	87	106	108	153
Membership Type				
Individual	20	32	39	53
Organizational	12	17	20	24
Senior	16 (2 prorated)	18	28	50
Student	15	12	11	21
Lifetime (Honorary)	24	1	10	5
Total Memberships	87	106	108	153

FINANCIAL REPORT

Overall, AAG is in good financial condition. Deficiency of Revenue over Expenses in the current year mainly due to spending of the surplus in prior year from the \$70,000 Culture Change Project Grant.

Highlights of revenues received are:

- \$90,000 received from Alberta Health for year 2 of the Culture Change project.
- Membership revenue is up significantly from last year, but partially due to the timing of deposits in the prior year.
- First in person networking event post pandemic hosted in February 2024 with more to come

Notable expenditures included:

- Consulting expenses related to the Culture Change project
- Development of our new website
- Networking events and travel expenses include the cost of hosting Healthy Aging Events for the Culture Change project
- 2 additional awards

Submitted by,



French Lau
Treasurer

AUDITOR'S REPORT

May 24, 2024


Re: Audited Financial Statements - Year Ended March 31, 2024

We have reviewed the consolidated financial statements of the Alberta Association on Gerontology consisting of the Provincial Association, Calgary Chapter, Edmonton Chapter and Alberta Health Account for the fiscal year April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. We find the submitted financial statements to be substantially correct.

Yours truly,



Bruce West
AAG Member



Renate Sainsbury
AAG Member

**Consolidated Statement of Operations and Net Assets
for the Year Ended March 31, 2024**

	2024	2023
Revenue		
Memberships	10,155.00	4,640.00
Donations	70.00	250.00
Interest	165.79	215.58
Networking events	3,361.00	-
Sponsorship	2,000.00	17,500.00
Government Grant	90,000.00	70,000.00
Total Revenue	105,751.79	92,605.58
Expenses		
Office Administration	1,104.41	1,997.47
Postage	19.32	-
Insurance	2,443.00	2,331.00
Website	13,602.76	6,632.29
Consulting	87,466.00	31,092.58
Travel	4,395.90	325.74
Marketing/Public Relations	368.54	-
Awards	4,000.00	2,000.00
Donations	-	2,400.00
Networking events	5,455.21	5,628.38
Webinar Expenses	-	12,455.51
Honoraria	1,750.00	-
Total Expenses	120,605.14	64,862.97
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses	(14,853.35)	27,742.61
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	115,247.67	87,505.06
Net Assets, End of Year	100,394.33	115,247.67

Alberta Association on Gerontology
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
As of March 31, 2024

	2024	2023
Assets		
Cash	40,314.11	105,167.45
Investments	60,080.22	10,080.22
	100,394.33	115,247.67
Liabilities	-	-
Net Assets	100,394.33	115,247.67
Liabilities and Net Assets	100,394.33	115,247.67

ALBERTA ASSOCIATION ON GERONTOLOGY BOARD

The Provincial Board of Directors is composed of a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 16 members. Positions include Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer), Past President, and Members-at-Large. Officers are elected for two-year terms and Members-at-Large for either one- or two-year terms. Board members can serve a maximum of six years.

Thank you to those leaving the Provincial Board for your invaluable contributions:

- ❖ Catarina Versaevel
- ❖ Lydia Shiao
- ❖ Lynne Mansell

Members Remaining on the Board:

- ❖ Sharon Anderson, President
- ❖ Jocelyn Rempel, Vice President
- ❖ French Lau, Treasurer
- ❖ Jill Chambers, Secretary
- ❖ Marlene Raasok
- ❖ Heather Tomlinson
- ❖ Kathleen Hunter
- ❖ Beth Mansell
- ❖ Antonio Miguel-Cruz
- ❖ Jackline Kwiatkowski

Proposed New Board Members:

- ❖ Yinfei Duan, TREC, University of Alberta, Edmonton
 - ❖ Rose Joudi, Carya, Calgary
 - ❖ Jeanine Kimura, Retired from Carewest, Calgary
 - ❖ Tammy Lautner, Peace of Mind Concierge, Edmonton
 - ❖ Denise Milne, Alberta Continuing Care Association, Parkland County
- *Pending approval by the Provincial Board following the Annual General Meeting.

Submitted by,



Lynne Mansell, Past President
Chair, Board Recruitment and Development Committee

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

In response to the AAG Bylaw changes and recommendations from the Awards and Scholarships Committee, changes were made to AAG scholarships for 2024. In the Fall of 2023, the Board approved changing to two provincial graduate scholarships (one masters, one PhD) each for \$1000.00, as well as to continue the bursary for a student currently enrolled in a Health Care Aide program at \$1000.00.

In November, the Board approved the creation of two Vivien Lai Change Maker Awards: 1) Service Delivery Innovation and 2) Community Focused Engagement and Service Development. The design of these awards stemmed from the work of the AAG Futures Policy Forum Stakeholder Collaborative Committee Working Group on Awards, which had been co-chaired by Vivien Lai and myself. Sadly, as Vivien passed away at the time the working group was completing their mandate, and the Board agreed with the recommendation to name the awards in her honour.

Notices of the Awards and Scholarships were circulated to Alberta universities and education institutions offering Health Care Aides, to the Stakeholder Committee members, AAG members and posted on the AAG website. We received the following applications and nominations: Vivien Lai Change Maker Award Service Delivery Innovation (2), Vivien Lai Change Maker Award Community Focused Engagement and Service Development (4); Health Care Aide Bursary (43), Provincial Graduate Award Masters (2), Provincial Graduate Award PhD (2) and Mary Morrison Davis Award (1) Committee recommendations were brought to the Board meeting in for confirmation at the May Board meeting and a subsequent electronic vote for the Health Care Aide (deadline extended) and Vivien Lai Awards.

2024 Vivien Lai Change Maker Awards Recipients

Service Delivery Innovation: United Active Living Health and Wellness Team (Team members: Ekaette Etokudo and Keziah Angeles)

Community Focused Engagement Service Development: The Age Collective (Team members: Michelle and Shunuki Gooaskera)

2024 Bursary/Scholarships.

Bursary (Health Care Aide Student): Christine Fearon (Bow Valley College)

Provincial Graduate Award (Masters): Nicole Johnson (Moore) (University of Alberta)

Provincial Graduate Award (PhD): Chika Ikeorji (University of Calgary)

2024 Mary Morrison Davis Award

Marlene Raasok

The team who participated as reviewers of bursary/scholarship applications were Simon Palfreyman (AAG Member) and Heather Thomlinson (AAG Board Member). The committee will be reviewing the award criteria and adjudication process over the summer and bring any recommendations for changes to the Board in the Fall.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen Hunter
Chair, Scholarships & Awards Committee