

Research & Ethics Committee (Virtual)

[Research & Ethics Committee Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 849 8882 8586 Passcode: 950824

AGENDA

April 12, 2022 at 2pm

Item	Description	
1	Call to Order & Introductions	Keith McAlpine
2	Declarations of Conflict of Interest	Keith McAlpine
3	Approval of Previous Minutes – January 18, 2022	Keith McAlpine
4	Business Arising: Code of Ethics – Board Approval Update (Terms of Reference)	Keith McAlpine
5	Research & Ethics Report for Q4 – January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022 1. General Q4 Commentary 2. New Research Proposals, HSPP Round3 – Partial Results 3. Status of Current Research Projects 4. Operational Updates 5. Progress on Strategic Goals	Justine Henry
6	Discussion Research Goals – Launch of a LTC Centre of Excellence	Justine Henry
7	New Business	Keith McAlpine
8	Date of Next Meeting: TBD	

Minutes of meeting

Research & Ethics Committee

At York Care Centre, 100 Sunset Drive, Fredericton NB

On January 18, 2022 at 2:00pm (Virtual Meeting)

Present: Keith McAlpine (Chair), Lyne St. Pierre-Ellis, Gary Beattie, Marjorie Belzile, Brenda Bosse, Donna Curtis Maillet

Staff: Tony Weeks, Justine Henry, Jamie Roy

1) Call to Order

Mr. McAlpine called the meeting to order and introduced the Committee. Ms. Bosse, introduced herself to the Committee.

2) Approval of Minutes – October 15, 2021

It was moved by Mr. Beattie and seconded by Ms. Belzile that the minutes be accepted as presented by the Research and Ethics Committee. Motion carried

3) Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Mr. McAlpine asked members if there was a need to register a conflict of interested. No conflicts were identified. The meeting was held virtually due to COVID-19.

4) Business Arising

5) Code of Ethics

Mr. Weeks presented the latest draft copy of the Code of Ethics which is more inclusive of all the companies. Following a short discussion, Mr. Weeks will define to whom the document applies to make it more universal. Mr. Beattie suggested the Terms of Reference, which are reviewed annually, can be updated to reflect this change. It was further recommended that a motion be put to the Board that the Research and Ethics Committee rather than the Governance & Audit be responsible for the monitoring board member compliance. If approved, the Terms of Reference for the respective committees would be adjusted.

It was moved by Mr. Beattie and seconded by Ms. Curtis Maillet that the Research and Ethics Committee recommend the Code of Ethics, with the changes, go to the Board of Directors for approval. Motion carried

6) Research & Ethics Report for Q3 (October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021) Justine Henry

Ms. Henry presented the report highlighting:

- CIRA presented virtually at the Canadian Association on Gerontology conference in October. Lots of attendees and went over well.
- Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, CIRA did pull out from exhibiting at the NBHRF Conference in Moncton.
- One of the YCC residents was featured in the Age-Well Aging Tech Innovation week video.
- Currently working on the marketing materials for the Symposium 2022. Drafted a sponsorship letter and will be moving forward on this before the next meeting.
- The GENIE phone booth for Memory Lane has been constructed. There has been a delay with the software but anticipate delivery of the donation by the end of February. Working with the Unit Coordinator to work on a low-key research study looking at behaviour mapping for the residents and communicating with the families.
- CIRA has been participating in a series of podcasts in conjunction with Age-Well. The podcasts will be

shared every Monday on the Age-Well website and also on Spotify.

- MEKTU (Monitoring, Evaluation, and Knowledge Transfer Unit) – The intermediary organization between our funders at the Public Health agency, organizing all the knowledge translation and project monitoring for all the Seniors Pilot Projects. All the plain language summary is now available on their website. MEKTU have been putting on some Senior Pilot showcase sessions and CIRA will be participating in perhaps 2 more sessions before end of March.
- Status of current Research Project – recruiting participants and looking to increase the number of participants. The promoting Physical Activity with the bike is going great. 10 participants have been consistently using the bike for 6 months (February). Slowly recruiting more participants. The second site (Faubourg du Mascaret, Shannex, Moncton) will be launching the project in February.
- CanImmunize – recruitment is ongoing and still on track to have this project wrapped up by October 2023.
- MedRirewRX – YCC has been in the intervention stage since mid November. Some delay with the second cluster of Nursing Homes (Shannex) but the data sharing agreement is going ahead. Formal meeting is set up on February 2, 2022 but the project is on track.
- Palliative e-Learning project – Module 6 to be launched. So far, between 60-95 staff have participated on each module. The outcome measures will be collected at the end of Module 12. Status Quo.
- Operational Updates – Marc-Eric Nadeau has returned to school full-time. Stephanie Warren is the first STU intern – primarily assisting on the 2RaceWithMe project.

7) New Business:

Reconnecting with GENIE – Research Approval

- Ms. Henry confirmed that after an 8 month wait, CIRA finally heard back for the Healthy Seniors Project and was successful with funding for two projects in total of approximately, \$945,000. These projects are focused on the community in the LTC, allowing CIRA to branch out to work with stakeholders and community members. GENIE funding \$490,000 – goal with this project is to extend GENIE up to 10 LTC facilities. The community partner who assisted with the application has been able to onboard 5 LTC facilities. Also partnering with a Professor at Mount Allison University on this project.

Passively Monitoring to Actively Predict

- Using the HomeEXCEPT platform Nova Scotia, in conjunction with Silvermark, Fredericton. HomeEXCEPT will create little monitoring beacons that are non intrusive. Goal is to recruit caregivers and residents living with Dementia in the community and help map out behaviours, and target if there are any changes and find a means of providing appropriate intervention - this passive monitoring can be very insightful. Ms. Henry is still in discussion with the innovators.

It was moved by Ms. Belzile and seconded by Ms. St. Pierre-Ellis that the Research & Ethics Committee recommend the two Research proposals move forward for Board of Directors approval. Motion carried

8) Date of next meeting: Tuesday April 12, 2022 at 2pm.

It was moved by Mr. Beattie that the meeting adjourn.

Keith McAlpine, Chair

Caroline Marygold, Minutes



REPORT TO THE RESEARCH & ETHICS COMMITTEE

January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

Quarter 4

The purpose of this report is to apprise the Board's Research and Ethics Committee of key activities within each quarter of the fiscal year, including an update on key performance indicators and the strategic plan's research pillar. Accordingly, the Committee receives four reports per year with content from the following senior leaders.

Senior Leaders

Justine Henry, Executive Director of CIRA
Jamie Roy, Vice President, Care Services & Quality

Key Areas of Reporting

Research Services
Ethics

1. General Commentary

Symposium 2022:

There have been ongoing discussions with the New Brunswick Health Research Foundation to collaborate on a conference in November 2022. Traditionally, NBHRF hosts Health Research Week during the third week of November. They have been very open to collaborating and have offered us to host a one-day symposium during the week of the conference in Fredericton at the Convention Centre. We are also discussing cost sharing and NBHRF has expressed interest in possibly funding a portion of our costs. They have also offered to share planning resources.

Currently, we are drafting a tentative schedule and will start reaching out to sponsors, presenters, and exhibitors. A visit to view the Convention centre spacing is planned.

Canadian Frailty Network – Showcase of Research and Implementation to Improve the Lives of Older Adults

CIRA has an active role in the planning of this showcase. We have a double sized exhibitor booth to showcase the organization and all our active research studies. We have also been selected to do a total of three presentations: VR for Rehab, MedReviewRx, and 2RaceWithMe. This event is free to attend and takes place on May 11th, 2022, at the Delta in Fredericton.

2. New Research Proposals, HSP Round 3 – Partial Results

The following proposals have been submitted for consideration as part of the Healthy Seniors Pilot Project, Round 3. Final decisions have been made. As per Q3 report, two are officially funded.

- **GENIE:** deployment and assessment of GENIE in rural settings across New Brunswick.
- **NEW TITLE: PassiveAware:** evaluation of a non-intrusive passive monitoring system and behaviour mapping program for older adults living with dementia in New Brunswick, and the impact on the mental health of their caregivers.

The following proposals were not successful:

- **Adopt-a-Grandparent-Elder:** assessment and evaluation of the AGE program in New Brunswick
- **New Brunswick Seniors Advocate:** creation of an older-persons rights indicators

framework (OPRIF) to promote community education and policy change.

- **PITCH:** implementation and assessment of an adaptable proactive health monitoring platform across three levels of care in New Brunswick.
- **Novalte:** evaluating the use of assistive technology on time to care for nursing home staff in New Brunswick.
- **Essential Caregivers:** conduct a New Brunswick wide needs and feasibility assessment of an Essential Caregiver Training program

3. Status of Current Research Projects

Virtual Reality to Promote Rehabilitative Exercises in Seniors

- We have recruited 19/48 facility-based participants: Carleton Manor (3) + York Care Centre (12) + Nashwaak Villa (3) + Windsor Court (1)
- Of the 19 facility-based participants, 16 participants (11 from York Care Centre + 1 from Windsor Court + 3 from Nashwaak Villa + 1 from Carleton Manor) have fully completed the project and 1 participant (from York Care Centre) dropped out.
- We have recruited 7/48 home-based participants in the community, of which 4 are active and 1 will be active soon. Of the 7 home-based participants, 1 participant has fully completed the project and 1 person dropped out.
- In total, we have recruited 26/96 seniors for this study. We continue to actively recruit participants from the community and different facilities.
- We plan to attend and present at the Canadian Frailty Network's "Showcase of Research & Implementation to Improve the Lives of Older Adults" in Fredericton, on May 11, 2022, and at the "Canadian Association on Gerontology" in Regina, SK, in October of 2022.
- We participated in the AGE-Well Podcast as part of their Healthy Seniors Pilot Project Podcast Series in November 2021. This podcast was published on February 14, 2022, and can be accessed here: <https://agewell-nih-appta.ca/2022/02/14/virtual-reality-training-to-increase-rehabilitative-exercise-in-seniors/>

Promoting Physical Activity with Augmented Reality Experiences

- YCC participants continue to provide positive feedback regarding the benefits of using the 2RaceWithMe. One participant recently commented that “my arms feel better” and another indicated that “I’ve seen places I’ve wanted to see but wouldn’t be able to go to”.
- Updated hardware and software were provided by the developer (Centivizer, Inc.) in March 2022. As a result, additional travel videos have been added to the system.
- The project is now underway at the second site, Faubourg du Mascaret, in Moncton. Participant recruitment was started in March 2022. Most residents at this site are Francophone and will be able to listen to French music while “biking” and watching travel videos.
- A project update (in French) was provided by Dr. Jalila Jbilou, Primary Investigator, during the MEKTU “Showcase “on March 10, 2022.
- 4 members of the Project Team participated in a podcast, hosted by Age-Well. The project purpose, status, anticipated outcomes and next steps were discussed. The podcast is posted on Age-Well’s website at: <https://agewell-nih-appta.ca/2022/03/28/2racewithme-project-promoting-engagement-and-physical-activity-in-long-term-care-centers/>.
- Project abstracts will be submitted to the upcoming Canadian Frailty Network and New Brunswick Health Research Foundation (NBHRF) Showcase in May, 2022 and the Canadian Association on Gerontology Conference in October, 2022.

CanImmunize

- Web-based portal version of CANImmunize Shield released March 22, 2022, after delays adding pneumococcal, shingles and flu shots
- Baseline data collection to commence in April 2022
- Plans to extend project from Oct 2022 to March 2023 to extend data collection period and adequate report write up time (charter and GANTT amendment submitted to MEKTU)
- Communication line open with Tamsen about Assisted/Independent tenants about recruitment

MedReviewRx

- Participant numbers: 93 residents and 19 caregivers between 2 of our 5 study sites (York Care Centre and Loch Lomond Villa) have completed the revised Patients' Attitudes Towards Deprescribing questionnaire. We will administer this questionnaire to our 3 remaining study sites later this year.
- We now have 3 study sites (York Care Centre, Loch Lomond Villa, Faubourg du Mascaret) in the intervention phase. YCC has been in the intervention phase since November, 2021, and LLV and FduM recently started in February.
- Earlier this year we met with YCC's physicians and nursing clerks to discuss their user experience and evaluate the current implementation. 2 of YCC's physicians have completed the User Experience Survey to provide additional feedback.
- This project will be presented at the Canadian Frailty Network & New Brunswick Health Research Foundation Showcase on May 11, 2022 at the Delta Fredericton Hotel.

Palliative e-Learning

- 5/12 modules deployed to staff (see below for # of participants)
 - Module 1 – 75
 - Module 2 – 69
 - Module 3 – 65
 - Module 4 – 75
 - Module 5 – 84
 - Module 6 – 70

Genie

- REB successfully submitted to Mount Allison University.
- 8 rural long-term care facilities have been recruited.
- Devices being shipped to Outreach and Clinical Specialist for intervention deployment in June.

PassiveAware

- REB successfully submitted to Veritas Inc. and approved.
- Recruitment will commence immediately.

4. Operational Updates

CIRA has grown significantly in the last quarter. A total of 5 new employees have been on-boarded, with more planned for the second quarter.

The new employees are:

- Jo-Ann Kenny, Research Coordinator, PassiveAware
- Hanna Bincik, Research Coordinator, PassiveAware
- Ashley Crawford, Research Coordinator, Genie
- Megan Plant, Research Coordinator (previous volunteer), Genie
- Shirley St. Pierre, Clinical and Outreach Specialist (remote), Genie

Several other employees have accepted positions, but only commence in Q1:

- Stephanie Warren, STU Research Assistant intern, will end her internship at the beginning of Q1. She will return to work with CIRA full-time as a Research Assistant from April 25th – August 31, 2022.
- A summer SEED student, Grave Steeves, has been offered a position with CIRA. She will be with CIRA from May 2 – September 2, 2022.
- Airica MacDougall, previous CIRA Research Assistant, will return for a period of two months commencing in April. She will provide guidance on the deployment of Genie since she was involved in the first phase of the study. She will also provide her knowledge and learnings from her Master of Social Work program.

5. Progress on Strategic Goals

Research Goals	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<p>*NEEDS DISCUSSION: Launch an LTC Centre of Excellence to support sector-wide skills advancement, process improvement, and leadership development.</p> <p>Note: A proposal has been submitted to government for consideration of overall LTC reform in support of this goal.</p> <p>Goal date: December 31, 2021</p>	15%	15%	15%	15%
<p>Organize and deliver an interRAI process review presentation to LTCF's across New Brunswick.</p> <p>Goal date: September 30, 2021</p>	50%	100%	100%	100%
<p>Deliver a research open house to introduce staff and the community to research at CIRA.</p> <p>*UPDATE: Goal date: March 31, 2022 (plan), event in November 2022</p>	5%	10%	20%	30%