Lois Holizki (formally Edgar) is the backbone of the Centre on Aging and the person everyone turns to for help. As a gifted administrator and multi-tasker Holizki works with all levels of staff, faculty and students to make sure the centre’s project goals are met on a daily basis.

Holizki has worked at the Centre on Aging for more than 17 years. She supervises staff supporting 49 faculty research affiliates representing 18 disciplines in over eight faculties, while maintaining relationships with more than 600 individuals and organizations.

“Her candour, strong work ethic and commitment to high standards, building rapport and respect make her a natural mentor to both staff and colleagues, and a most valuable asset to the knowledge gatherers and knowledge users,” says research coordinator Vincenza Gruppuso.

Over the years, Holizki has developed a strong affinity for promoting and advocating for activities and research that advance the well-being and interests of the older person. “She can be credited with actively supporting and recruiting for activities such as Café Scientifique, International Day of Older Persons’ Lecture and Tea, Masterminds and Ideafest,” says Gruppuso.

“Especially important is Lois’ ability with communications—always concise and comprehensive —and concern for the dignity and rights of everyone,” says Patrick McGowan, professor, School of Public Health and Social Policy.

According to Debra Sheets, associate professor, School of Nursing, “Lois is an inspiration to everyone at the centre and those who know her across the university and the community.”