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IALH affiliate and Director of UVic's Biomedical Engineering Program leads initiative of making face shields for Island Health



The first batch of 4000 is almost ready for delivery to Island Health Authority. The shields are being produced by a network of local businesses, research labs and individuals.

"Being able to use resources and production capacity from within the local community to produce face shields for our healthcare workers is really important." - Stephanie Willerth

The idea for the initiative was hatched in an online health-focused chatroom when local doctors and nurses raised concerns about a shortage of disposable face masks and face shields that provide additional protection. UVic researchers and others began exploring possible solutions, settling on an open-source design that meets Health Canada's specifications.

To read the full story, [click here](#).

Self-Management British Columbia

The Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health's Self-Management BC programs give people the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to successfully manage chronic health conditions.

During the COVID-19 social distancing efforts, self-management programs will not be offered in person, but the team and coaches are working hard to implement these programs online, by telephone and mail.

We are thrilled that this year, with additional resources, Self Management BC is able to provide "Telephone Self-Management health coach programs" to up to 950 people from 200 people in 2019.

For more information on the Self-Management BC programs, please visit the [website](#) or email selfmgmt@uvic.ca.

Stay Connected! You can email us at aging@uvic.ca, or visit us on Social Media



@UVicAging



UVic Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health

IN THE NEWS CHEK



Elizabeth Borycki, IALH affiliate and Professor in UVic School of Health Information Science speaks to CHEK news about the process of data modelling to predict future health outcomes related to the pandemic.

Watch the Interview [here](#).

In the words of Bonnie Henry, British Columbia Public Health Officer:

"Wash your hands like you've been chopping jalapeños and you need to change your contacts."

McMaster

OPTIMAL AGING PORTAL

Are you a caregiver struggling with support while physical distancing? Be sure to read this [blog post](#) from the McMaster Optimal Aging Portal for some useful information.



A Request from the Cridge

"We invite families and children and ANYONE who wants to, to send a hello, an encouraging note, a photo of artwork they have done, ANYTHING we can print out and put on the meal trays of the seniors we serve who are feeling quite isolated from society at the moment.
Send it to reachingoutecridge.org

Pass the request out on your own social media and spread the word - we'll share with our seniors and we'll make sure we share with other seniors' services as well!

Did you know?

Cyber criminals are taking advantage of heightened public interest in COVID-19 to lure individuals to open phishing emails disguised as payroll information requests, government economic relief offers and disease centre alerts. Links and attachments may lead to malicious software that attempts to steal data, collect user names and passwords, or commit other crimes. Please analyze each email message you receive, look for indications of phishing, and avoid opening any unexpected, untrusted attachments.

VERA 2020 Nominations now open!



University of Victoria

Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health



ELDERCARE FOUNDATION

www.gvef.org



2019 VERA recipients from left to right: Iris Schoffer, Phylip Symons, Wendy Leyland, Ron Bilinsky, Margaret Monro, Murray Galbraith, Mary Joan Sharkey and Dick Bullard at the Union Club of BC on the 2019 International Day of Older Persons celebration. Photo Credit: Amanda Arlene Photography

Since 2016, the Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health has partnered with the [Eldercare Foundation](#) to present the Valued Elder Recognition Award (VERA). This award celebrates and shines a spotlight on the immense value older adults contribute to their community and to society as a whole. If your organization has a volunteer who has given more than 10 years of service, consider nominating her or him for the award.

[2020 VERA nomination form](#)

[2020 guidelines for letter of support](#)

This year, VERA recipients will be honoured at our virtual celebration on the UN International Day of Older Persons on October 1, 2020.

Deadline for nomination packages is Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 4:30pm. For more information, please visit our [website](#) or email agingevents@uvic.ca



IFA Virtual Town Hall Series
COVID-19 and Older People: A Human Rights Perspective

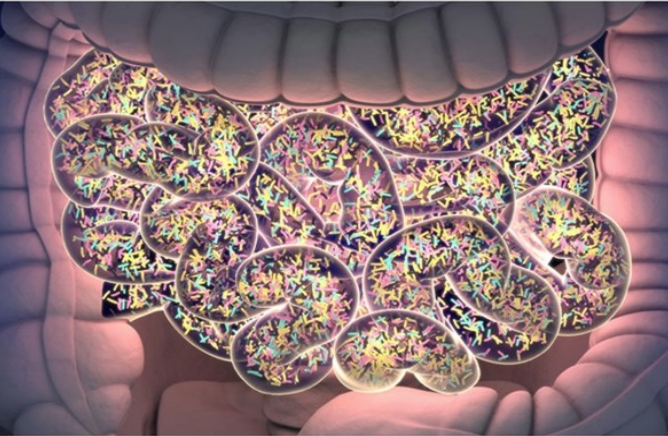
Featuring Ms. Peggy Hicks
Director, Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

1 May 2020 07:00 (GMT-4)

The International Federation on Ageing (IFA) invites all those committed to protecting and respecting the lives of older people in these unprecedented times to join the Town Hall to learn, share and explore how we can work together to inform a human rights-based approach. This town hall meeting will be presented on Zoom.

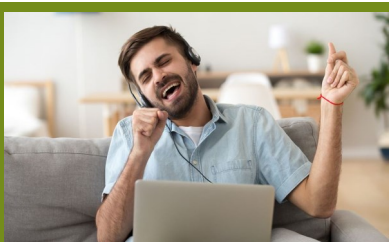
Friday, May 1, 2020
4:00am Pacific Standard Time
(turn that coffee pot timer on!)

[Register for Town Hall](#)



Dr. Ellie Griffith, Genome BC's Health Sector Director, highlights some of the research underway to unravel the mystery of microbial ecosystems that may lead to more personalized treatments of disease.

[Read More](#)



Do you love to sing? Maybe you just like to watch other people sing...

West Coast Reach Association is pleased to bring you "Sing Along From Home", a free public singalong from the comfort and safety of your home. No singing experience necessary! Songs are chosen to uplift spirits in this time of self-isolation.

Mondays evenings from 7:00pm—8:00pm PST

To register, email westcoastreach@gmail.com



Call for Research Participants on Vancouver Island
"Experiences of bereaved family members of recipients of medical assistance in dying (MAiD)"

Are you a **family member** of someone who died through MAiD on Vancouver Island?
Would you be willing to speak about **your** experience?

If so:
Tracy Powell, a doctoral candidate in the School of Nursing at the University of Victoria and a nursing educator at Mount Royal University in Calgary, wants to hear from you for a study seeking to understand your experience and perspective of being a family member who has had a significant other end their life through MAiD.

Participation in this study would require you to be interviewed by Tracy, and to complete a demographic questionnaire. **To be considered for this study, you should be 19 years of age and over; able to speak and read English; able to consent to participate; reside on Vancouver Island, BC; are a family member of an individual who received MAiD; and, the MAiD event occurred on Vancouver Island, BC.** Involvement in this study is voluntary.

If you would like more information about this study and/or are interested in participating, please contact: **Tracy Powell** at tlpowell@mtroyal.ca or **403-440-8847** (Note: this may be a long-distance number depending on your location, long-distance charges may apply).