

An Expert Based Model of Bridging Knowledge, Practice and Policy in Aging and Disability for Long-Term Care Supports and Services



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GROWING OLDER WITH A DISABILITY (GOWD) MEETING @ FICCDAT TORONTO, JUNE, 2011



Toronto Declaration GOWD workgroup:

Matilda Leonardi, Vishaya Naidoo, Christine Bigby, Tamar Heller, Michelle Putnam, Margaret Campbell, Luis Salvador Carulla, Donna Thomson, Andria Spindel, not pictured: *J. Bickenbach, B.LeRoy, J. Mendez*

RATIONALE FOR THE TORONTO DECLARATION

- The need for bridging Aging & Disability
 - The growing population of persons aging with long-term chronic conditions and disabilities.
 - Who have not been part of most traditional long-term care supports and service programs for older adults.
- The increasing trends towards both integrated health and social care systems and merged care systems for older and younger adults with disabilities.
- The historical separation of aging and disability.

CONTEXT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE TORONTO DECLARATION

- Background:
 - Growing body of international research, scholarship, and policy statements in ageing and disability indicating a need for bridging.
 - Foundational documents:
 - 2006 Graz Declaration on Disability and Ageing.
 - 2009 Barcelona Declaration on bridging knowledge in long-term care and support.
 - 2011 Linz Declaration Independent living for ageing persons with disabilities.
- Synergy:
 - International experts invested in the work of bridging aging and disability gathered for a shared purpose at GOWD.

AIMS & METHODOLOGY FOR THE TORONTO DECLARATION

- Aims: Define and develop fundamental points of a framework for bridging aging and disability fields of research, policy, and practice.
- Method:
 - Preparatory discussion prior to GOWD among meeting organizers.
 - Three in-person group meetings of key GOWD presenters laying down basic tenants, June 5-8, 2011.
 - Preparation of background document on bridging synthesizing available scholarly literature, policy documents, and conference presentations from GOWD, followed by three rounds of written review by the international expert group. June, 2011-October, 2011.
 - Drafting of Toronto Declaration in an iterative discussion process over seven telephone conference calls with a core work group from November, 2011 to March, 2012.
 - Publication on March 31, 2012.

TORONTO DECLARATION CONSENSUS STATEMENTS

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- National and international bridging of A&D knowledge, policy and practice must be actively **promoted**.
- Bridging is composed of several **activities** which must occur simultaneously, at multiple levels of knowledge development, policy and practice, and include D&A stakeholder groups.
- Building effective bridges across A&D requires **interdisciplinary collaboration** and engagement with national and international decision-makers.
- Connecting the field of A&D will require development of a clear **model** of bridging.
- Bridging requires developing a **common terminology** and knowledge base.



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TORONTO DECLARATION PRIORITY AREAS

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- **Health and well-being.**
- **Inclusion, participation and community.**
- **Long-term supports and services.**
- **Income security.**
- **Science of bridging.**

TORONTO DECLARATION DEFINITION & TASKS OF BRIDGING

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- **Definition of Bridging:**

Bridging encompasses a range of concepts, tasks, technologies and practices aimed at improving knowledge translation, sharing and collaboration across stakeholders, organizations and fields in care and support for persons with disabilities, their families, and the aging population.

- **Bridging tasks:**

Bridging tasks include activities of translation research, dissemination, coordination, assessment, empowerment, service delivery, management, financing and policy.

TORONTO DECLARATION BRIDGING OBJECTIVE & FRAME

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- **Objective:**

Improve efficiency, equity of care, inclusion and support at all levels, from the person to the society

- **Conceptual Frame:**

Recognizing the complexity of the human condition from birth to death, the capabilities of all people, and the need for a conceptual vision that takes into consideration when planning a society where participation of all citizens is the ultimate goal.

TORONTO DECLARATION RECOMMENDATIONS

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- An international agenda for bridging aging and disability be formally developed through the involvement of researchers, practice professionals, policy-makers, older adults, persons with disabilities and their families.
- Public and private funders provide financial support for research and scholarship that advances the science of bridging aging and disability knowledge, practice and policies.
- Health and social policy-makers incorporate bridging and knowledge transfer as key strategies in policy planning for building a society where all citizens can fully participate including persons with disabilities of all ages.

TORONTO DECLARATION DISSEMINATION

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- The Toronto Declaration has been presented in 10 countries.
 - Presentations have been made to:
 - Governing bodies: European Commission, Pontificia Academia Pro Vita, United States federal government agencies, Ontario provincial government,
 - International scientific meetings
 - Non governmental organizations.
- TD supplement of the *International Journal of Integrated Care*.
- Dissemination plans include scientific publications, presentations, and development of a web home for the TD and related work.

FUNDING & SUPPORT FOR THE TORONTO DECLARATION

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- Funding & Support:
 - Financial support was provided to the Toronto Declaration Work Group as well as donations of staff time and technical assistance by the GOWD organizing committee and the March of Dimes Canada.
 - The Office for Disability Issues, Canadian Government provided a small award to support development of the background document used to guide the writing of the Toronto Declaration.



TORONTO DECLARATION 2012 ENDORSEMENT WWW.FICCAT.CA

To read the Toronto Declaration go to the Growing Older with Disability conference site at:

www.ficcdat.ca

If you wish to endorse the Toronto Declaration, please send your full name, organization name, and your contact information to torontodeclaration@marchofdimes.ca

Bridging Aging and Disability

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