ERA AGE

Multinational Synergy to the Benefit of the Aging Population

Yves Joanette
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1. To present the Joint Call for Research on Ageing put forward by a number of the participating members in ERA AGE 2
2. To share with you the benefit felt by the Canadian Institute of Health Research in participating in ERA AGE 2
3. To envision the future of such collaborative approaches between European Union and Canada
European Programme of Ageing Research
Active and Healthy Ageing Across the Life Course
Key Features

- Focus on EIPAHA goal of extending healthy life years
- High quality science
- Multidisciplinarity
- Cross-national collaboration
- User/stakeholder engagement
- Knowledge transfer
Joint Call for Research on "Active and Healthy Ageing"

• Europe's first multinational research programme in the ageing field
  o Launched June 2011
  o Two-stage call
  o Budget €4.2 million

• 12 funders in 9 countries: UK, Canada, Finland, France, Sweden, Israel, Luxembourg, Latvia, Romania

• Open to multidisciplinary research groups representing 3 to 5 funding countries
Funding Agencies Involved

- Biotechnology Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), UK
- Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), UK
- Academy of Finland, Finland
- The Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS), Sweden
- Caisse Nationale d'Assurance Vieillesse (CNAV), France
- Caisse nationale de solidarité pour l'autonomie (CNSA), France
- Chief Scientist Office, Ministry of Health, Israel
- Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR), Luxembourg
- Latvian Council of Science (LCS), Latvia
- Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Romania
- Ministry of Health, Romania
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Canada
- Fonds de la Recherche en Santé du Québec (FRSQ), Canada
Three Objectives

• Generate new knowledge on the biological, clinical, behavioural, social and environmental factors that enable individuals to live actively and healthily into later life

• Explore comparatively different models, methods, approaches and good practices in societal responses to increased longevity which emphasise both social inclusion and sustainability

• Engage in effective knowledge exchange activities that will assist European and other countries to achieve the goal of increasing healthy life expectancy by 2 years by
A Wider Perspective

• In addition to multidisciplinary and life course perspectives, it was essential that proposals included clear statements on these four priorities for the call:
  – How end users of the research will be engaged in the research process, when appropriate.
  – What is the potential impact of the research on the European target of increased healthy life expectancy by two years by 2020.
  – The rapid transfer of research knowledge to policy, practice and/or product development.
  – How the comparative potential of European research will be exploited.
Outcomes

• 35 applications were received to Stage One
• 28 Stage One applications were peer-reviewed (7 were ineligible)
• 12 applications were invited to Stage Two
• 6 Stage Two applications recommended for funding

Final results Autumn 2012
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The Canadian Experience
Canada is Ageing

Seniors by Age Sub-groups, as % of the Total Population 1921-2041

Source: Adapted from Canada’s Aging Population, Health Canada, 2002, p. 3.
A Life Course Approach to Active Ageing

Early Life
- Growth and development

Adult Life
- Maintaining highest possible level of function

Older Age
- Maintaining independence and preventing disability

Functional capacity vs. Age

Adapted from: Kalache and Kickbusch, 1997

Loss of Autonomy/Disability Threshold

Range of function in individuals
The mission of CIHR is

• To **create new knowledge** according to internationally accepted standards of **scientific excellence**

and also to

• To **translate** this new knowledge into **improved health** for Canadians, **more effective health services and products** and strengthened Canadian health care systems
The Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) is the national institute-based agency supporting excelling health research of all types.
Financement par type de programme 1999-2000 / 2010-2011
CRC, CERC et RCE inclus (en millions de dollars)

Année financière
- Conseils (CRC, RCE, CECR, CERC)
- Stratégique
- Fonctionnement
- Autre*
The Benefits of International Collaboration

Internationally co-authored papers in clinical and biomedical research have higher impact.

The Royal Society: Knowledge, networks and nations, 2011

Citations per article versus number of collaborating countries

Source: Web of Science, by Observatoire des sciences et des technologies
Canadian Collaborations with European Union Countries

• New Dynamics of Ageing (NDA)
  – To promote international collaborations between Canada and UK
  – 7-year program that pooled research funds from 5 different funding councils to support multidisciplinary research on aging
  – In 2008 and 2009, two of the competitions included Canada
  – CIHR-IA funded 9 three-year collaborative projects
  – Numerous success stories for subsequent collaborations

• CIHR Summer Program on Aging (Nanaimo 2012)
  – 4 students and 2 mentors from Ireland
  – 2 students from the Netherlands

• Joint Call for Research Applications in Ageing Research
  – 5 out of 6 projects funded included Canadian researchers
The future of collaborative research after ERA-AGE

- Non-Canadians can be included as co-Pis or collaborators on any applications to CIHR
- Conditions to favour the synergies in the projects supported through the JCRA will be supported by the Institute of Aging
- International participation in the Summer Program on Aging will be facilitated through partnership
- New opportunities for collaboration could stem from the partnership with the Canadian Space Agency who is linking with NASA, ESA and JASA for a research program on Space Health and Aging
A Recent Partnership for the Institute of Aging

The Canadian Space Agency
Why CSA and Aging?

- Astronauts in space experience changes usually associated with aging. Our focus on astronaut health and medicine makes us an important stakeholder in the area of Aging related S&T.

- CSA oversees Canada’s utilization of Space platforms on the ground and in space which provide unique opportunities for innovative R&D.

- Ensure that Canada’s research and development community can make use of the International Space Station- a unique research facility.
Some Space and Aging Parallels and Interests

- Heart deconditioning/cardiovascular changes
- Muscle atrophy/bone dimineralisation
- Degradation in motor/cognitive and vestibular systems
- Increased cancer risk, radiation dosimetry and biology
- Psycho-social issues associated with isolation and confinement
- Neuroscience
- Human performance and behaviour
- Metabolism/nutrition/rehabilitation
- Bioanalysis and Biodiagnostics
- Remote care medicine

Astronaut Bob Thirsk before and after spending 6 months in space
The future of collaborative research after ERA-AGE

- Partnership and collaboration opportunities offered by the strategic orientations currently taken as part of the 2013-2018 strategic planning process at the CIHR Institute of Aging
Strategic Plan 2013-2018
Identifying the Needs

Environmental Scan
- Canadian
- International

Web Survey
840 Respondents
Researchers 43%
Trainees 11%
Clinicians 22%
Providers/Users 43%/38%
Over 65 7%
Men/Women 37/63%

Interviews
26 Individuals
Knowledge Users (12)
Health service Policy making Community Providers (14)
Researchers + Int’l

Institute of Aging Advisory Board
1 The Health and Wellness Trajectory
   • The Individual Person’s Aging Trajectory as well as the “Aging Society” Trajectory

2 Adding Life to the Late Years
   • At the Person Level and at the Environment Level

3 Interventions that Meet the Complex Needs of Older Adults
   • The complexity of the health challenges in the older person
   • Health challenges specific to the later stages of the life trajectory (dementia)
   • Maintaining health and wellness of the caregivers of older persons with health challenges

4 Innovative and Efficient Health Service Care Transitions for Older Adults
   • Innovative, effective and efficient continuum health services supporting end of life

5 Ensuring the Conditions for a Positive Impact on Health and Wellness of the Aging Population
   • Research capacity in aging, health empowerment, training programs for the health professionals, availability of an adapted knowledge transfer
Converging Strategic Orientations

• There are numerous areas for which there is converging priorities between the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan of the Institute of Aging and major European Union initiatives, such as the FutureAge Roadmap as well as the Joint Programming on More Years Better Lives

• The Canadian community of research on aging is ready to work collaboratively with their European colleagues to address these challenges while having the possibility of comparing between socio-politically different environment
Converging Strategic Orientations

- CIHR’s Institute of aging will be considering partnerships in the --- hopefully numerous --- initiatives that will allow to implement the FutureAge Roadmap

- CIHR’s Institute of Aging is also open to consider an involvement in a possible Joint Programming on this topic
4 May 2012

Canada has joined JPND as the first ever Third Country member. Israel joins as full member to bring total number of countries participating in JPND to 27.

At the twelfth JPND Management Board meeting on May 4th, 2012, two countries' applications for membership of JPND were accepted:

Israel becomes the 26th full member country of JPND, following the applications of Austria and Croatia earlier in 2012. Full membership of JPND is open to EU Member States and EU-Associated Countries.

In a first for JPND, Canada's application for Third
Canada-European Union: Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) Negotiations

Status of the negotiations

Canada and the European Union (EU) have completed the ninth round of negotiations toward a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). Canada and the EU are committed to building on the success of negotiations thus far, where significant progress has been made across the board, including the areas of goods, services, investment, government procurement and many others. The negotiating text is now well-advanced, with many chapters closed or parked pending further development, and issues in the remaining chapters narrowed down to key differences where solutions are now being actively explored.

The parties are committed to resisting protectionist pressures in challenging economic times and are seeking...
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