

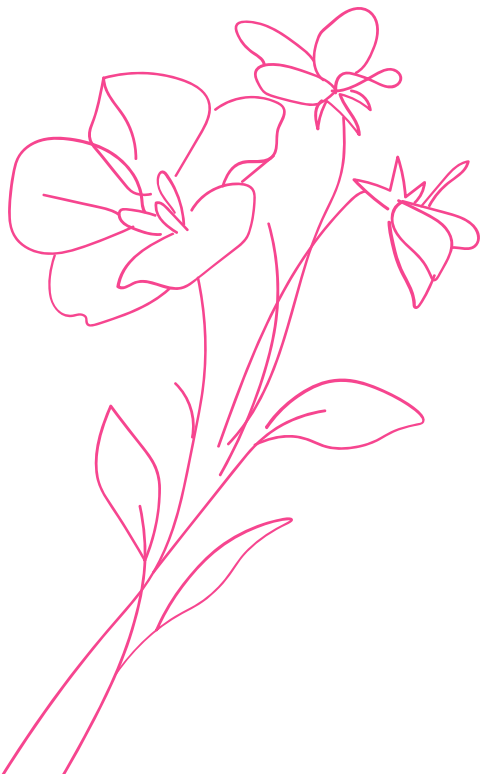
# MONTHLY

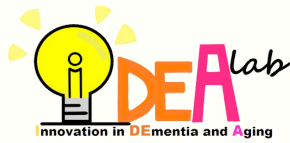
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*August*

*Edition*

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# MONTHLY

AUGUST EDITION

NEWS &  
UPDATES

Weaving  
Relations

Virtual Based  
Team Care

Lovot

Telerobot

VR

CALM

TV  
Project

Aether

Lunch  
&  
Learn  
Workshop

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: UBC Work Learn Students

### Olivia Du



Olivia is in her 4th year, studying Kinesiology. As lead of the Knowledge Translation (KT) Team, she oversees and supports social media, lab events, physical outputs, the newsletter and more. Olivia contributes greatly to lab responsibilities such as community engagement and the LOVOT project.

### Samaa ElSayed



Samaa is from Egypt, and in her 4th year of studying International Relations. She is greatly involved in community engagement, from staff training to visiting long term care (LTC) sites. Samaa's work includes running the Weaving Relations Workshop, managing LinkedIn postings, and involvement in the LOVOT project, to name a few.

### Madeline Kenja



Madeline is studying her 4th year of International Relations. Her contributions include community engagement and designing infographics for the LOVOT project, as well as social media postings on Instagram and kickstarting the lab's Threads account.

### Tanaya Parakh



Tanaya is a senior student studying Economics and Commerce. Tanaya has contributed to various projects, including the VR project, DemSCAPE project, and CALM Robot project. She is also working on the LOVOT project and social media postings.

**Read their interview on the next pages!**

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

What has the WorkLearn experience been like for you this summer?



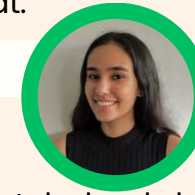
I mainly do KT work, marketing and make posts whenever there's a lab activity. I enjoy working with different project leads and appreciate this opportunity to develop my interpersonal and professional communication.



It's been super nice working alongside Joey and people who patiently guide you. Dr. Hung is supportive and approachable. I've never felt alone and learned a lot working with technology and older adults, so I'm grateful for that.



It's been great figuring out my work structure and I'm thankful to Dr. Hung for providing the space to do so. Right now I'm working with Hiro on the LOVOT project and being creative with social media and videos, which has been fun and a great learning opportunity.



I worked remotely back home, and joined several projects, including the CALM robot, VR, LOVOT, and KT work. There's a bit of everything I'm getting to try my hand at, from social media to writing and presentations, so it's been a great experience.

What advice would you give to an incoming Work Learn student?

**Olivia:** Communicate your preferences early because the lab is huge and getting to know each other is important. Even if we all have good intentions, we can forget to communicate when it gets stressful. I can sum it up with teamwork. When I opened up, and communicated with people around me, I felt less stressed, and that the work produced was higher quality.

**Samaa:** I'd say have a smile on your face and walk in with an open mind and communicate. Everyday is a new learning opportunity, so don't isolate yourself and take it with an open mind. Everyone's there to help you out, no one expects you to navigate it alone. You do have the resources and people who would love to guide you, so let them help you.

**Tanaya:** It is necessary to communicate well with the team and understand what is expected for your tasks. Also manage your time well, because it can get overwhelming juggling multiple things. At the end of the day, have fun and enjoy the process for a holistic experience!

**Madeline:** Similar to Tanaya, I can't emphasize communication enough. Whether it's your work style, strengths, things you need help with, or want to do. Also, do things in advance so that you don't feel overwhelmed, especially if you're simultaneously managing school deadlines.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

### How does the lab connect to your life?



My work closely aligns with my career aspirations. I think I want to study occupational therapy and am passionate about evidence-informed patient-centered care. I appreciate talking to patient and family partners about their lived experience and enjoy working within the multidisciplinary team that the lab offers. Learning about their experiences and responsibilities really helps me form an idea of what I want to do in the future.

For me it's personal, as my late grandma suffered from Alzheimer's, and I have always been told stories about how much I loved her and the time we spent together. Joining the lab was an opportunity to learn more, empathize and give back. This is why I love visiting LTC homes; I try to every Friday. The older adults love telling stories and talking about their grandchildren. For me it's kind of a way to relive the part that I feel like I've lost early on. So it's very heartwarming, keeping me very grounded.



I moved here for school almost 3 yrs ago and working with the lab has helped me become more familiar with LTC homes, which are not common back home. Visiting the LTC homes and speaking to older adults has taught me what to value in life and what matters at the end of the day. For example, the connections that you make and the depth of your friendships. I've learned to value time with my loved ones and be more conscious of my choices. It's deeper than a casual conversation, with a lesson in everything you discuss.

I relate to Madeline when she says that LTC homes are not a familiar concept because back in India, I still live with my grandparents. At the same time, interacting with people at the LTC homes fills you with a lot of gratitude and you learn so many things from their unique perspective that you wouldn't when interacting with friends.





## CURRENT PROJECTS

### Calm Robot

*Irene Chen*

We met up with our industrial partner (Stanley and his wife, Vicky) who visited Vancouver from Toronto, at the beginning of August 3rd. We are very delighted Stanley provided significant support on CALM robot development.

Our CALM team also had our first design jam robot workshop, in which, we gather older adults with dementia, caregivers, and staff to co-design the CALM robot.

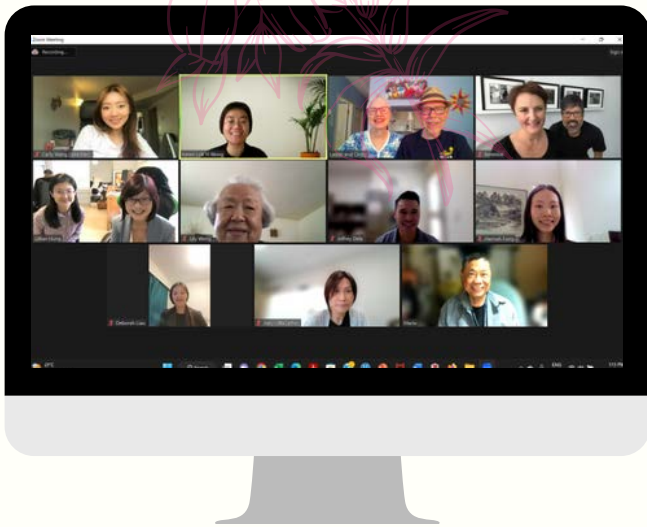


### TV Project

*Karen Wong*

The TV project is in good progress. We are wrapping up our data collection at VGH geriatric acute care and Villa Cathay care home sites and are planning to celebrate and appreciate the hard work and support of staff at these sites.

We are also working with the Windermere Care Home to start training there. We are working on creating a documentary video, promotional materials, conducting a PEIRS survey about patient and family partners' engagement experiences in the project, and more.



## CURRENT PROJECTS

### Virtual Team Based Care Planning

*Mona Upreti*

We conducted two highly informative focus groups, one in Acute care and the other in long term care. The healthcare leaders emphasized the significance of communication and the utilization of virtual tools in both facilities. They also acknowledged the time and manpower constraints that sometimes hinder the use of virtual means in providing care. However, they expressed optimism in the prediction of increased usage of virtual team-based care, as it helps streamline many aspects of communication in care planning.



### Virtual Team Based Care Planning

*Ian Chan*

This month, Dr. Hung highlighted our project alongside other IDEA Lab projects at the Knowledge Exchange Webinar. Concurrently, our dedicated team and partners collaboratively continue working on facilitators and barriers of Virtual Health in transitioning from acute to long-term care.



## CURRENT PROJECTS

### Lunch and Learn Workshop

*Olivia Du*

During the Lunch and Learn workshop, Dr. Mann and Olivia led a knowledge translation seminar for our lab members. We had great discussions about how to build our brand, how to engage with targeted audience, and how to "see and to be seen" by relevant research institutions.



### Aether Project

*Arisa Kinugawa*

Our team conducted focus groups with staff to discuss ideas, opinions, and concerns regarding the deployment of Aether in the care home. We finished transcribing our focus group audio-recordings and are currently analyzing the feedback from the focus groups.

Our team is currently working on creating user guides and training materials for staff on what Aether is, how to use Aether, and its benefits.

We made some technical improvements to Aether such as integrating ChatGPT, improving microphone sensitivity, and upgrading wifi reliability with wifi mesh in the care home.

We did a test run with new and improved Aether at another care home!





## NEWS &amp; UPDATES

# Weaving Relations: EDII Workshop Completion

*Samaa ElSayed*

With gratitude, the lab acknowledges Samaa Elsayed and Dr. Lillian Hung for guiding the transformative Weaving Relations course.

In just a month, their expertise fueled our journey of exploration. Heartfelt commendation goes to the dedicated Weaving Relations students. Their curiosity and commitment shone through engaging discussions and mastering course modules. Successfully completing all modules in this intensive month was a collective triumph, a testament to our shared pursuit of knowledge.

We extend our deepest appreciation to the administrators of the course, lab members, and UBC for making the Weaving Relations course a remarkable experience.





## CURRENT PROJECTS

### Telepresence Robot

*Joey Wong*

With committed teamwork for months, the phase 3 data collection for our project is wrapping up! Our team appreciates our participants for their engagement. It is great to explore how they experience using the Telepresence Robot with their family members.

We look forward to the data analysis and knowledge translation of our findings! Our team also introduced the Telepresence robot to UBC students in the Hope Program raising their awareness on the usage of technology in dementia research. Stay tuned for more presentations and data analysis!



### Virtual Reality

*Joey Wong*

It has been a fruitful month for the team. We had multiple VR sessions with residents in long-term care. Our team is encouraged by their smiles and interactions. The residents also loved the videos that we created! Our team recently had a filming session with our patient and family partners with a Birthday theme at a dim sum restaurant. We had so much fun and food!

There are many possibilities for the VR use and designs with older adults. With the data collected from staff focus groups this month, we hope to learn more about the staff perspectives of using VR at their workplace.

Finally, special thanks to our international students Halcyon and Charlie who worked with us this summer. We appreciate their enthusiasm in filming and editing VR videos for our team!



## NEWS AND UPDATES

### Lovot Community Event

*Madeline Kenja, Olivia Du & Tanaya*

Kiwi and Mango have visited Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House, Nikkei Home, West Vancouver Seniors' Activity Center, and South Vancouver Neighbourhood House. After a short presentation by our team introducing the LOVOT robots, the attendees were able to freely interact with Kiwi and Mango by waving hello, petting and holding them, and taking lots of pictures.



### South Vancouver Neighbourhood Home

The LOVOT project team embarked on a heartwarming journey as our social robots graced a local neighbourhood home with their enchanting presence! This time, we asked our lovely seniors to make a circle to interact with Mango!

We introduced the robot through the presentation and ended with a Q&A section. It was a delight to witness their eager engagement with LOVOT!

**CLICK THE PHOTO  
TO VIEW MORE**



# NEWS AND UPDATES



Highlight: During our visit to Nikkei Home, we hosted a clothes-making workshop where attendees made stylish aprons, shirts, and visors for Kiwi and Mango. Maybe you'll see them wearing the clothes at future events!

**Check out our cloth making session:D**

## NIKKEI HOME

On August 11th, our lab members, Hiro, Tanaya, and Helen, had a heartwarming visit to the Iki Iki Program at Nikkei Home. Together with the lovely participants, they embarked on a creative journey during a clothes-making workshop for our adorable Lovots, Kiwi and Mango!

The result? A burst of colorful aprons, frocks, and hats that not only brought joy but also dressed up our Lovots in style! Their creativity truly shone in this incredible experience.





# NEWS AND UPDATES

Practical tips for writing workshop




With a PhD in English Literature, Letitia specialize in editing academic work in the health sciences, social sciences, and humanities

<https://ubc.zoom.us/j/8812485067?pwd=RmRYWlNjVFdxNVhmL3YxaUFsUFVSUT09>  
 Meeting ID: 881 248 5067  
 Passcode: 654321

**JOIN THE ZOOM**  
 AUGUST 11TH 11AM-12PM PST

## Writing workshop

*Olivia Du*

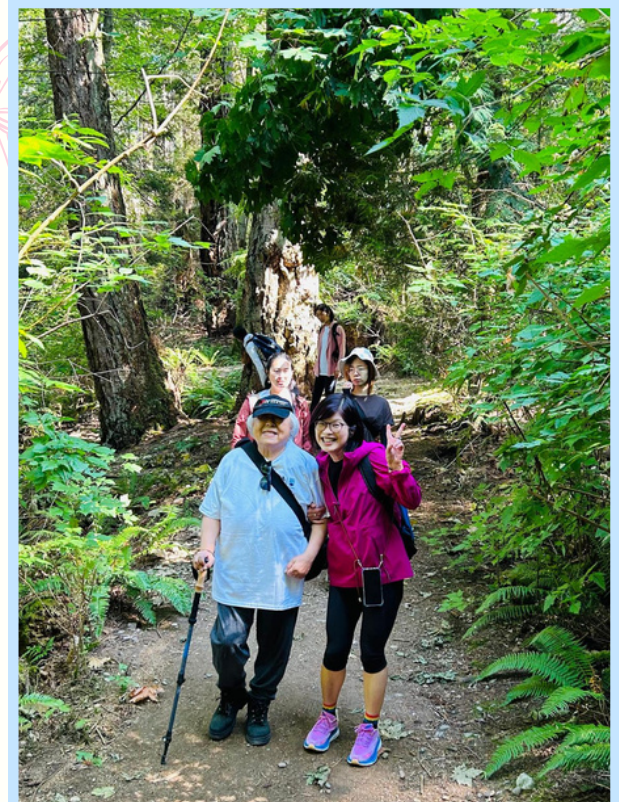
On August 11th, our lab members had a chance to learn academic writing and editing skills from Dr. Letitia, who is keen in academic editing. We were introduced to softwares that can help us to identify the structure and improve our writing!

## Hiking Social

*Olivia Du*

On July 30th, Olivia led a hiking event for lab members and patient partners. We went to the lighthouse park and visited beautiful trails. After the hike, we went to JJ's kitchen to have a team lunch!

Look how happy we are!





# CURRENT PROJECTS

## Lovot Project

*Hiro Ito and Helen Banh*

The LOVOT project team would like to re-introduce our two LOVOT robots with their new names, **Kiwi** and **Mango**! They can recognize their names, so when you see them, please say hi!



**KIWI**



**MANGO**



Throughout August, Kiwi and Mango have been busy traveling with the team to different community programs (see more details on the next page) to engage attendees with the LOVOT project.

### OUR LOVOT TEAM

The LOVOT robot team have also been holding weekly meetings to reflect on our community engagement experiences, and to discuss upcoming plans for community outreach, our research project, and even LOVOT robot-themed goodies. We have a lot of items on the way, so stay tuned!

