

YEAR END


2023

Edition






Lillian's Greetings!



As we draw close to the end of another remarkable year, I want to express my profound gratitude and appreciation for my team at UBC IDEA and all of you who have supported us. Your passion and dedication have been pivotal in achieving our goals to improve quality of life in seniors. The synergy between our community partners, interdisciplinary students, and the older adults we serve has been so inspirational.

This year, we have much to celebrate. The publication of 25 peer-reviewed papers in high-impact journals, many led and first-authored by our talented students in collaboration with patient and family partners, is a testament to our commitment to academic excellence and real-world impact. Our presence in 40 conferences and professional presentations in Canada, United Kingdom, Netherlands, United States, Japan, Singapore and Hong Kong has expanded our reach and enriched our perspectives and knowledge.

The introduction of our new robotic companions, Mango and Kiwi, has brought immense joy and engagement to the British Columbian community, particularly to those living with dementia. In addition to Aether and our CALM robot, these AI-enabled robots mark significant milestones in our research on using innovative technology to improve care and quality of life.



We are thrilled about the initiation of eight new projects in 2023. Looking ahead, we will have a special focus on international collaborations, such as applying digital games to enhance brain health and wellness. Our ongoing commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) remains at the forefront of our efforts, ensuring that the benefits of technology reach all individuals, especially those at various stages of dementia.

As we step into the new year, let's carry forward this momentum with renewed energy and purpose. Here's to a year filled with health, happiness, and continued success in our endeavors.

Wishing everyone a joyous and prosperous New Year!

Warm regards,

Lillian





Jim's Greetings!



Happy new Year, everyone!

One-year closing, and another beginning encourages us all to reflect on the year, our achievements, perhaps our disappointments, and the many lives we touched, and focuses our attention on moving forward and making a difference.

For all of us who are a part of IDEA Lab, there is a lot to celebrate, with the knowledge that there are many exciting plans for next year.

The true engagement of patient partners in all projects is, in itself, a cause for celebration. The Lab's intent of integrating intergenerational work, with students working alongside patient partners, is a learning opportunity for everyone. And we have photos of meetings and events that communicate its success and the joy it brings to all participants.

We achieved so much in 2023, with many articles in peer-reviewed papers, and lots of in-person and virtual presentations, all of which contributes to peoples' understanding of meaningful engagement of older adults and people living with dementia.

Twenty twenty-four will no doubt bring surprises, but I am confident IDEA Lab students and patient partners will influence change locally and around the world, and for that I salute you and send you, my gratitude. *The IDEA Lab Influencers!*

I wish everyone the very best of the season and for a New Year filled with promise, opportunities, challenges, and meaningful engagement.

All the best, *Jim*



Over this year...



We were awarded the CIHR Catalyst Grant to support our research in virtual team-based care planning for transitions

Dr Hung and Dr Jim Mann gave a fantastic presentation to the Ministry of Health on our Telepresence Robot, LOVOT, and the Learning Health System projects!



Three new robot studies: Aether, Lovot, and Calm robots

Two newly funded VR projects: one in acute care and one in LTC



New Frontiers in Research
Fonds Nouvelles frontières



Partnerships with industry in Dementia TV and sleep studies



We received the Partnership Recognition and Exploration Fund led by Jason, and the StEAR Enhancement Fund led by Joey to promote equity and inclusion within both UBC and the community



Let's celebrate some of the best moments of 2023!



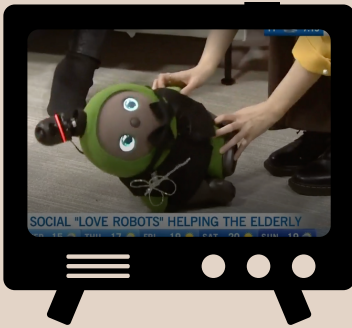
We held a DemSCAPE & Happy Cities Community Forum at the Simon Fraser University. It was a huge success!

We kicked off our Virtual Team-Based Care Planning project.



We began wrapping up Phase 3 of our Telepresence Robot project. So excited to evaluate research impact!

We had a great time at the Dementia Friends Café sharing our research and spreading love during the holiday season!



FUNNIEST MEMORY OF 2023

2023 was full of laughter and funny moments, but our favourite is the time Kiwi tripped on CTV Morning Live! It's okay Kiwi, interviews make us nervous too!



Cheers to an
amazing
year!

