Dr. Neena Chappell is the founding Director of the University of Manitoba's Centre on Aging. She served as Centre Director from 1982–1992.

Neena Chappell

The Centre on Aging at the University of Manitoba is the first institute established (July 1, 1982) through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's experimental program of research centres within the strategic grant theme *Individual and population aging*.
On November 4, the official opening ceremonies of the Centre on Aging are held, followed by a reception.

1982

Seed money is made available for funding pilot projects (not to exceed $2500). Nineteen pilot projects were funded from 1982 to 1987. **1982**

The first Spring Research Symposium is held on May 5. Topic areas focused on loneliness; shopping patterns of older people in downtown Winnipeg; the use of restraints in the care of older people; victimization of older people; family caregivers; and Alzheimer's Disease.
In 2006, the Symposium moves to the Bannatyne Campus, with over 350 individuals registering.

1983

The Jack MacDonell Scholarship in Aging is established in 1984. Steven Hill was the first scholarship recipient. His research looked at Integration of "*Inuit elderly within a contemporary Arctic community*". **1984**

The Centre prepares *The Provincial Fact Book on Aging— Manitoba* for the fourth Manitoba Conference on Aging on May 21–25. The Centre would continue to regularly produce the Fact Book on Aging to provide reliable information on various aging related topics, and it would later be used in the undergraduate Interfaculty Option in Aging core courses.

1985

The Esther and Samuel Milmot scholarship is established. Ester Kim King was the first recipient in 1988–1989, whose research focused on *Elder's support systems: Preferential ordering or task structure?* **1987**

The UM's Board of Governors approves the Senate's recommendation to designate the Centre on Aging as a university centre on July 26, 1990. The Centre becomes a University wide research centre, reporting to the Vice-President Research.
The UM recognizes aging as a priority concern and acknowledges the Centre's achievements by providing baseline funding for the Centre.

1990

The Centre on Aging is 1 of 18 study centres participating in the Canadian/Manitoba Study of Health and Aging, a national longitudinal study on aging and dementia. **1990**

CARNET: The Canadian Aging Research Network, was 1 of 15 Networks of Centres of Excellence funded under the federal government's initial Networks of Centres of Excellence program. The Products and Services Research Group was headquartered at the Centre, and was one of three CARNET research groups.

1990

The Centre celebrates its 10th anniversary with a banquet on October 1. Dr. Chappell leaves the UM at the end of July. She would go on to establish the Centre on Aging at the University of Victoria. **1992**

Appointed in 1993, Dr. Laurel Strain served as the second Centre on Aging Director from 1983–2003 at the University of Manitoba.

Laurel Strain

Starting in 1988, the Centre receives funding from the Winnipeg Foundation and Thomas Sill Foundation to explore curriculum development in aging. Reports are commissioned, leading to the development of the Interfaculty Option in Aging, which launched in September 1992.

1992

The Centre plays an instrumental role in the acquisition of AgeLine, a reference database providing coverage to 500+ journals, books, government publications, and research reports pertaining to aging and age related issues, by the Elizabeth Dafoe Library. **1993**

The Centre on Aging Research Fellowship is established. A $10,000 fellowship is awarded to a full-time tenure-track or tenured faculty member conducting aging research for one year. Dr. Ruby Grymonpre and Geoffrey Smith are the first fellowship recipients. To date, 44 faculty members have been supported since the establishment of the fellowship.

1993

The first annual Research Forum is held on March 4. The inaugural meeting attracted 30 individuals for an informal networking session. The last Research Forum was held on April 25, 2014, with Dr. Walter Wittich as the final presenter. **1994**

The Centre is awarded a $1.2 million contract from the Health Services Innovations Fund, Manitoba Health for a three year Gerontological Research program, overseen by Dr. Strain. Projects include various faculty members and focus on the Adult Day Care program, Support Services and Senior Centres evaluation, Supportive Housing Initiative, and Follow up to the Canadian/Manitoba Study of Health and Aging.

1995

Jim Gardner, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost, forms a Steering Committee on Structured Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs in Aging. Dr. Strain is a committee member. The committee builds on work in 1993/94, which will lead on further development for a Graduate Specialization. **1996**

The Centre creates the *Directory of faculty members, graduate students, and research staff interested in aging* to facilitate the exchange of information. Some of the faculties includes Asper School of Business, Arts, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Social Work. **1996**

Research Affiliate formal appointments to the Centre began in 1996. The first eight affiliates appointed include Drs. Judith Chipperfield, Paul Fortier, Ruby Grymonpre, Lena Horne, Michael Mahon, Barbara Payne, Elizabeth Ready, and Geoffrey Smith.

1996

The Centre on Aging's website is developed at the University of Manitoba. Extensive updates are made in 2004 to provide more details. In 2020, the Centre's website is upgraded to a new platform as part of a UM wide initiative. **1997**

In recognition of the United Nations' (UN) *International year of older persons* (IYOP), two awards are created.
The Centre on Aging Graduate Fellowship ($1000) is established. Patricia Pavletic is the first graduate fellowship recipient.
The Faculty-Graduate Student Collaborative Research Grant Program is launched in the same year, with 13 awards given out (1999–2006).

1999

Dr. Verena Menec served as the third Director of the Centre on Aging in 2004–2014. During her directorship, Dr. Menec held a Canada Research Chair in Healthy Aging (Tier II).

Verena Menec

Created the Centre on Aging participant database, providing Centre Research Affiliates and their students with approved studies to reach volunteer research participants age 55 and up. **2004**

Conducted research (2006–2007) as one of 33 cities in the global World Health Organization's Age-friendly cities project. The collective research led to the publication of the *Global Age-friendly Cities: A Guide*, released in 2007.

2006

Co-research lead on the Public Health Agency of Canada's Age-friendly rural/remote communities initiative. In 2007, the Age-Friendly Rural and Remote Communities: A Guide is released. **2007**

Dr. Menec, appointed by Vice-President (Academic) and Provost Robert Kerr, chairs a working committee to develop a graduate level specialization in aging.

The Graduate Specialization in Aging (GSA) is launched in Fall 2007. Melissa Sitter is the first student to receive the GSA (2009), with 39 students completing the requirements to receive the GSA.

2007

The Centre on Aging is the local host for CAG2009, the 46th Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting of the Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG), held October 19–21, 2009 in Winnipeg.

2009

As part of the Province's Age-Friendly Manitoba Initiative (AFMI) event launch, Dr. Menec signed a charter, on behalf of the Centre on Aging, demonstrating a commitment to making Manitoba the most age-friendly province in Canada.

2011

The Barbara J. Payne Scholarship in Social Gerontology is established. Master's student, Jennifer McArthur, is the first scholarship recipient in 2012–2013. **2012**

Discussions start with Central Administration on the UM becoming an Age-Friendly University. Post-doc Dr. Nancy Newall, begins discussions with UMRA to create an "A-Team" (age-friendly team). **2012**

The Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) selects the University of Manitoba as 1 of 11 CLSA sites (2009) data collection site for both the CLSA Tracking Cohort and Comprehensive Cohort. Dr. Menec is the local site lead. In 2012, the data collection site is opened at Deer Lodge Centre, with a ribbon cutting ceremony attended CLSA PI, Dr. Parminder Raina, Mr. Réal Cloutier, and local press in attendance.

2012

The Students Targeting Aging Research (STAR) group is established, providing undergraduate and graduate students interested in aging with an opportunity to connect. **2013**

Dr. Michelle Porter is the fourth Director of the University of Manitoba's Centre on Aging. During her directorship, Dr. Porter was named a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA).

Michelle Porter

The Manitoba Fact book on Aging is moved online and is renamed the "Facts on aging" series, with downloadable resources for faculty, students, and those working with older people. **2016**

The UM endorses the 10 Age-Friendly University (AFU) principles at the 2016 Spring Research Symposium. The Centre takes the lead on the AFU Committee and several initiatives to improve the age-friendliness of the UM.

2016

The Centre hosts the first non-Winnipeg Café Scientifique in Brandon on September 30. Presenting are Research Affiliates Drs. Rachel Herron, Nancy Newall, and Frances Racher. **2016**

The Centre on Aging is the local host for CAG2017, the 46th Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting of the Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG), held October 19–21, 2017 in Winnipeg.

2017

With the launch of the World Health Organization's Global Strategy and Action Plan on Healthy Ageing (GSAP), interested stakeholder collaborate to form the Coalition for Healthy Aging in Manitoba. **2017**

Coordinate aging and technology initiatives that leads to the establishment of a local Aging 2.0 chapter, supported by the Centre. An interest group and networking event is hosted on June 19.

2019

The Graduate Focus on Aging Concentration (GFAC) is launched in the Fall term of the 2020–2021 academic year, and is administered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The first eligible recipient receives the GFAC in February 2021. **2020**

The global COVID-19 pandemic changes life as we know it. Dr. Porter testifies at HUMA–Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities. She receives funding from the New Horizons for Seniors Program for a project on improving quality of life in long-term care including providing Google Nest Hubs for residents of facilities across the province.

2020

Supervised by Dr. Porter, the STAR co-leads' (Lisette Dansereau, Courtney Addison, Megan Campbell) research project "How can we increase student engagement in STAR?" results in presentations and publication of a journal article (2021–2022). **2021**

On May 16, 2022, the Centre on Aging hosted the Honourable Kamal Khera, Minister of Seniors, Government of Canada, at the UM. Minister Khera announces the Centre on Aging as one of the recipients that was awarded funding from the New Horizons for Seniors Program to combat ageism.

2022

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