



## **i2i Intergenerational Society**

### **Invitation to Intergenerational Learning**

**GETTING STARTED.... FINDING A COMMUNITY PARTNER**  
check the Intergenerational Toolkit at [www.intergenerational.ca](http://www.intergenerational.ca)

#### **ARE YOU A HEALTH CARE WORKER, LOOKING FOR A SCHOOL CLASS?**

- Determine what age group your project would target \*rule of thumb: *older kids, higher level of care: younger kids, higher functioning adults*
- Avoid September, December and June for these discussions, busy school months
- Schools work on a 10 month plan, not a life plan...be patient, connections take time
- Make face-to-face contact with your target people if at all possible, it's a human endeavor
- Schools require significant lead time. Suggest a Baby Step start.
- Inquire at your child's school, or school of a friend/relative's child
- Talk to the principal about any teachers who might be interested in your idea
- Walk to a school near to your facility and check with the administration for interest
- Contact the District Parent Advisory Council or school Parent Advisory Chair for referrals
- Contact the local Teachers' Association (put an advertisement in the newsletter)
- Contact the Board of Education Chair, ask for a referral to a school or contacts
- Ask friends, neighbours, colleagues for referrals to like-minded educators
- Approach your local Retired Teachers' Association for help linking with a school
- Be flexible in your ideas for initial connecting (Baby Steps? Mama Steps? Whose facility?)
- It appears more difficult for educators to commit than it does for health care (Reasons?)
- Ultimately, find someone who will help champion your cause from the school side
- Consider enlisting the assistance of i2i personnel in promoting your initiative and offering encouragement, suggestions and possibly a joint presentation

#### **ARE YOU A TEACHER OR COMMUNITY LEADER LOOKING FOR A CARE FACILITY?**

- Check with your local Health Authority to become familiar with levels of care
- Determine the level of care that could connect with the age group with which you work  
\*rule of thumb: *older kids, higher level of care: younger kids, higher functioning adults*
- Find a care home of that level that is closest in proximity to your facility
- Make face-to-face contact with your target people if at all possible, it's a human endeavor
- Contact the Activity Services Director, request a meeting
- If that care home is not amenable, ask for referrals to other care homes
- The local Health Authority will give you a website to find care home locations
- Be flexible in the parameters for your partner group (occasional visits, weekly, monthly?)
- Consider senior recreation centres, senior activity centres, meeting places for seniors
- Don't be discouraged if this does not happen quickly, allow time for planning/orientation
- Be cognizant of flu/cold epidemics, check our website for Ministry of Health H1N1 info'
- Remember the outdoor months and the non-flu/cold months of the fall and spring are best
- Consider enlisting the assistance of i2i personnel in promoting your initiative and offering encouragement, suggestions and possibly a joint presentation