




Summary Report

GANS Member Survey






1. How long have you been a member of GANS?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Less than 2 years		73%	43
Two to 5 years		14%	8
More than 5 years		14%	8
Total Responses			59

2. Why did you originally join GANS?

The 56 response(s) to this question can be found in the appendix.

3. What benefits have you received from your membership with GANS? (check all that apply)

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Information		69%	41
Networking		27%	16
Advocacy		8%	5
I have received no benefit from my membership with GANS		15%	9
Other, please specify:		12%	7
Total Responses			59




3. What benefits have you received from your membership with GANS? (check all that apply) (Other, please specify:)

#	Response
1.	used to have great AGM's/workshops
2.	I'm not even sure where my membership stands; other than receiving emails regarding upcoming events, no other benefits
3.	Sharing research
4.	(I have received no benefit so far because I haven't gotten involved)
5.	general sense of keeping in touch with what's happening in NS
6.	conferences were usually helpful

4. Have you attended a GANS event in the past year?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Yes		19%	11
No		81%	48
Total Responses			59

4a. If yes, please indicate each of the events you have attended. (check all that apply)

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Lunch and Learn (indicate what topics)		50%	5
Networking Tuesdays		40%	4
Annual General Meeting		60%	6
Total Responses			10

4a. If yes, please indicate each of the events you have attended. (check all that apply) (Lunch and Learn (indicate what topics))

#	Response
1.	Personal Directives, Research re the latest advances in research, Frontal lobe dementias etc
2.	Social vulnerability

4b. If no, could you tell us why you have not attended any GANS events in the past year.

The 50 response(s) to this question can be found in the appendix.

5. Which of the following would you like to receive through your GANS membership? (check all that apply)

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Practitioner guidelines		41%	24
Research findings		78%	46
Networking opportunities (what types?)		46%	27
Educational opportunities (what types?)		66%	39
Advocacy (what topics?)		34%	20
GANS website updates focused on aging in Nova Scotia		75%	44
Other, please specify:		8%	5
Total Responses			59

5. Which of the following would you like to receive through your GANS membership? (check all that apply)
(Networking opportunities (what types?))

#	Response
1.	informal guided events
2.	collaborative projects
3.	during the day....coffee?
4.	day time socials
5.	more affiliation with other organizations with similar interests as GANS
6.	research
7.	informal social
8.	connections with other members through website and events
9.	other healthcare practitioners
10.	The new services offered to seniors
11.	with those who care for seniors
12.	social and directed
13.	meals at educational events works fine
14.	informal or come together around a common problem
15.	goverlevelnance and operational
16.	just to discuss issues at hand

5. Which of the following would you like to receive through your GANS membership? (check all that apply)
(Educational opportunities (what types?))

#	Response
1.	Once a year face to face, newsletters
2.	webinar

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 3. | lunch and learns, presentations |
| 4. | teaching and as a student |
| 5. | more access to tele - ed; we have the technology, yet the number of limited sites is limiting |
| 6. | marketing, social media, resource and community based options |
| 7. | lunch and learns |
| 8. | educational workshops or conferences |
| 9. | Ongoing research here how to apply to practice. |
| 10. | service provision, expectations of seniors, surveys of seniors etc. |
| 11. | talks and presentations by members and invited experts |
| 12. | staying healthy; supporting elderly with multiple diseases |
| 13. | Healthy Aging , |
| 14. | Dealing with Behavioural issues in the elderly. |
| 15. | lunch and learns |
| 16. | conference, lunch and learns, workshops, webseminars |
| 17. | available resources in NS for rural areas |
| 18. | inter-professional |
| 19. | any updates on senior care |
| 20. | assisting elderly spouses deal with issues that arise after death of their partner. |

5. Which of the following would you like to receive through your GANS membership? (check all that apply)
(Advocacy (what topics?))

#	Response
1.	LTC, \$\$ and seniors
2.	ageing, falls prevention
3.	funding, aging in place, technology
4.	issues of daily life
5.	affordable housing, in home care giving
6.	as society evolves away from former standards we need to advocate for higher standards of service provision and fair financial costs
7.	navigating medical system
8.	Financial Abuse, Housing, Hospital Treatment
9.	Reducing elderly poverty
10.	driving
11.	Persons with dementia
12.	transportation
13.	poverty




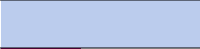



14. health charities perspective

15. helping elders establish succession planning

5. Which of the following would you like to receive through your GANS membership? (check all that apply)
(Other, please specify:)

#	Response
1.	clear updates re membership
2.	connecting what organizations are out there offering services to our older population
3.	job postings
4.	best practice info etc.
5.	conference


6. How would you like to receive GANS-related information or opportunities? (check all that apply)

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Print materials (reports/brochures)		25%	15
Small/casual events		29%	17
GANS website updates		73%	43
Conferences		51%	30
Social media sites (Twitter, Facebook, blog)		19%	11
Email		92%	54
Other, please specify:		3%	2
Total Responses			59

6. How would you like to receive GANS-related information or opportunities? (check all that apply) (Other, please specify:)

#	Response
1.	Telehealth
2.	webinars

7. Would you prefer the information or opportunities to be:

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Specific to your discipline or area of interest		24%	14
Interdisciplinary		76%	45
Total Responses			59

8. What content or topics of interest would you like to see covered on the GANS website?

The 43 response(s) to this question can be found in the appendix.

9. If you were to attend a GANS event, what area of the HRM would be easiest for you to access?

The 49 response(s) to this question can be found in the appendix.

10. To continue providing information and opportunities, GANS will be reinstating a small annual membership fee for the 2011/2012 year. Will you be continuing your GANS membership with the reintroduction of a small annual fee (i.e., less than \$60)?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Yes		75%	44
No		25%	15
Total Responses			59

11. Could you please describe what you think are the strengths or benefits of the current programs, information, and opportunities offered by GANS?

The 33 response(s) to this question can be found in the appendix.








12. Could you please describe what you think are the weaknesses or drawbacks with the current programs, information, and opportunities offered by GANS?

The 35 response(s) to this question can be found in the appendix.

13. What are your primary areas of interest related to aging?

The 52 response(s) to this question can be found in the appendix.



What is your primary professional affiliation?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Health Practitioner		42%	25
Government		5%	3
Student		2%	1
Researcher/Educator		17%	10
Non-Profit		12%	7
Volunteer		7%	4
Other, please specify:		15%	9
Total Responses			59

What is your primary professional affiliation? (Other, please specify:)

#	Response
1.	DHA
2.	CBRC
3.	nurse anthropologist
4.	management
5.	equipment supplier
6.	Care Coordinator
7.	caregiver
8.	home care
9.	Social Worker

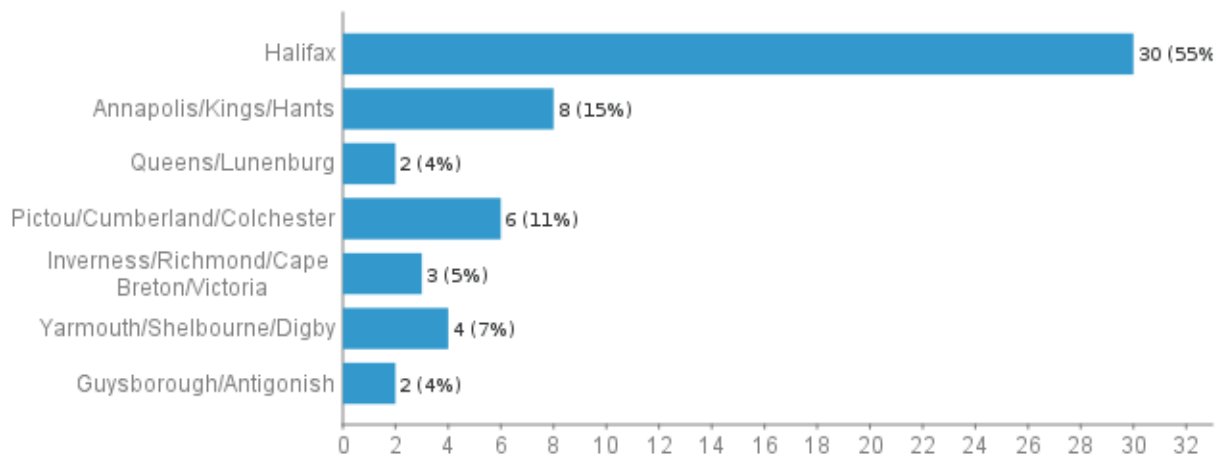
Are you:

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Female		84%	49
Male		16%	9
Total Responses			58

What age group do you belong to?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
15-24 years		2%	1
25-34 years		7%	4
35-44 years		15%	9
45-54 years		41%	24
55-64 years		25%	15
65-74 years		8%	5
75-84 years		2%	1
85 years and over		0%	0
Total Responses			59

Do you live in the HRM?



Appendix

2. Why did you originally join GANS? |

#	Response
1.	Recommended while in school
2.	As secondary duty to my regular job.
3.	it was about gerontology
4.	work with seniors
5.	Became a member of a Geriatric Team
6.	to network with other individuals and companies to assist with connecting my clients to additional resources
7.	To meet and collaborate with other professionals in the field/interested in aging issues in NS
8.	As a DRC at that time, I felt it was imperative that I stay abreast with current geriatric info
9.	They seem to be offering a more integral role in the education and connection of health professionals around aging
10.	I work in a long term care facility
11.	in a new role for my district and looking for information, networking opportunities
12.	To bridge the gap between theory and practice.
13.	Had completed an educational program in gerontology and was looking to gain further information and experience about working with seniors.
14.	To join a more local gerontology association
15.	to be informed
16.	working in Geriatrics
17.	It was free.
18.	As my work involves supporting services to and for seniors I felt it would be beneficial to be connected to an organization that is representative of work and services going on for our older population in the province.
19.	To become a member of a networking group concerned with issues and care of the elderly
20.	Work related
21.	Information networking
22.	to connect with like-minded people
23.	I had heard of GANS from another nurse.
24.	work as family practice nurse- looking for all available resources
25.	enjoy gerontology
26.	interested in gerontological research in Nova Scotia
27.	work with seniors and wanting to stay informed on issues/programs etc. in the province
28.	I work in geriatrics
29.	It looked like an excellent knowledge resource.
30.	free registration
31.	interest in senior issues; thinking of starting business but no longer doing so

32.	up to date information and resources
33.	access to additional resources
34.	Information and networking
35.	for information and networking
36.	I have a passion for geriatrics.
37.	It was in conjunction with membership in NSGNA.
38.	networking
39.	to get correspondence on geriatric research and best practices
40.	Email about free membership
41.	Specific area of interest/passion for gerontology
42.	-to be as up-to-date as possible on information
43.	Student involvement
44.	Interest in research and service planning
45.	additional source of info
46.	I work with a largely geriatric population so topics are relevant
47.	To maintain up to date information.
48.	membership was free, work in aging related field, thought this group would have its finger on the pulse of current issues / events / actions/ advocacy related to working with aging populations
49.	visited new website and was impressed by it
50.	work with elderly clients
51.	as a conference exhibitor I wanted to reach the membership
52.	To make connections with others outside my field who are interested in aging-related issues
53.	It was a growing organization and I wanted to network with others in the field.
54.	networking capability
55.	1980's
56.	To be informed re issues related to Geriatrics and to be better able to address issues and help in nursing education and the community.

4b. If no, could you tell us why you have not attended any GANS events in the past year. |

#	Response
1.	Live out of HRM
2.	Fridays are too busy and often fall on my EDo (earned day off)
3.	Most are a 2 hour drive from where I live
4.	The conference was canceled. I live in rural NS and in the US-difficult to make the monthly get togethers.
5.	Nursing in rural CB makes most events impossible to attend. With budget constraints, being able to attend 1 event in the capital area is the max if at all. The lunch and learns sound great, but are impossible for ex.
6.	Events mainly for city residents.

7.	Time of day is an issue for me
8.	I live outside of the city and many events are in the evening
9.	difficult to travel to events in Halifax, would be nice to have them elsewhere
10.	GANS needs to clarify vision, mission for members.
11.	Too busy, but I would like to get out at some point and become more involved
12.	scheduling - do not live or work in Metro
13.	location
14.	The times/ dates interfered with other events.
15.	I am too far away from Halifax, I have taken part in as much as I can on line.
16.	Most of the events occur in the Halifax area and I live a distance away.
17.	event was cancelled due to lack of attendees
18.	Networking Tuesdays is in Halifax cannot get there in time after work(finish at 5-5:30
19.	not enough prior notice. The one event I planned on attending was cancelled
20.	I live in the rural area so it is difficult to get to the city to participate.
21.	I work until 5 pm every day and out side of the main core-
22.	meeting always held in Halifax and never Dartmouth so getting there is difficult
23.	I live in BC
24.	work in Bridgewater - with budget restrictions in the district no opportunity to go out of district for meetings etc.
25.	I live about 30 miles from Halifax and it is difficult to attend evening activities
26.	Travel is an issue. I live in Colchester county.
27.	lack of free time
28.	too busy; many events have been of great interest, though
29.	work, and I enjoy the website
30.	distance to travel
31.	Did not fit into my already busy schedule.
32.	Not available to attend - dealing with other family concerns (elderly mother).
33.	all the networking/presentations are in halifax
34.	Time!
35.	new member
36.	I live over an hours drive from Halifax and rarely go there. I hope to be more actively involved when the time is right for me.
37.	There were no events that interested me.
38.	Hard to find the time
39.	Conflict of time for AGM
40.	not able to attend events in Halifax on regular basis

41.	Live outside the city
42.	Tuesdays I generally have something else going on
43.	Staff shortages
44.	no time, ED already attends some and does not encourage staff to attend
45.	live in Chester Basin too tired after work to travel to Halifax
46.	the conference was the reason we joined: we wanted to meet key decision-makers.
47.	Has not been of benefit
48.	purely a time crunch, I need to make it a priority
49.	scheduling issues
50.	Due to location and fact that I was away for several weeks this past year

8. What content or topics of interest would you like to see covered on the GANS website? |

#	Response
1.	A multitude of topics. Certainly NS specific if possible, maybe broken out into sections like those listed above, practitioner info, advocacy, opportunities etc
2.	social trends, governmental programs, community supports, general research
3.	frontline issues
4.	funding opportunities, networking events and opportunities, sharing of information - business profiles, recommended companies, etc.
5.	Daily life, history, health, care
6.	All info related to best practice geriatric care research, and specifically related to dementia and/or mental health issues
7.	searchable database to find specific resources or programs for seniors in the community
8.	n/a
9.	best-practice guidelines
10.	Leisure and Aging, Caregiving, Inclusion Across the Lifecourse
11.	more than just about caregiving or retirement
12.	blogs, featured articles, success stories
13.	Falls/ Fall Prevention, What research is ongoing now opportunities for involvement
14.	References and resources beyond Capital
15.	Updates on the latest research in dementia/Alzheimers and other issues of aging
16.	All
17.	Dementia, Alzheimer Disease, challenging Behaviours
18.	narrative gerontology
19.	Dementia Care Research, Loss, Grief and Dementia
20.	dementia, aging - proactive issues
21.	definition of constipation and guidelines to follow to alleviate the condition

22.	housing, social relationships, non-medical issues related to aging,
23.	Best practice from other parts of Canada. Success stories.
24.	supporting aging parents; prevention of disease
25.	caring for elderly persons
26.	recorded sessions from lunch learn etc.
27.	research opportunities, event listings
28.	Healthy Aging(see answers to # 5.
29.	Wellness in the elderly; Management of chronic disease on low incomes
30.	mental health, aging, studies,
31.	polypharmacy, mental competency, dementia/delirium, nutrition, oa, osteoperosis, chronic constipation, etc
32.	all areas of interest to people in NS affected by aging
33.	locations of/associations offering sessions/classes of yoga, pilates,chi-gong and such activities
34.	care receiving by older adults, preparing for baby boomer aging
35.	Research activities in NS
36.	Person centred care, Non medical approaches to Dementia care
37.	local, national, international news/initiatives possibly with commentary (relevance) explained by experts, notifications of local events and conferences that address issues related to aging and working with older populations, links to resources for those worknig with the elderly
38.	hosing transportation
39.	mental health promotion, promoting healthy aging
40.	anything that is current - with an email reminder that something new has been added
41.	governance section that would link Boards to each other and promote the sharing of infmation
42.	anything related to the care of seniors
43.	financial issues, health care, pharmacy ideas, legal issues, wills and estate planning,living options, family dynamics especially intergenerational living arrangements

9. If you were to attend a GANS event, what area of the HRM would be easiest for you to access? |

#	Response
1.	N/A
2.	Down town HRM
3.	Halifax
4.	Downtown, Bayers Lake, downtown Dartmouth
5.	south of halifax-lunenburg area, yarmouth, shelburne or halifax proper
6.	Either halifax or Dartmouth; as stated earlier, the odds of getting there are minimal
7.	some place with ample parking
8.	Down town
9.	Bedford

10.	GANS is a provincial organization. What services will GANS provide in Yarmouth, Sydney and Truro?
11.	Metro area
12.	any of them
13.	Dartmouth
14.	Halifax, Clayton Park, Bayer's Lake
15.	Outside the Metro area- ex: at the airport area or a facility like Scotia Nursing Homes (now renamed I believe) where traffic is limited and parking is plentiful.
16.	The Bayers Lake area or Dartmouth Crossing have accomodations and ample parking and people less comfortable with traffic could avoid the downtown core.
17.	Any
18.	Dartmouth
19.	any area is fine.. good access to convenient (and free) parking would be an asset
20.	I am okay to drive into the city.
21.	after 5 pm- anywhere with in 15-30 min
22.	Dartmouth sports club
23.	Dartmouth, Fall River, Bedford...Enfield!
24.	sackville
25.	close to Dal
26.	Bedford, Bayers Lake or Dartmouth
27.	none
28.	Halifax
29.	Bedford/ West end of HFX
30.	Bayers Lake area
31.	Hfx or Dartmouth
32.	dartmouth/sackville/truro
33.	Peninsula
34.	anywhere
35.	Truro
36.	Halifax
37.	anywhere in Halifax
38.	Any where
39.	n/a
40.	anywhere is fine
41.	anywhere
42.	central halifax
43.	Bayers Lake

44.	metro Halifax
45.	outskirts
46.	Any where with parking - down town is not assessible
47.	not an issue
48.	not
49.	Halifax city area

11. Could you please describe what you think are the strengths or benefits of the current programs, information, and opportunities offered by GANS? |

#	Response
1.	Strong link with CHCE, diverse group
2.	easy access to the website
3.	knowledge exchange
4.	Don't know enough about what is available to comment
5.	interdisciplinary, informal
6.	With the demograghic reports of an aging population on the rise, and the estimated doubling of seniors with dementia in 20-25 years time, the GANS has the opportunity to be proactive and show leadership in this province, and indeed in this country
7.	Very little
8.	Is GANS role only information?
9.	affiliation with other health service organizations, lunch and learns, advocacy for aging issues
10.	Sorry, I don't know enough about the organization to comment on this at this point
11.	The strength or such an organization (I can't see the end of the question but I'm assuming..) is to share information. Sharing and learning from each other is the benefit to me.
12.	There seems to be a wide cross section of participants from across the province and this should help planning programs and targeting information to achieve maximum impact.
13.	Increases awareness to all
14.	I believe that GANS is a great way to provide information and to network.
15.	Sharing Info. Current practice. Relevant. Educational oportunities/ Networking. Consult for other resources.
16.	good communcations, interesting topics; otherwise, not equipped to judge
17.	I like most of the articles
18.	source of various other links to info
19.	I am very busy and can not attend all events. I appreciate that the lunch and learns are recorded and posted online.
20.	Networking/Education
21.	Provision of information for the general public; if strong enough - influencing public policy.
22.	networking and educational opportunities
23.	I have not had opportunity to explore these

24.	not sure
25.	Important for networking, helping to move gerontological nursing forward
26.	strength as an advocacy forum in ns where the population is aging and funds are tight
27.	wish you had provided an undecided option for question 10.
28.	Good website, seminars, don't know much more
29.	None
30.	like the website, but can never remember what the acronym stands for and then can't easily access website
31.	I see no strengths - GANS does not exist It needs to advocate for change in this province
32.	I have not accessed them, so I could not comment
33.	membership list for communicating and identifying change agents and knowledge advocates

12. Could you please describe what you think are the weaknesses or drawbacks with the current programs, information, and opportunities offered by GANS? |

#	Response
1.	Lack of focus, ownership of a "thing" that drives the organization
2.	not enough workshops or other opportunity for in person education networking (Some of us do not visit bars/pubs for various reasons)
3.	not as easily accessed outside of Capital Health
4.	?
5.	only in Halifax which limits rural partnerships
6.	Not all inclusive for people out of metro
7.	just do not see very much information around gans. Maybe more visual and out in the community
8.	lack of a specific focus or niche in which to direct it's efforts.
9.	Perhaps that GANS could improve its communication about what it can offer?
10.	Being only in Capital. The rural aspect is missed. It is a provincially names association but is very centralized.
11.	The greatest weakness is that events such as Lunch Learn, Networking Tuesdays are really only accessible to those living in or near the Halifax area. Realistically, the bulk of the membership and active members are likely from that area, but it does mean that a number of the resources are not so readily available to those in outlying areas.
12.	Networking only available in Halifax not Truro
13.	One drawback is that GANS events are held in HRM.
14.	meeting always held in halifax
15.	a major drawback for me is the lack of email updates. I forget to check the website so I miss out on the information
16.	All offered in Halifax?
17.	none- great opportunities, just haven't had time lately
18.	networking great for business folk, but of less interest to others, maybe
19.	?
20.	HRM based events, sessions not recorded and available to other areas

21.	I would like to see meetings In locations closer to us in the suburbs.
22.	Provision of information for the general public; not influencing public policy.
23.	all in halifax
24.	stagnation of events
25.	NOt enough studt focussed events, not advertised enough, I don't like hearing about events after they have passed
26.	So far what I've received from GANS has been quite scattered. There doesn't seem to be a focus. If there were interest groups (research might be one topic), it would be easier to justify involvement. There are so many sources of excellent information about aging these days. The GANS needs to offer something unique.
27.	Lack of active members
28.	info sessions not available via web based programs
29.	mostly based in the city
30.	seniors issues have limited appeal to many people
31.	it's gone from being a respected authoritative body to a well-meaning coffee club.
32.	times and/or places that are hard to get to... not sure what is available
33.	apathy, lack of numbers, lack of direction, need for old blood to get off the board
34.	not aware of any
35.	always in the metro area

13. What are your primary areas of interest related to aging? |

#	Response
1.	Advocacy in relation of long term care
2.	Challenges and barriers/social and economic impact of baby boomers aging
3.	well being, engaged seniors
4.	Behaviour
5.	helping families navigate the system and find solutions when in crisis, solutions for aging in place
6.	anthropology, folk life, health,community, housing, women, rural,nursing
7.	Dementia mental health issues; behaviours which may result, and dealing with those; nurses understanding needs to be elevated
8.	ensuring the senior population has access to reliable and safe health services, recreation and community supports
9.	all
10.	Persons with Alzheimer's
11.	affordable housing, in home care giving, legal issues, i.e. senior fraud, elder abuse, etc.
12.	healthy aging, relationships as people age, retirement issues
13.	seniors health, dementia
14.	dementia/delirium
15.	Keeping senior's active healthy

16.	How to support healthy ageing and how to facilitate motivation and interest by providing the appropriate information through the most valuable venues.
17.	Dementias and understanding difficult behavior
18.	falls prevention, rehab
19.	Disease, dementia challenging behaviours
20.	life story and reminiscence
21.	Aging in Place, Palliative Care and Dementia, Challenging Behaviours and Dementia
22.	alzheimers, pain
23.	social issues, housing
24.	dementia, caregiving
25.	Polypharmacy; Risks; Support to Caregivers. Respect ,autonomy choice for people with demen
26.	workplace
27.	dementia; housing; estate planning; maintaining good health
28.	research, resources, I teach continuing care assistants and look for current information
29.	aging well in the community, LTC
30.	healthy aging, social activity for the elderly, dementia, regional supports
31.	Resources including the latest info on Healthy Aging ,Dementias caregiver resources ,Advocacy against societal prejudices re
32.	Ensuring the senior years are as happy and healthy as possible and being able to afford it.
33.	mental health, some policy changes
34.	as above
35.	Long-term care placement
36.	dementia care, abuse, navigating the system, advocacy
37.	reseach on health issues and how to be as preventative (as far as disease is cocerned) as possible..i.e.be active (not sickly) and die a quick and peaceful death
38.	baby boomers and receipt of care
39.	Research on prevention
40.	Health issues - I am a volunteer with absolutely no medical experience
41.	Clients living well in community
42.	Person centred care for person's with dementia and the elderly
43.	accessible care, health problem prevention
44.	dementia, frailty, end-of-life care, health care, policy
45.	income security
46.	health assessment and available services
47.	home, respite palliative care
48.	mental/health promotion, chronic disease management, healthy active aging

49. aging baby boomers, advances in housing options in NS, support for family caregivers

50. dementia, care giving and support

51. medications, person centred care

52. succession planning, family dynamics especially after the death of one aging parent and the survivor, mobility issues, safe and happy living situations