



**The pandemic taught us a great deal about how we treat our elders. Almost nothing has changed. No more broken promises! Join the knit-in on June 15...**

This World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, join Respecting Elders: Communities Against Abuse (RECAA), the Aging + Communication + Technologies (ACT) Lab, and other Montreal organizations in a “knit-in” (a warmer and wiser take on the classic sit-in protest) and letter-writing campaign. This event is organized to make it clear to our politicians that we need immediate, transformative changes in the long-term care system.

For the past months, RECAA and ACT members, as well as people from the surrounding community, have been knitting, crocheting and sewing pieces to remember the thousands of elders and caregivers who suffered and died during the pandemic, and to act for the survivors. There will be an exhibition of the work done so far, and we will be there knitting in solidarity.

The letter writing campaign will address Premier François Legault, Health Minister Christian Dubé, and Minister of Health and Seniors Sonia Bédaride to call for continued support and accountability for reforms in Home Care and Long-Term Care Facilities.

**The last few years have shed light on heartbreaking conditions of ignorance and neglect in elder care. A healthy society respects its elders. We have the right to live in safety and good health. We have the right to be heard.**

**WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY KNIT-IN**

**June 15, 2023**

**In the lobby of Concordia University's EV Building**

**1515 Rue Ste-Catherine W.**

**2pm–4pm**

## Read an excerpt from our letter to the Premier and Ministers:

*Within the first year of the pandemic, Quebec registered over 5,000 deaths in its long-term care network. Underfunding and ageism have created a system that is neglectful and abusive, a system that set the conditions for these deaths and the suffering of so many more.*

*The causes, as well as recommendations for systemic and urgent change of the long-term care network in Quebec, were outlined in the report “Ensemble vers la bienveillance,” published by Handicap Vie Dignité in 2018, well before the pandemic.*

*Reports since the pandemic have verified well-known facts: Too many seniors are placed in ill-equipped, understaffed and antiquated facilities. Support staff receive a minimum training with most having to work in several long-term care facilities in order to make a living income.*

***Will the system only change cosmetically, or will there be concrete actions and oversight to overhaul it?***

## Supporting Organizations:



## About RECAA

Ressources Ethnoculturelles Contre l'Abus envers les Aîné(e)s  
Respecting Elders Communities against Abuse

We are an organization of elders from Montreal's cultural communities who work across age, gender and ethnic lines to promote a culture of respect for elders from all our communities. We are united by a common goal: to work towards cultivating respect for elders within families and society. We want our children and grandchildren to grow up safe, strong and free. We see the necessity now more than ever to work amongst ourselves and with other community groups to combat the racism, ageism, sexism and classism that touches our entire globalized world.

[www.recaa.ca](http://www.recaa.ca)

## About the ACT Lab

Aging + Communication + Technologies (ACT) is a multi-methodological research lab that brings together researchers, students, activists and artists to address the transformation of the experiences of aging with the proliferation of new forms of mediated communications in networked societies. Together, we are investigating how 'digital ageism' – the individual and systemic biases that create forms of inclusion and exclusion that are age-related – operates in subtle ways at this time. Through our collective and collaborative research, we provide an analysis that comes from our engagement with individuals and communities of older adults and suggest strategies for change.

[www.actlab.ca](http://www.actlab.ca)

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## CONTACTS

### **Maria Montejo**

(Français)

514-944-3928

[montejomem@gmail.com](mailto:montejomem@gmail.com)

\*Day of event - June 15

### **Marguerite Kephart**

(Français)

### **Anne Caines - RECAA**

(English)

514-746-5960

[annecaines@gmail.com](mailto:annecaines@gmail.com)

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### **Francine Cytrynbaum**

(English / Français)