

Dr. Jane Barratt recognised as part of the Healthy Ageing 50

NEW YORK, Sep 22, 2022 - Dr. Jane Barratt, Secretary General of the International Federation on Ageing (IFA), has been recognized as one of the Healthy Ageing 50 – fifty leaders working to transform the world to be a better place to grow old. Selected for her extraordinary achievements in the area of healthy ageing, whether driven by personal experience, education, curiosity or passion for justice, Dr. Barratt recognizes that today's systems were designed for past generations and not current or future ones. She - together with others recognized today - are exemplars for others to follow.

The Healthy Ageing 50 is an initiative under the banner of the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing that seeks to honour 50 leaders who are working to foster healthy ageing.

“I am proud to be one of the Healthy Ageing 50 – 50 leaders recognized for their efforts to improve the lives of current and future generations of older people,” said Dr. Barratt.

Based in Toronto, Canada, Dr. Barratt (originally from Australia) has been leading the IFA for the past 20 years, with her work taking her to all corners of the globe advocating for better policies to improve the lives of older people everywhere. While past travel schedules have meant that Canadian citizenship has been out of reach, this will soon be a reality.

“If there are any beneficial aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic - and in the field of ageing, it could be said that there were none - for me, not being able to travel has meant that I now have the required days in Canada for citizenship. All I need to do now is to find sufficient gaps in my travel schedules to attend the citizenship ceremony that I will take in the coming weeks”, said Dr. Barratt.

This is the second prestigious award for Dr. Barratt, who in February 2013 was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal as a tangible way for Canada to honour significant contributions and achievements by Canadians. The award recognized her dedication and service to seniors in Canada. Specifically, she has been recognized for her passion and commitment to enhancing the understanding of issues relating to ageing and engaging in dialogue with governments and the private sector to improve the quality of life of older people.

“To be honoured on both of these occasions makes me proud to hold the position of Secretary General at the International Federation on Ageing being a passionate advocate and voice for older people across the globe”, said Dr. Barratt.

The Healthy Ageing 50 is a UN Decade of Healthy Ageing advocacy initiative that aims to inspire others by celebrating individuals (and not their organizations nor affiliated entities) around the world who are already working to improve the lives of current and future generations of older people. To learn more go to the [Healthy Ageing 50 page](#) on the Decade Platform.

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The [International Federation on Ageing](#) (IFA) is an international, non-governmental organization (NGO) with a unique membership base comprising government, NGOs, academics, industry, and individuals in over 80 countries. Nearly 50 years old, the IFA has become known as a leading and innovative organization that works across disciplines and sectors toward common goals that improve the lives of older people. Through the IFA's formal relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) and general consultative status at the United Nations and its agencies, the IFA is in the position to advocate directly with member states and contribute to and inform intergovernmental dialogue.