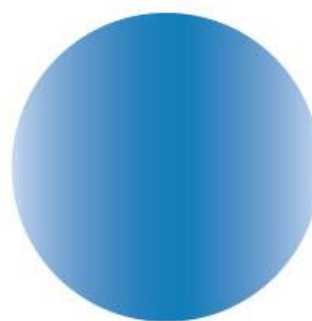




**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING**  
**Global Connections**

# *Annual Report 2013-2014*

*1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014*



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# 2013 – 2014 CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

*Mr. Bjarne Hastrup*



**About the IFA** - The International Federation on Ageing (IFA) is an international non-governmental organization with a membership base of NGOs, the corporate sector, academia, government, and individuals spanning the globe.

The IFA believes in 'generating positive change for older people throughout the world by stimulating, collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information on rights, policies, and practices that improve the quality of life of people as they age.

Our Priorities are to establish the IFA as a point of...

- **Connection** – linking together NGOs, academia, policy makers, and the private sector.
- **Information sharing and exchange** – facilitating knowledge exchange through our networks
- **Research and advocacy** – collaborating in research and providing a repository of information
- **Policy knowledge** – around areas with global implications: age discrimination, engaging seniors, financial protection, and age-friendly communities

It was March 1994 when my Organization DaneAge Association (Ældre Sagen) first joined the International Federation on Ageing (IFA). Both organizations have similar missions and values in promoting a better quality of life for older people DaneAge on the national level and IFA on the international level.

Twenty years on I write to you as the IFA Chairman with the firm belief that the IFA has a greater relevance today due to the trends in population ageing than any time in our organizations history.

Great social changes lie ahead of us now, since the 21st century will be the century of older people. The population of older people will grow at an increasing pace, while at the same time we can expect new generations to continue to have increasing life expectancy. This will affect social conditions in every country in the world. Ageing will thus be one of the biggest global challenges, where every country will be dependent on the others.

This year has been a watershed for the IFA marking a significant turning point in our reach, relevance and financial position. Initiatives like the International Istanbul Initiative on Ageing and the Cameroon International Workshop on Ageing and Age-friendly Environments gave focus to ageing across Central Africa, the Middle East, Northern Africa and Eastern Europe. My personal note of thanks to our partners in those initiatives, Turyak Seniors Council (Mr. Mete Bora) and FOIFA Japan (Dr. Hisashi Hozumi) whose contributions have extended the IFA reach to those regions.

This year also established new partnerships in the field of ageing and vision with the launch of our Action in Global Advocacy (AGA) program designed to reframe the agenda on ageing and vision Health, highlighting that the consequences of vision loss are not only a matter of public health and an ethical responsibility, but also a matter of economics and a fiscal imperative.

It gives me immense pleasure in presenting the IFA Annual Report of 2013- 2014. I would like to commend all those who

are ensuring that the IFA continues to be a strong and loud voice, in global efforts to improve the quality of life for all older people, to whom we owe so much. The IFA staff, Secretary General, Jane Barratt and my Board colleagues display immense commitment and professionalism, often under difficult circumstances, to ensure lives of older people continue to change for the better and this would not be possible without our members, corporate partners and supporters who generously contribute to the IFA. I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support and trust you will be inspired as you read this annual report.



Bjarne Hastrup

## REFLECTIONS OF 2013 – 2014 AND THE YEAR AHEAD

*IFA Secretary General, Dr. Jane Barratt*



The International Federation of Ageing was established over 40 years ago at a time when the life of non-governmental organizations especially in the arena of 'ageing' was at best precarious. Through the guidance, commitment and passion of past Directors and luminaries such as Baroness Sally Greengross, Dr. Sharad Gokhale and Dr. Daniel Thursz the organization has not only survived it has grown. The growth of the IFA is not by chance but due in large part to the strategic thinking and actions of key individuals such as Prof Yitzhak Brick who guided the organization through some challenging times while at the same time encouraging greater contributions from fellow Directors.

In ending the 2013-2014 year at IFA I wish to acknowledge Dr K.R. Gangadharan for his Presidency and belief in the potential of the IFA. The IFA Board of Directors and Office holders have challenged us to think more strategically as we move forward, setting the foundation for greater organizational opportunities into the future.

Guidance and leadership by Ms. Irene Hoskins who completed her term of office as President in May 2012 personified the IFA's commitment to the field of ageing by being involved in local, national and global initiatives, bringing to the IFA a sense of coherence as well as passion. It was a privilege to work with and learn from Irene whose sense of fairness, compromise and consensus building was instrumental in overcoming several obstacles during her Presidency.

In its 40plus year history the IFA has been growing slowly but steadily yet over the last 10 years has grown in stature and is known to 'punch above its weight' in terms of its deliverables and outcomes.

Globalization has also impacted upon the NGO world and 2013-2014 was a time for IFA to have a vision and purpose that is responsive to the emerging issues related to population ageing rather than be part of a piecemeal approach which has not been the most effective.

In early 2014 the IFA established “IFA Vision 2020” model that:

- ✚ Builds upon IFAs history but with an eye on the future demands of key stakeholders including government, industry, NGOs and older people
- ✚ Respond to the dynamic nature of emerging issues
- ✚ Generate income in the medium to longer term
- ✚ Embrace multi stakeholder engagement, partnerships and collaborations

The outcome of the new strategic direction and vision for the IFA sees a number of new initiatives that members and colleagues will learn about as we move forward:

- ✚ IFA International Centre of Excellence on Ageing (Istanbul, Turkey)
- ✚ The Global Think Tank on Ageing and Copenhagen Summit (Copenhagen Denmark)
- ✚ Knowledge creation and exchange platforms (global and regional conferences and meetings)
- ✚ Action in global advocacy

Population ageing is central to governmental and industry agendas globally. The IFA has a role and a responsibility to be dynamic, responsive in order to help to set the next generation of agendas with members nationally and governments internationally. It is time for IFA to set a new course building on the foundation blocks put in place by its founding members and Board of Directors, while also respecting the rapidly changing world.

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

### International Istanbul Initiative on Ageing

From October 4 – 6, 2013, the International Istanbul Initiative on Ageing (IIIA) was held in Istanbul, Turkey at the WOW International Convention Center. Organized by The IFA in cooperation with Turyak Seniors Council Association, connected a series of transformative policy and practice conversations as a vehicle to engage non-governmental organizations, industry leaders, government, and civil society in planning for the future.



The conference featured expertly curated plenary panel sessions, captivating concurrent session presentations, stimulating dialogue, a fascinating Trade Fair, and interactive workshops. These were all designed to encourage discussion on the social and economic opportunities that population ageing can bring to the regions of the Middle East, Northern Africa, Eastern Europe,

and neighboring countries of Turkey.

The IIIA was a very successful event. Our congress reached a wide spectrum of people, featuring over 400 delegates; representatives from 52 countries, numerous NGO's, and a number of prominent international organizations.

Discourse from the conference reaffirmed many of the facts we already know about ageing yet also shed new light on a number of topics, profoundly shaping the ageing conversation moving into the future. Delegates of the IIIA called upon governments, non-governmental organizations, and the corporate, private and voluntary sectors to join forces to advocate for improved quality of life for older people.

For further information about the IIIA conference go to: <http://www.ifa-fiv.org/ifa-activities/ifa-conferences-meetings/istanbul/>

## **International Workshop on Ageing and Healthy Environments – Cameroon**

Towards the end of May 2013 IFA, together with Friends of IFA Japan (FOIFA), and along with collaboration from local partners, co-hosted a successful international workshop on ageing and healthy environments in the city of Yaoundé, Cameroon.



The international workshop addressed the fact that Africa will experience a faster rate of population ageing than all other regions in the 2050 projections. It focused on some of the burning issues surrounding elderly people and ageing in Cameroon, in addition to its neighboring countries, and gave Cameroon-based organizations the opportunity to showcase their work and foster international interest and discussion.

The workshop focused on four (4) main themes including:

1. Health and Wellbeing into Old Age;
2. Elder Abuse;
3. Older Persons and Crisis Management; and
4. Age-Friendly Environments.

A list of esteemed speakers and links to their presentations can be viewed on a PDF of the workshop program [here](#).

## **Global Ageing and Vision Advocacy Summit – Barcelona**

On April 2013, the Global Ageing and Vision Advocacy Summit brought together academic and advocacy leaders from the sectors of visions and ageing in 12 countries to discuss the challenges of vision loss and ageing. In the first-ever gathering of its kind, the mutual goals determined by the Summit delegates were to drive political attention through advocacy, increase awareness with strong and coordinated communications and strengthen research capabilities globally toward decreasing the incidence and impact of vision loss especially in older age groups.

The Summit stimulated critical and ground-breaking dialogue, which has led to new ways of thinking, speaking, and advocating for vision health and ageing. Three main platforms – research, key messages, and global advocacy – evolved during the Summit to serve as the basis for ongoing dialogue and action among participating organizations, with potential priorities to be pursued on a global level as well as leveraged nationally.

Increases in evidence-based research, combined with powerfully aligned key messages across the ageing and vision landscape, will provide a solid

“This ‘ripple effect’ of diminished capacity and loss of confidence due to vision impairment triggers a number of serious health and social consequences that effectively isolate and marginalize older adults.”

- **Barcelona Report**



foundation and catalyst for global advocacy. The commitment and collaboration of the ageing and vision sectors to drive change is critical to help ensure that all global citizens have the opportunity to see a future.

For more information on the Global Ageing and Vision Advocacy Summit, go to the IFA website under resources.



### Action in Global Advocacy

The Action in Global Advocacy (AGA) project is devised to be the common ground for collective, effective, and inclusive advocacy development. Building on the momentum generated by the “Global Ageing and Vision Advocacy Summit” (Barcelona in April 2013), AGA brings together 12 organizations in 6 countries (Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Turkey) to build a foundation of capability, capacity and engagement across vision and ageing sectors – aiming to assist in effective advocacy for older people globally who are at risk of or currently suffer from vision loss and impairment. This project does not substitute but rather complements current advocacy efforts by bridging the power of vision and ageing organizations.

#### Action in Global Advocacy will:

**Build a coalition:** Bridging of vision and ageing organizations from six target countries: Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Turkey to help build strong advocacy campaigns addressing vision loss and impairment amongst older people and ageing populations.

**Become a resource repository:** A centralized hub of knowledge exchange and a repository of examples of effective advocacy strategies and campaigns; generating an advocacy tool box.

**Be a monitoring body:** Policies and programs vary on a national and regional level, highly impacting the development of flexible and impactful advocacy responses. AGA aims to be a liaison between organizations and governments and the go-to for the dissemination of policy updates.

IFA has been successful in building coalitions in each of the six target countries between multiple stakeholders who are currently collaborating to create effective strategies to engage and inform around age-related eye diseases.

**France:** Retina France and the National Union of Retirees and Older People (UNRPA)

**Turkey:** Six Dots Foundation, Turkish Ophthalmology Society, Eye Foundation, the Federation for the Blind in Turkey, and the Turkish Geriatric Society

**Spain:** Democratic Union of Pensioners, Design For All and the National Organization for Spanish Blind People (ONCE)

**Italy:** International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness Italy and 50&Piu (50 and More)

**Germany:** German Association of Senior Citizens Organizations (BAGSO) and the German Federation for the Blind and Partially Sighted (DBSV)

**Brazil:** Retina Brazil, Brazilian Society of Ocular Geriatrics, Federal University of Sao Paulo, Department of Healthy Aging and Quality of Life, Municipality of Rio de Janeiro, Brazilian Association of Friends, Family and Persons with Glaucoma (ABRAG), National Organization of Blind Brazil and Department of Healthy Aging and Quality of Life, Municipality of Rio de Janeiro

The AGA website, which will enable knowledge exchange, be a resource for advocacy strategies and campaigns moving forward and monitor national policies and legislation in the area of eye health, are being developed and will be launched later this year.

While it is acknowledged that there is no “one size fits all” approach, the project is expected to create a knowledge platform and mechanisms for exchange and transfer that is inclusive and accessible to all organizations – regardless of location, culture, and language – the resources essential to create strong advocacy campaigns improve education, access to treatment, and the prevention of unnecessary vision loss, particularly in old age.

### **The Diabetic Retinopathy Barometer Project**

The Diabetic Retinopathy Barometer Project is a ground-breaking study to assess the awareness, treatment and implications of diabetic retinopathy globally. Results are intended to inform decision-making and policy development around this common and serious complication of diabetes.

Project partners, IFA and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), working in collaboration with the New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM) and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) will gather evidence on knowledge, policies, standards of care, and supportive services for retinopathy across 42 countries.

Phase I comprises approximately 120 interviews in eight countries representative of low, middle and high socio-economic status to better understand the level of awareness of: retinopathy as a condition and common complication of diabetes; the access, availability and pathway to retinopathy services; and the existence and content of relevant governmental policy.

Phase II is the implementation of a survey in 42 countries, which will be formulated based on the data gathered in Phase I. The survey aims to garner statistically significant evidence intended to assist in the development of effective governmental policy.

The project will culminate in the production of a barometer report and a compendium of resources designed to increase awareness, as well as to inform policy and practice related to diabetic retinopathy and vision loss across countries.

### **Companion Animal Project**

The goal of the Companion Animals and the Health of Older Persons project is to improve the understanding of the measurable benefits of animal ownership and animal assistive interactions as a public health parameter.

In describing the benefits derived from a systemic and comprehensive review of scientific literature, and industry and governmental reports the importance of animal health will be formally noted and highlighted as a key message and recommendation.





The environmental scan and comprehensive literature review is intended to identify areas of limited research and gaps in the understanding of the benefits / or otherwise of the human-animal bond and interactions. The final report will be launched and available in late 2014.



### **Building Capacity across Age Friendly Cities and Communities**

In January 2014, Grantmakers in Aging (GIA) initiated a collaboration with IFA to help build and strengthen the capacity of five Community AGenda Sites: Atlanta, Georgia; Miami, Florida; Phoenix, Arizona; Kansas City, Missouri; and Indiana.

In this partnership, the IFA developed two webinars designed to address some of the fundamental challenges experienced by all communities and an environmental scan that was used to inform targeted strategies toward capacity building efforts within each community. The environmental scan that was produced was used as a road map to tailor support in accordance with the specific needs of each community and the yearly goals the community had set out to achieve.

Globally, age-friendly cities, communities, and practices have become synonymous with an ageing population – building communities that will foster active ageing, removing physical and social barriers, and promoting independence. However, as IFA developed closer relationships with each of the community sites, a define pattern appeared. There was an emphasis all across communities to promote the importance of *intergenerational* programs and emphasizing the importance of including all ages, and not just the ageing population, which is the original intent of the age-friendly concept.



### **The Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People (GAROP)**

The Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People (GAROP) is a coalition of civil society organizations from across the world that have come together to strengthen and promote the rights of older persons. GAROP's mission is to support and enhance civil society's engagement at national, regional, and international levels on the need for a new international instrument on the rights of older persons.

In August 2013, a decision was made to streamline the work of GAROP by reducing the size of the Steering Group to four organizations: IFA, HelpAge International, International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing (IAHSA), and AGE Platform Europe. At this time, IFA assumed the role of Chair of the Steering Group for the 2013-2014 year, leading the efforts to streamline the work and more effectively advocate for an international instrument on the rights of older persons. As part of this role, IFA facilitated periodic teleconference meetings, attended relevant international meetings at the UN (and otherwise), and designated a staff-member for two days a week as "coordinator" to manage the GAROP website and communicate with its members.

GAROP's goal for the 2013-2014 year is to increase engagement in the debate for a new convention on the rights of older people by expanding its membership to incorporate civil society organizations from across the world. As part of achieving this goal, the GAROP [website](#) has been transformed so that it can serve as a more interactive repository for up to date resources and news related to the rights of older people.

Additionally, GAROP was represented at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Commission for Social Development (11-21 February 2014), holding a side-event entitled "Strengthening the Rights of Older People," and issuing an

official statement which called for a widening of the scope of the substantive discussion related to the rights of older people and urging member states to do the following: (1) Co-operate with the Independent Expert; (2) continue to support and participate constructively in the work of the OEWG; and (3) consult older people in regards to the human rights issues that affect them.

### **Agefriendlyworld ePortal**

As part of the IFA's working agreement with WHO and its enduring commitment to support the Age Friendly Cities Program, the IFA dedicated significant staff resources over the course of 2013-2014 to the ongoing development of the new agefriendlyworld ePortal that will be launched later in 2014.

This initial phase of the partnership called for input into the design and content of the website layout. Subject to further negotiations with WHO this initial work may lead to the IFA taking on the responsibility for maintaining the content of the public website that is relevant to the international age-friendly cities community. IFA will research and mobilize new policies/publications/events/resources to contribute to the dynamic public webpage and WHO will be responsible for the collection of content for the Network's city and affiliated programme section, in addition to identifying interesting examples of Age-friendly Practices that will be submitted by Network members. WHO and IFA will jointly facilitate information exchange and discussions on the ePortal's Members Space.

### **Enquiring About Family Caregiving and their Cultural Differences**

As part of its ongoing partnership with *The Cyril & Dorothy, Joel & Jill Reitman Centre for Alzheimer's Support and Training* at Mount Sinai Hospital, the IFA will be co-hosting a meeting entitled "Enquiring About Family Caregiving and their Cultural Differences" on 22 May, 2014 in Toronto.

It is a commonly known fact that Toronto is one of the most multicultural municipalities in the world --with almost 49% of its population born outside of the country. As the older population of Toronto is growing exponentially, it has become increasingly more evident that the byproducts of a multicultural society like language differences and religious differences pose significant challenges for caregivers and care-recipients alike.

Aiming to bring together a set of ethnically diverse community leaders with varying sets of expertise, the intended purpose of this meeting is to harness a better understanding of the challenges faced by caregivers in a multicultural society and, ultimately, to discuss interventions which have the potential to address these challenges.

Following the meeting, a report which synthesizes the key findings will be created and distributed widely so as to help better inform the development of effective policy interventions.



# REPORTS

## Life Course Immunization

The Global Coalition on Aging was pleased to release a new report entitled 'Life-Course Immunization: A Driver of Healthy Aging,' on July 11, 2013, that calls for adult immunization to top the global policy agenda.

The report analyzes the growing body of research that points to the health benefits and cost-effectiveness of adult immunization. It calls for urgent attention from policymakers and the global health community to integrate adult immunization into healthy ageing strategies and increase awareness of the role of vaccines as a preventative measure as the global population ages.

To bring adult immunization into healthy ageing initiatives and create mechanisms that will increase our understanding of the potential and usages of adult immunization, the paper suggest 6 policy priorities.

Childhood vaccines are one of the great health stories of the 20th century. Now, as we embark on the 21st – a century that will be defined by ageing populations – adult vaccinations are great health, social, and economic policy.

The full report can be accessed from the IFA website under resources.

“A LIFE-COURSE APPROACH to vaccination is strategic economic policy, great health policy, and common sense. It’s also an ethical obligation. How can we continue to let preventable disease devastate our older population when cost-effective solutions exist? We need greater attention – and outcry – to expand this most sensible solution. Let us act with wisdom to prevent funerals and injury to people everywhere.”

- Stephen McMahon, CEO, Irish Patients’ Association



## Revera Report on Ageism

The Report on Ageism was produced by Revera and IFA, where it surveyed Canadians aged 18-32 (Gen Y), 33-45 (Gen X), 46-65 (Boomers), 66-74 (Seniors) and 75+ (Older Seniors) to find out their attitudes about aging and to gauge their level of awareness and experiences with ageism.

The goals of the research were multifaceted: to draw attention to the misconceptions and stereotypes surrounding older people; to inform and advance dialogue around the issue of ageism; to give voice to the views of Canadians who embrace the positive qualities of being older; and to demonstrate that there are many ways people live their lives to the fullest at every stage of their life.

The Revera Report on Ageism concludes with a set of recommendations with the hope that this report begins the conversation and slowly together we can build an age-inclusive Canada.

Readers of the Annual Report can read this report on the IFA website under resources.

## Working Caregivers and Labour Market Changes – A Café Conversation with Stakeholders

IFA co-hosted a high-level meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> 2013 in Toronto, Canada alongside the *Cyril & Dorothy, Joel & Jill Reitman Centre for Alzheimer’s Support and Training* to discuss the complex question of how to provide support to working caregivers. The meeting brought together policy experts, representatives from

relevant NGOs, industry, academia, and caregivers themselves to create a dialogue and gain an understanding of the challenges faced by working caregivers, the way these challenges are worsened or ameliorated by a changing labour market, and ultimately to discuss the prospect of creating an intervention for working caregivers that is effective and scalable.



In order to best achieve its intended objectives, the Café Conversation was structured as an open discussion; an homage to the World Café model, in which all participants can contribute equally and openly. Participants were divided into individual tables with 6-8 people at each and then prompted with leading questions to facilitate discussion. Inevitably, the responses to the leading questions were dynamic and transformative, sometimes veering off into unanticipated areas, and sometimes provoking the creation of new questions altogether. Still, each question covered unique territory and the design of these questions enabled the diverse array of delegates to bring their respective sets of expertise to the discussion, creating an insightful, thoughtful, and productive conversation.

The Café Conversations findings for the day were summarized in a report that can be accessed on the IFA website under resources.

## **Current and Emerging Issues Facing Older Canadians**

In the beginning of April IFA published a report on Current and Emerging Issues Facing Older Canadian that aims to improve policy responses to critical age-related issues through identification, investigation, and analysis of specific country trends and responses that are applicable to the Canadian context and population trends. Ageing issues are complex and not only about the older population.

The notion of a life course perspective was introduced more than a decade ago yet it is seeing a resurgence in the context of labour market strategies, the work-life balance, the role of family caring and being active and connected as we age. In the study of current and future issues facing older Canadians, all levels of governments, industry and the non-governmental sectors revealed not only layers of a discreet subject, such as an ageing workforce, but more importantly the interrelationships among the issues and the interconnectedness between the issues.

The nature of current versus emerging issues somewhat reflected the rate of demographic change and recent economic drivers which cause demographic upheavals that had and were impacting on the development of policy. Each of the issues identified for older Canadian – abuse, ageism and discrimination, ageing workforce, being active and connected, healthcare sustainability, caregiving, and ageing in place – are also current for all Canadians regardless of their age, their work status or where they reside.

However, issues of ageing in place and support to caregivers were rated as the highest priority.

To read the full report on Current and Emerging Issues Facing Older Canadians go to the resources on the IFA website.

## STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

As with previous years the IFA Secretariat has been supported by numerous staff, volunteers, consultants and Directors who have contributed substantially in terms of time, resources and advice to help shape our organization for the future.

The IFA Board of Directors continue to provide a strong leadership for the organization, bringing with them a richness of content in the field of ageing and business with many leading successful NGOs, businesses as well as holding numerous academic and civil positions. This year we welcomed new Directors to the Board and farewell to those who had finished their terms of office with the IFA. While all Directors actively participate and influence the strategic direction special thanks to the IFA Management Committee chaired by the IFA Chairman, Mr. Bjarne Hastrup and the IFA Nominating Committee chaired by Dr Sandra Hirst.

The IFA Board of Directors would like to give special thanks to all IFA staff, Dr. Jane Barratt, Secretary General, Mr. Greg Shaw, Director of International and Corporate Relations, Ms. Annie Tam, Manager, Programs and New Initiatives, Kailyn Burke, Project officer and Hershal Pandya, Project Officer. Without their hard work and dedication IFA would not have been able to expand and obtain the number of new projects and partnerships that continue to generate positive change for older people throughout the world.

Continuing our partnership with the School of Political Science in Aix-en-Provence, France and through our internship program we have had the pleasure of supervising an outstanding young woman, Ms. Juliette Davodeau, who spent nine (9) months with the IFA. The contributions made by Juliette during this period have been extensive and have greatly benefited members and our networks globally. Juliette has maintained responsibility for the production of the IFA eNews and developed the social networking elements for the IFA which have proven to be valuable resources to members and subscribers across the globe.

As with prior years the IFA Board of Directors also acknowledges the dedicated people who represent the face of the IFA at the United Nations in New York. To Helen Hamlin, Mary Mayer, and Valarie Levy the Board express great appreciation of the work they have undertaken in representing the IFA, its members and older people globally with UN Committees and with the various Commissions in New York. It is through their work and time commitment that the IFA has a strong voice at the United Nations.





# MOVING FORWARD - HIGHLIGHTS

**Internship Program** - Our partnership with the School of Political Science in Aix-en-Provence, France will be strengthened in 2013-14 with an intern commencing a 9 month placement with the IFA from September 2013. We hope to further this relationship in 2014-15 with further interns being selected for placement with the IFA. The IFA has expanded its internship program to include students coming from Not-For-Profit Management Program from Continuing Studies Western. The excellence of the Not-For-Profit Management program is exemplified by Ms. Kailyn Burke who originally came to the IFA as an intern and got hired on after her four month placement because of the outstanding work and dedication she demonstrated. IFA hopes to continually strengthen our partnership with Western University.

## IFA 12<sup>TH</sup> Global Conference on Ageing – Hyderabad, India



Hyderabad, India is the host city for the IFA's 12th Global Conference on Ageing which will be held 11 – 13 June, 2014. This event will gather civil society, senior government officials, private sector representatives, and individuals from across the world for the purpose of shining a light on the three broad themes of Health, Security, and Community.

Together with host organization, Heritage Foundation, the IFA is in the process of crafting a richly textured program of expertly curated plenary panels, engaging symposia, captivating concurrent sessions, and more. Delegates at the conference will be privileged to hear an opening keynote address from 2006 Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus, the inventor of microfinance and the founder of the Grameen bank.

Within the conference center, the IFA will act as a facilitator of knowledge exchange; using this unique platform to connect local experts in India with others from across the world so that they can share experiences and learn from one another about specific challenges and innovative solutions relevant to the issues of global ageing. Ultimately, it is through these connections that best practice solutions to problems can be exchanged, refined, and perfected so as to better inform the development of effective policies and practices.

## Advocacy Boot Camp: Toward Improved Awareness of the Diabetic Retinopathies and Diabetic Macular Edema

The Advocacy Boot Camp toward improved awareness of the social and economic consequences of Diabetic Retinopathies (DR) and Diabetic Macular Edema is the community and civil action necessary to fully utilize the evidence and data gathered in a ground-breaking study known as the DR Barometer Study.

The primary aim of the proposed Advocacy Boot Camp is to optimize the value and use of the evidence and data gathered in the DR Barometer Project at the national level. This is an opportunity to prepare, educate and facilitate the learning of country specific representatives (across disciplines and sectors) whose business it is to advocate for people with diabetes-related complications.



## The Fusion of Art and Culture Project



Under the leadership and vision of IF Director, Mr. Mete Bora, SummArt in partnership with the International Federation on Ageing and OCAD University will unite six Turkish artists and seven OCAD U recent graduates and faculty members for the Fusion of Art and Culture Project. From June 16 to 21 at OCAD U's studios, the thirteen emerging artists will produce original works of art to be exhibited and auctioned in Toronto on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Proceeds from the auction will be used by the IFA in raising awareness of age-related macular degeneration (AMD), one of the leading causes of vision loss in Canada and the world. This project complements the efforts of each organization and highlights the importance of intercultural dialogue and cooperation.

More information is available on IFA website.

## Stronger Voices, Stronger Eyes, Stronger National and Global Actions

Stronger Voices, Stronger Eyes, Stronger National and Global Actions responds to a gap in national and global advocacy coalition building, knowledge mobilization and effective, responsive advocacy at a country level toward addressing preventable vision impairment and blindness.

The purpose of this project is to improve awareness and access to appropriate treatments for people with age-related eye disease through partnerships between ageing, diabetes and macular-related organizations.

This project builds on the project work of Action in Global Advocacy in respect to strengthening current partnerships and developing advocacy products in six countries. It adds further value with the inclusion of diabetes organizations (targeting the common complication of diabetic retinopathies), growing NGO partnerships in Canada, Mexico, Columbia and South Korea, and hearing from the health professionals in each new country about the barriers to education and providing appropriate treatments.

## IFA Global Think Tank on Ageing

IFA has proposed an initiative entitled 'The Global Think Tank' that will respond to a major gap on the world stage, advocacy. The Global Think Tank will have advocacy as its core mission with outreach networks to governments, national and international organizations, business, and academia toward improved policies. It will help to influence age-related policy and practice by providing advice on policy matters to government officials on both social and financial policy as they relate to ageing.

In the initial phases of the Global Think Tank on Ageing this will be achieved through 'status reports' on age-related issues; and, based on that, it is expected to provide innovative, practical recommendations that advance three broad goals namely: (1) to protect the rights of older people; (2) foster economic and social welfare, security and opportunity of older people; and (3) advance health and wellbeing of older people.



Therefore, the IFA Global Think Tank on Ageing overarching aims will be to:

**Serve** as institutional bridges linking professionals who share an interest in international affairs and can contribute to establishing “person-based pipelines”

**Establish**, inform and re-shape public opinion in ageing issues by contributing to relevant discourses

**Transfer** and disseminate knowledge on specific ageing issues by engaging in “research brokerage”

**Raise** awareness on emerging age-related global issues

**Contribute** to the global agenda setting on ageing

**Engage** in informal diplomacy activities through the created people-based pipelines on ageing

**Act** as a sounding board for policy makers by providing informed “second opinions”

**Influence** specific policy agendas or the general strategic discourse through (regularized) interactions with policy makers

**Nurture** the next generation of experts on ageing issues

## IFA International Centre of Excellence on Ageing



In pursuit of increasing the quality of life, taking all necessary measures for such and to prioritize the outlook to age friendly environments for senior citizens, IFA in collaboration with TURKAK Seniors Council Association an NGO based in Ankara, Turkey are proposing to establish the foundation of ICEA, Istanbul International Center of Excellence on Ageing in Istanbul, Turkey. The Centre will be a non-profit, non-partisan global point of connection of experts and expertise in creating and mobilizing knowledge on the political, social, economic, and environmental factors that contribute to facilitating active and healthy ageing as well as being a repository for best

practices.

The Istanbul International Center of Excellence on Ageing (ICEA) is unique, and responds to an urgent gap in evidence-informed policy in the field of active ageing with a special focus on “building a society for all ages.” The Center shall respond not only to the growing need for effective age-related policy in the region but will be seen globally as a leader in intergovernmental dialogue and an enabler toward sharing best practices.

A prime concern and action of the Center is to coordinate and distribute knowledge on the fields of ageing to governmental agencies, institution, academia, and local governments through various means including seminars and congress organized periodically in each and every country in the region as well as the least developed nations of the world. The Center shall also work to generate funds to support research in certain discreet field of ageing study.

The Centre will position itself to deliver, coordinate, and mobilize knowledge in a high impact environment while ensuring co-creation of new knowledge and sharing of policies and best practices amongst stakeholders in every country.



## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

*2013-2014: Mr Alan How*

This year is the first the audit carried out by Rajesh Khatri Chartered Professional Accountant since the IFA incorporated under the New Canadian Charities Act. No significant material changes have been made to historic or current accounting that the IFA carries out.

The 2013-2014 financial year has resulted in a surplus of \$685,968 as opposed to the deficit of \$28,265 in the prior year. The surplus also recognizes \$432,205 of funds received in 2013-2014 but deferred to the 2014-2015 financial year. The net assets increased from \$62k in 2012-2013 to \$730,309 in the current year. A surplus is predicted for the coming financial year, so there are no ongoing concerns or issues.

The 2013/2014 financial year was the highest income generating year in the history of the IFA and that momentum continues as we look forward. Income over the year has come from many sectors, similar to the previous year, but with the significant addition of educational grants from new partners in Bayer Pharmaceuticals Inc., Pfizer Inc., and Grant Makers in Ageing. The overall income for the financial year was a little in excess of \$1.2 million. The work efforts of all staff in the IFA, both paid and unpaid, have contributed significantly to the momentum now generated.

Revenue from membership fell by approximately 9% from the level in 2012-2013 with a number of institutional members opting to change to individual membership. Over the year, 55 new members joined the IFA and of particular note is the increased interest in membership from the corporate sector. Changes to the membership fees structure for 2014-2015 providing for, individuals, academia and industry being eligible to hold full membership for the first time in the history of the IFA, together with changes to the corporations By-Laws, may lead to greater revenue opportunities.

In the financial year, to improve office functionality, the IFA spent approximately \$16,000 on capital equipment upgrading the server and computers. Further upgrades and additions are planned for 2014-2015. The cash levels increased to \$768,752 from \$26,000 in the prior year, ensuring the organisation's financial health remains in better condition than many past years and providing for improved reserves cover. The results of the current financial year means that there is less emphasis on cash and earning income each year to pay for that year's expenditure.

The 2014-2015 year is shaping up to be one that will build on the current sound financial position with a number of new initiative planned that will strengthen the financial stability and global reach of the organization. This has been a historic year for the financial position of the IFA and one that I am sure will be built upon in the years ahead. Congratulations to the IFA Secretariat and particularly Dr. Jane Barratt for placing the IFA in such a strong financial position.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan How'.

Alan How

# Rajesh Khatri, CPA, CA

## CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Licensed Public Accountant

### AUDIT ENGAGEMENT REPORT

#### To the Members of International Federation on Ageing

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained in my audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

**Opinion** - In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of International Federation on Ageing as at March 31, 2014, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

#### Balance Sheet - March 31, 2014

	2014	2013
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and short-term investments (Note 4)	\$768,752	\$26,000
Accounts receivable	-	31,926
Prepaid expense and sundry receivables	2,327	2,421
	771,079	60,347
Capital assets (Note 3)	15,494	2,157
	<b>\$ 786,573</b>	<b>\$ 62,504</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 6)	19,711	12,163
Deferred contribution (Note 7)	36,553	36,256

	<b>56,264</b>	<b>48,419</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
General fund	714,815	11,928
Investment in fixed assets	15,494	2,157
	<b>\$ 730,309</b>	<b>\$ 14,085</b>
	<b>\$ 786,573</b>	<b>\$ 62,504</b>

#### Statement of Net Changes - Year ended March 31, 2014

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Investment in Capital Assets</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Net assets, beginning	11,928	2,157	14,085	72,602
Deferred members' fees (Note 7)	-	-	-	(30,256)
Purchase of capital assets	(16,198)	16,198	-	-
Excess of revenue over expenses	719,085	(2,861)	716,224	(28,261)
Net assets, ending	714,815	15,494	\$730,309	\$14,085

#### Statement of Income - Year ended March 31, 2014

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Membership fees (Note 7)	66,490	70,813
Corporate and foundation sponsorships	1,134,277	159,080
Government grants and contributions	4,978	21,487
Donations	4,513	13,592
Professional income	8,228	9,935
Publication sales	-	725
Miscellaneous (Note 12)	12,000	12,149
	<b>\$ 1,230,486</b>	<b>\$ 287,781</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Amortization	2,861	539
Bank charges and interest	7,754	6,275
Contract services	145,124	44,425
Equipment rental	2,093	1,509
Foreign exchange gain or loss	3,911	3,022
Insurance	3,354	3,324
Management salaries and benefits	235,673	143,544
Memberships	4,838	962
Office and general	6,559	9,458
Professional fees	18,045	11,330
Printing and publishing	7,211	9,913
Rent (Note 12)	12,000	12,000
Technical assistance	-	6,340
Telecommunications	7,554	6,091
Travel, accommodations, meals and board meetings (Note 15)	46,806	45,388
Website and IT support	10,479	11,922

	<b>\$ 514,262</b>	<b>\$ 316,042</b>
Net income (loss)	<b>\$ 716,224</b>	<b>\$ (28,261)</b>

#### Statement of Cash flows - Year ended March 31, 2014

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Cash provided by		
Operating activities		
Net income (loss)	\$ 716,224	\$ (28,261)
Add: items not affecting cash – amortization	2,861	539
	<b>719,085</b>	<b>(27,722)</b>
Net change in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	31,925	(11,788)
Deferred income	297	(6,000)
Prepaid expenses and sundry receivables	94	38
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	7,549	(19,448)
	<b>39,865</b>	<b>(37,198)</b>
	<b>758,950</b>	<b>(64,920)</b>
Investing activities		
Purchase of capital assets	16,198	-
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalent	742,752	(64,920)
Cash and cash equivalent, beginning	26,000	90,920
Cash and cash equivalent, ending	<b>\$ 768,752</b>	<b>\$ 26,000</b>

#### Notes to Financial Statements - March 31, 2014 (Only those noted in the details for the IFA Annual report listed)

##### 3. Capital assets

	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Accumulated Amortization</b>	<b>2014 Net Book Value</b>	<b>2013 Net Book Value</b>
Office equipment	25,343	23,618	1,725	2,157
Computer hardware	16,199	2,430	13,769	-
Computer software	8,431	8,431	-	-
	<b>\$ 49,973</b>	<b>\$ 34,479</b>	<b>\$ 15,494</b>	<b>\$ 2,157</b>

Amortization expense for the current year amounted to \$2,861 (2013-\$539).

##### 4. Cash and short-term investments

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Short-term investments	\$ 468,160	\$ -

Short-term investment consists of two fixed income redeemable term deposits with dates of 12 months from the date of acquisition. The short-term investments bear interest at 1.05% and 1.25% per annum with maturity dates of October 17, 2014 and February 20, 2015.

##### 7. Deferred Contribution

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Deferred membership fees	\$ 36,553	\$ 36,256

The organization changed its method of accounting for membership fees from a "cash basis" to a deferral method of accounting in the current year, resulting in deferred membership fees of \$36,553 in the current



year. As this change was applied retrospectively, the prior period comparative has been restated to \$36,256 from the previous deferral of \$6,000.

## 15. Travel Expenses

Travel, accommodation and meals are net of reimbursement from corporate grants and sponsorships in the amount of \$21,570 (2013 - \$20,946).

# 2013 – 2014 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Hershal Pandya  
Project Officer

Kailyn Burke  
Project Officer

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