

Educational Speaker Series

Aging your Way: Creating an Age-Inclusive Canada, Together

TALK #2

Using Technology to Stay Connected

Date: March 23, 2021

Time: 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. ET

Cost: FREE

[Register Here](#)

About the Talk

Using technology to stay socially connected has never been more important. Social isolation and loneliness, already a problem affecting many older Canadians, has become an even more urgent matter during lockdowns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn how to use digital technology to stay connected with your loved ones and community, helping to prevent anxiety, depression, loneliness and other harmful effects of isolation.

This talk gives you an exciting opportunity to hear from two leaders in the fields of technology and aging: [Dr. Alex Mihailidis](#), Scientific Director of AGE-WELL, Canada's technology and aging network, and [Michael Tamblyn](#), CEO of Rakuten-Kobo and AGE-WELL's Chief Entrepreneur. [Laura Tamblyn Watts](#), CEO of CanAge (Canada's National Seniors' Advocacy Organization) will be moderating the talk.

This session is part of **Aging your Way: Creating an Age-Inclusive Canada, Together**: an educational speaker series brought to you by CanAge and TPL. View the complete series [schedule](#).

Biographies

HOST



Laura Tamblyn Watts, LLB

President & CEO

Laura Tamblyn Watts, president and CEO of CanAge, is a highly sought after expert regarding matters involving older adults in Canada and around the world. She currently teaches at the University of Toronto, where she is also a Fellow of the Institute for Life Course and Aging.

Laura is an Executive Member of the Canadian Bar Association's National Elder Law section and a Board member of the National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly. She is also a board member of the Investment Funds Institute of Canada's (IFIC) committee on Seniors and Vulnerable Investors, PACE Independent Living, Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario, and an incoming member of the Investment Industry Regulators Organizations of Canada (IIROC).

EXPERTS



Dr. Alex Mihailidis

**CEO and Scientific Co-Director of AGE-WELL
Networks of Centres of Excellence**

Alex Mihailidis is the Associate Vice-President for International Partnerships at the University of Toronto and the Barbara G. Stymiest Research Chair in Rehabilitation Technology at the University of Toronto and Toronto Rehab Institute. He is also the Scientific Director and CEO of the [AGE-WELL Network of Centres of Excellence](#), which focuses on the development of new technologies and services for older adults. He is a Professor in the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy (U of T) and in the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering (U of T), with a cross appointment in the Department of Computer Science (U of T). He has been conducting research in the field of pervasive computing and intelligent systems in health for the past 16 years, having published over 200 journal papers, conference papers, and abstracts in this field. He has specifically focused on the development of intelligent home systems for elder care and wellness, technology for children with autism, and adaptive tools for nurses and clinical applications. Dr. Mihailidis is also very active in the rehabilitation engineering profession, currently as a Past-President for RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America). He was also named a Fellow of RESNA in 2014, which

is one of the highest honours within this field of research and practice.



Michael Tamblyn

Chief Entrepreneur of AGE-WELL as well as President and CEO of Rakuten Kobo

Michael Tamblyn, President and Chief Executive Officer at [Rakuten Kobo](#), drives growth, profitability and international expansion in a fiercely competitive market. He combines a passion for reading with a deep focus on hardware and software experiences. In addition to leading Rakuten Kobo, he advises startups focused on aging and technology as Chief Entrepreneur of Age-Well NCE, is on the board of directors of the Law Commission of Ontario, Ontario's law reform body, as well as The Power Plant, Toronto's foremost contemporary art gallery. Michael has been a part of Rakuten Kobo's executive team since its inception in 2009, and previously held the role of Chief Content Officer. He holds a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Western Ontario.