

# Opportunity for older adults & their caregivers to be involved in a research study on the use of assistive technologies



**What are assistive technologies?** Assistive technologies are used to support a person to do the things they need to do to maintain or improve their level of independence.

## Why is this study being done?

This study aims to improve the use and access to assistive technologies for older adults in British Columbia. The study also aims to develop better ways of assessing the challenges people experience when using assistive technologies. Bringing older adults, their family members, and other caregivers together to talk about assistive technologies will be helpful for health care workers and others.

## Who can participate in the study?

If you are an older adult using or wanting to use an assistive technology of some kind, you are invited to share your experiences about such things as ease of access and use, as well as any challenges.

For **older adults**, you must be 55+ years and living independently. **Family members** include anyone who is currently providing care and support to an older adult family member. **Friends, neighbours and other informal caregivers** are also invited to participate if you provide regular support to an older adult. Interested participants must be 19 years or older. You should also be able to complete the interview in English.

## What will I be asked to do if I choose to participate?

You will have the option to participate in an initial interview about assistive technologies (up to 1-hour). You may also choose to be part of a group session or participate in other project activities. These will be done either online or over the phone from January – March 2021.

## Who is conducting this research?

The co-leads of the research study are Dr. Karen Kobayashi and Robin Syme. They are both at the University of Victoria. Dr. Kobayashi is in the Department of Sociology. She is also a Research Fellow with the Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health. Robin Syme is the Executive Director of CanAssist.

## Name of the Study

### Knowledge Implementation for Scale-up, Spread, and Sustainability of Assistive Technologies (KISSS-AT)

## Contact Information

If you are interested in being part of this important study or finding out more information, please contact:

Dr. Gord Miller, Project Coordinator  
[kissat@uvic.ca](mailto:kissat@uvic.ca) or 250-893-5869

## Research Team

We are a team of researchers at the University of Victoria, working with CanAssist and the BC Ministry of Health.

## Academic Research Contact

Dr. Karen Kobayashi, Co-Lead  
[kmkobay@uvic.ca](mailto:kmkobay@uvic.ca)

## Funded By

This project is funded by the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research.



## Supported by

