



CONNECTED CANADIANS CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS SUPPORTING CANADA'S AGING POPULATION ONLINE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OTTAWA, ON, Jan. 25, 2023 -Today, [Connected Canadians](#), Canada's largest provider of free digital skills training for seniors, is celebrating its five-year anniversary.

Co-founded by women in technology, Emily Jones Joannis and Tasneem Damen in 2018, the Ottawa-based non-profit has significantly grown from offering local in-person training sessions at seniors homes in Ottawa, to serving thousands of seniors in over 100 communities across Canada.

"It's been really exciting watching Connected Canadians grow over these past five years," said Emily Jones Joannis, CEO, President and Co-founder, Connected Canadians. "Our mission has always been to reduce isolation and loneliness amongst older adults by connecting them to their friends and loved ones through technology. I'm proud to say that thanks to our growing network of incredible volunteers, we have been successful in doing so."

Today, Connected Canadians has onboarded 250 tech-savvy volunteers who work with seniors directly, or in group workshops, to address and overcome any technology challenges.

"Within the next 15 years, the population of seniors will rise from 6 million to 10.4 million – a 68% increase," said Tasneem Damen, Co-Founder and Chief Information Officer, Connected Canadians. "Our work is critical in supporting Canada's aging population and we are grateful to our many public and private sector [partners](#) who have supported us over the years."

Ely Bronstein, one of many satisfied seniors, touched on how Connected Canadians has benefited him, "It's opened up the world essentially. It has enabled me to connect with a family member that I had not seen for five years, that is a significant connection, and this was made possible by Connected Canadians. The mentorship sessions are appreciated more than words can say. I have profound gratitude to the founders and to all of the people involved with Connected Canadians."

In addition to customized training and support sessions, Connected Canadians offers virtual at-home fitness classes, virtual art programs, social gaming, support for families of hospital patients, workplace volunteering program sessions, and instructor-led workshops. For more information please visit www.connectedcanadians.ca.

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