

SFU Press Releases Collection

These archival copies have been generated from web press releases maintained and originally written by SFU Communications and Marketing. Where possible, an effort has been made to preserve the public comments left on the website as well as any included photos or other images. All textual content should be faithful to the original press releases; contact numbers have been removed but they have not otherwise been altered in any way. However, this collection of documents spans multiple generations of web authoring software and not all formatting will be exact.

MEDIA RELEASE

Aging study data collection site opens in Surrey

September 28, 2012

[Tweet](#) [Facebook](#) [Pinterest](#) [Email](#) [Print](#)**Contact:**

Andrew Wister, 778.782.5044 or 604.671.7651; wister@sfu.ca (in transit this afternoon and returns tonight; available this weekend)

Heather Stewart, 778.782.9466 or 778.834.3150; hgstewart@sfu.ca

Marianne Meadahl, 604.209.5770; Marianne_Meadahl@sfu.ca

Photos: <http://at.sfu.ca/fDVPlr>

NOTE TO EDITORS: Members of the media are welcome to tour the CLSA data collection site at the SFU Surrey Campus on Oct. 4. Tours begin approximately 1:15pm, with photo opportunities in the various exam rooms.

The [Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging \(CLSA\)](#) is unfolding at 11 major universities and in communities across the country. An official launch of the CLSA at Simon Fraser University's [Surrey campus](#) will take place on Thursday, Oct. 4 with a ceremony in the mezzanine starting at 12:45 p.m.

A 1,000 sq. ft. data collection site in SFU Surrey's Podium 2 will be showcased during event, to be attended by government officials as well as staff and researchers from neighbouring Fraser Health and SFU's [Gerontology Research Centre](#). A ribbon cutting and tours will follow.

The official opening will provide an opportunity to learn more about the CLSA and see the state-of-the-art equipment used for a variety of testing, including heart, lung and vascular functions, bone density and body composition, vision and hearing, strength, mobility and balance, and cognitive function.

The data collected as part of the CLSA will form a national research database that will help scientists to answer key questions about health and aging, and lead to new insights and better understanding of what it means to age well.

The Surrey data collection site is one of 11 across Canada that will ultimately track 50,000 Canadians between the ages of 45-85 at the start of the study, including approximately 8,500 men and women in B.C.

Over the next year, the Surrey site will recruit 1,500 randomly chosen participants living within a 25-kilometre radius of the campus. Study participants will return for further testing and interviews every three years for a total of 20 years.

The CLSA has recruited more than 11,000 participants thus far, with recruitment of 50,000 to be completed by 2015.

The Surrey unit is managed by Heather Stewart and employs eight interviewers, technicians and research assistants. The team spent six months setting up shop and refining their methods in preparation for the start of data collection, which officially began in June 2012.

Andrew Wister, chair of SFU's Gerontology Department and CLSA lead investigator at SFU Surrey, says the data will generate new knowledge on "the many complex and interrelated biological, clinical, psycho-social and societal factors" that affect aging.

It will also facilitate a wide range of interdisciplinary research to help researchers better address the growing issues related to healthy aging, he adds.

McMaster University, the National Coordinating Centre for the CLSA, is hosting its own **national launch** of the project today.

“Canadian communities are already facing the challenges and opportunities brought on by demographic change,” said Gilles Patry, president and CEO of the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). “The research community is ensuring that we have the knowledge and innovation needed to support our aging population.”

The CFI and Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) are funding the study, with additional support from provincial governments and affiliated universities and research institutions. For more, see www.clsa-elcv.ca

Simon Fraser University is Canada's top-ranked comprehensive university and one of the top 50 universities in the world under 50 years old. With campuses in Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey, B.C., SFU engages actively with the community in its research and teaching, delivers almost 150 programs to more than 30,000 students, and has more than 120,000 alumni in 130 countries.

-- 30 --

Simon Fraser University: Engaging Students. Engaging Research. Engaging Communities.

No comments yet

[Comment Guidelines](#) 

Admission

Programs

Learning

Research

Community

About

Maps + directions

Library

Academic Calendar

Road Report

Give to SFU

Emergency Information

CONNECT WITH US

Facebook

Instagram

Twitter

YouTube

CONTACT US

Simon Fraser University

8888 University Drive

Burnaby, B.C.

Canada V5A 1S6

Terms and conditions

© Simon Fraser University