



## WHO WE HELP

CanAssist helps clients of all ages who are dealing with physical, cognitive or mental health challenges – or a combination of these.

In some cases, a client's condition may have been acquired; in others it is congenital. In recent years, CanAssist has gained particular expertise assisting vulnerable seniors, including those with dementia. We have also focused on helping people with brain or spinal cord injuries and those whose barriers are related to mobility, communication, education or employment.



## CONTACT

### CLIENTS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND CARE PROVIDERS:

If you are interested in requesting a technology, please go to [www.canassist.ca/request](http://www.canassist.ca/request) and fill out a request form. Our team will determine if we are able to help and, if so, how the project could be funded. If you require additional information, please contact us at 250-721-7300 or [ClientRelations@canassist.ca](mailto:ClientRelations@canassist.ca).

### ORGANIZATIONS:

If your organization is interested in collaborating with CanAssist, please contact us at 250-721-7300 or [info@uvic.ca](mailto:info@uvic.ca).



University of Victoria

# CanAssist



Developing technologies that improve seniors' independence at home while supporting their caregivers



University of Victoria

[www.canassist.ca](http://www.canassist.ca)

## CANASSIST IS YOUR RESOURCE

Since 1999, CanAssist at the University of Victoria has developed customized technologies for people with a wide range of physical and cognitive disabilities. Our engineers, software developers and project coordinators work closely with clients, as well as their families and care teams, to increase the individual's independence, confidence and sense of inclusion through innovative yet practical solutions. We benefit enormously from being part of a vibrant campus and having access to UVic's exceptional educational and research resources.

## TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

CanAssist's mandate is to develop assistive technologies where no effective commercial solution exists. For some clients, the best solution will involve adapting a commercial device so it better meets their needs; others will require a one-of-a-kind device or software application. Ultimately, our goal is to help as many people as possible; so if a solution developed for one person has the potential to help many others with similar needs, we search for partners and funding to make it widely available.

## A NEW SERVICE

**Ability411** is a new website operated by CanAssist that provides information and guidance about effective assistive technologies for seniors, their families and health providers. The service – at [www.ability411.com](http://www.ability411.com) – helps health workers and families find the appropriate assistive technology to meet their client or loved one's needs.

## OUR AREAS OF EXPERTISE

### COMPUTERS, MOBILE DEVICES, SOFTWARE

Our team has extensive experience helping people stay connected and on schedule through extremely easy-to-use devices, interfaces and software applications.

### TASKS OF DAILY LIVING

CanAssist helps clients master the tasks of daily life, whether these involve working safely in the kitchen or garden, controlling a phone or TV independently, or doing a load of laundry without assistance.

### MOBILITY

Our devices, modifications and accessories assist clients in moving safely and independently – whether they travel by car, wheelchair, walker, scooter, stroller or on foot.

### SENIORS' SAFETY IN THE HOME

Thanks to funding from the BC Ministry of Health, CanAssist is developing new technologies to help larger numbers of vulnerable seniors remain living in their own homes for as long as safely possible.

### CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Many of our technologies also support family members and others who care for seniors, reducing their stress by ensuring they know their loved ones are safe.

### THERAPY AND EXERCISE

Our team works closely with OT, PTs and other professionals to develop therapy and exercise equipment customized to meet an individual's unique requirements.

### CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS

We design technologies to support people with complex, chronic and progressive conditions, such as arthritis, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease.

### ARTS AND LEISURE

CanAssist enables participation in an unlimited range of activities, including fishing, music, cycling, painting, photography and much more.

