



Chess
FOR CONNECTION

Move by Move:
Connect youth and seniors through chess and transform social isolation into meaningful connections

Our Story



Our story started at the 2022 Canadian Open when I met Gilbert Bong Perez ...



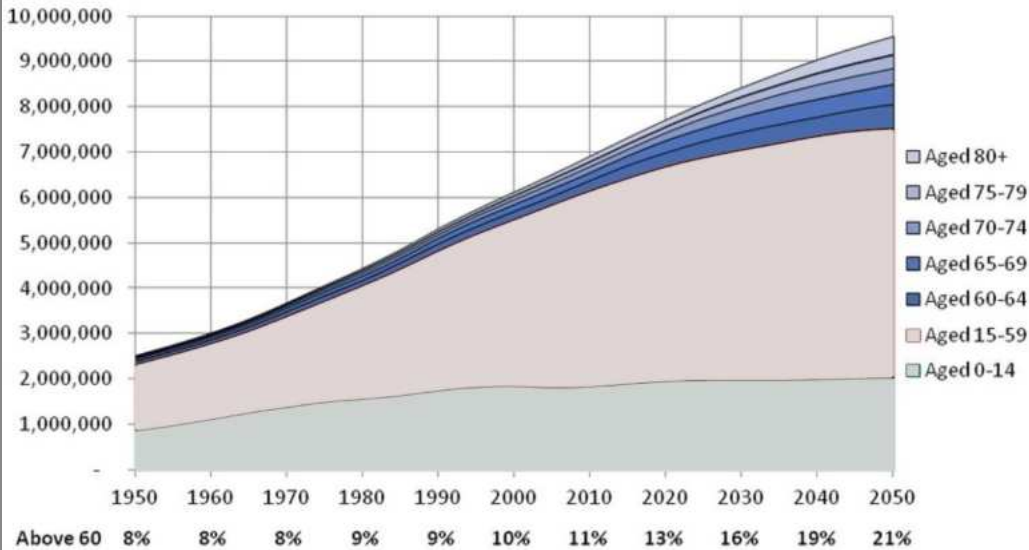
Gilbert is a retired doctor who represented Canada at the Chess Olympiad and the world Chess Championship for People with Disabilities. He shared how chess had been a source of purpose and motivation in his life, despite the challenges he faced as a person with a physical disability and as a senior who's aging and experiencing vision loss.

I started reflecting on Gilbert's story and it genuinely only hit me then that chess is such an amazing sport, accessible to all regardless of physical ability or age. I started searching for opportunities to use my chess skills to make a positive impact on the lives of seniors in my community.

Social Issues for Seniors



World Population



Source: United Nation

The percentage of seniors in our global population is increasing.

Increased number of seniors need more meaningful social connections.

Prone to social isolation and loneliness

Reduced social connections

Cognitive and physical challenges with aging

The Benefits of Chess



Social

- new interest creates purpose
- opportunities to connect and socialize



Cognitive

- better overall physical health
- stronger memory and mental capacity



Emotional

- mental and emotional health
- reduced risk of depression

Our Solution

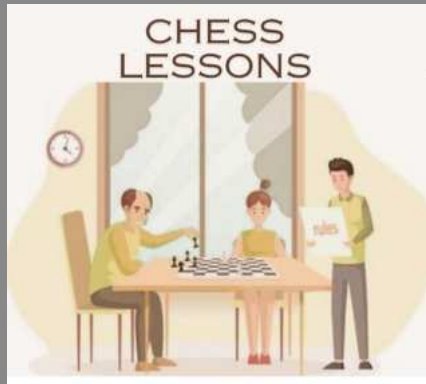


- Youth-run non-profit organization
- Dedicated to fostering social interaction and community engagement
- Our mission is to encourage intergenerational interactions between seniors and youth through chess
- We bring chess to senior homes to address social, emotional and cognitive challenges among seniors and strengthen a sense of community and belonging
- Promote chess within our communities

Our Program



We provide a variety of activities tailored to the needs of the senior home and the preferences of participants based on interests and skill level.



Chess sessions
and lessons



In-house Chess
Club



Tournaments
and Events



Fun Chess
Activities

Accomplishments to Date

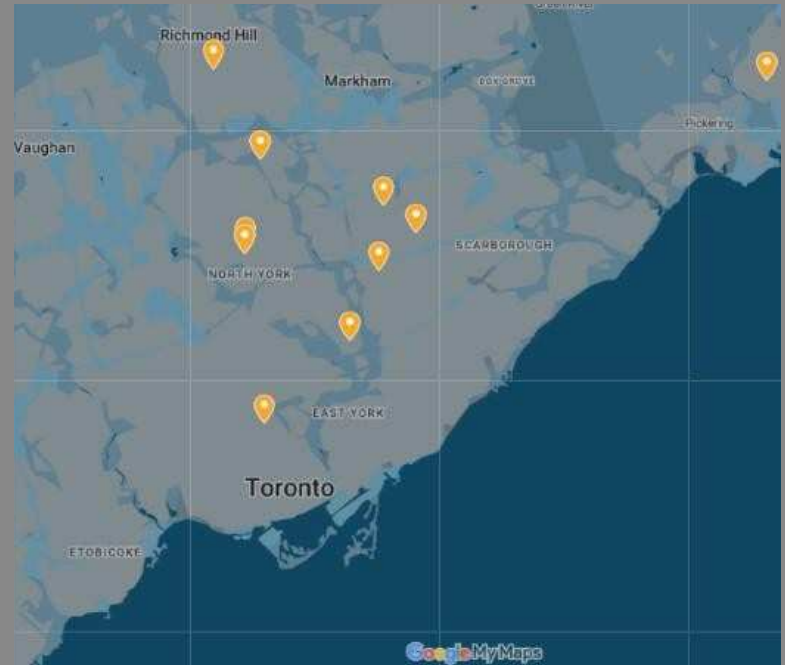


Senior homes eager to join

Successfully implemented at 10 senior residences within a year in Ontario and is expanding to other locations in Canada.

“Our Seniors Active Living Centre is always looking for new ways to connect and engage with the seniors in our diverse community. When Chess for Connection reached out, we saw it as a wonderful opportunity to bring the game of chess to our seniors.”

– **Kanchan Pathak** Manager/Senior Persons Living Connected



Accomplishments to Date



Seniors engaged with the program

Our regular participants span from 50 - 90 years. They enjoy our weekly chess program and the opportunities it brings to interact with youth.

“

I love having the weekly opportunity to play chess and learn from the best. I also love meeting the other chess players and playing my favourite game.

”

– **Michael** Senior/Delmanor Northtown Retirement Living



Accomplishments to Date



Youth motivated to contribute

30 Canadian youth chess players have joined the team, contributing more than 800 volunteer hours to program development and operation.

“
It's inspiring to see participants gain confidence, improve their strategic thinking, and build lasting relationships through our shared passion for chess.
”

– **Liyang Yin** Youth volunteer/Bradgate Arms Retirement Living



Accomplishments to Date



Youth benefited from intergenerational connection

This program not only benefits seniors, but also youth, providing opportunities to transform their passion for chess, hone their leadership skills, and expand their horizons.

“These students, along with the rest of the Chess for Connection volunteers, have channeled their passion for chess into an invaluable service for seniors in the Greater Toronto Area. Some of the best young chess players in the country are connected to seniors who, in turn, share their rich life experiences - what an incredible initiative.”

- **Mike Farley** Chess Coach / University of Toronto Schools



Accomplishments to Date



Expanding globally with first branch in Uganda



Raphael Kabuye, President of Makerere Chess Society in Kampala, Uganda



Outreach

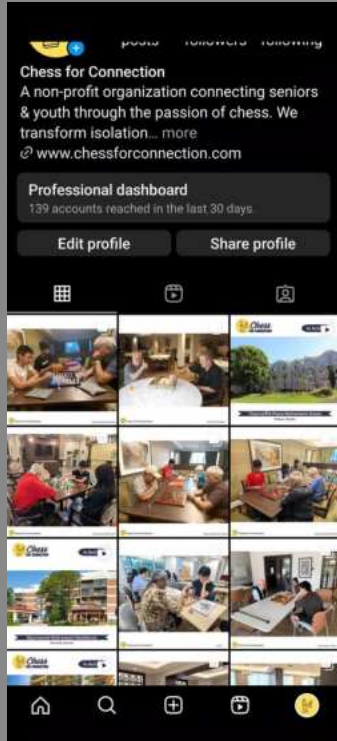
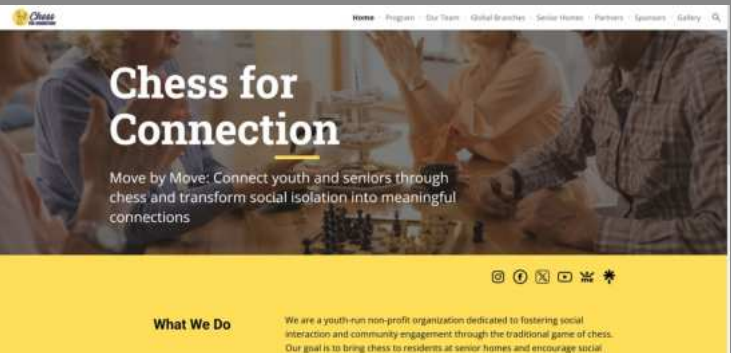


Through social media



CFC Interview

Website



Instagram



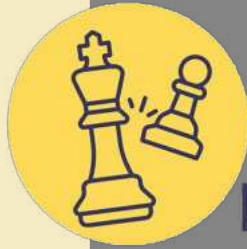
Facebook

Our Next Move



Our next move is to expand Chess for Connection to other regions and countries, creating a global impact. We aim to benefit seniors worldwide by using chess as a tool for social change.

Jus in bringing this initiative to your local community to make a lasting impact.



Chess
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One move at a time!

Together, we can combat social isolation, bridge generations and create lasting bonds through the love of chess.

**Thank
you!**