**PenPal for the retired or elderly:**

**What is the problem/service?**

During COVID-19 majority of the retirement homes and nursing homes were in extreme lock down. Locked down to the point where the seniors were restricted from being with their family. This led to seniors having extreme loneliness.

**Why it is important?**

Extreme loneliness could lead one to having depression, anxiety disorders and suicide. The elders are quite important in our community and part of the Calgarian family. They have the right to have as much social interaction as we do if not more. Without the experience of our elders we wouldn’t be where we are now.

**How are you going to solve it?**

The idea to solve this was to design an app that connects the elders to students, teenagers, young adults basically anyone who would like to seek advice or just hang out. We all know that the most experienced people in our community are these seniors, so suppose a student engineer, doctor or plumber wanted to talk to someone with more experience and learn how to grow in their fields can now have the chance to do so. The app would describe each elder's past and anyone can book appointments to talk with them over the app, zoom or whichever they please. Whether that be a 1-1 paring for mentorship or just talking and having fun with several random seniors. To solve the issue of seniors not being able to sign up could be solved by targeting specifically the nursery homes and senior homes where the system can be setup by a staff member there. This would allow wisdom and experience to be passed onto the youth along with keeping seniors busy. After all who doesn’t like to talk about themselves.

**What kind of system will it be?**

The program would most likely be a mobile app just because of the convenience it provides. The build will be quite like what’s app or skype. The build will mainly focus on the senior homes, nursery homes, and retirement buildings where each senior would have their own account. A website could also be viable for this idea. Each person would have their own account and meetings.