

River Grove Seniors Friendship Club

AGM February 25, 2021: ANNUAL REPORT, for period Sept. 2019-Aug. 2020

Background

River Grove Senior Friendship Club (RGSFC) is a not-for-profit organization and an affiliated member of the City of Mississauga's Community Group Registry Program. To maintain the benefits of this affiliation, the Club must abide by the policies and procedures laid out by the Program.

RGSFC is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who has been elected by its members.

Board Members: President Rose Tan, Vice President Heather Bendle, Secretary Peter Van Tol, Treasurer Ron Stanley, Assistant Treasurer Denice Miller, Travel Coordinator – Casino Ursula Manteufel, Travel Coordination – Day Trips Maisie McMullen, Activities Coordinator Elfreda Lewis, Acting Activities Coordinators Heather Bendle and Rose Tan, Social Coordinator Janet Kennedy and Past President Wayne Chambers.

Nominations and voting for the Board 2021-2023 were held at the Feb. 25/21 AGM, and the following were elected to serve, effective Sept. 1/21: President Rose Tan, Vice President Heather Bendle, Secretary Peter Van Tol, Treasurer Ron Stanley, Assistant Treasurer Denice Miller, Travel Coordinator – Casino Ursula Manteufel, Travel Coordinator – Day Trips Maisie McMullen, Activities Coordinator Bernadette Jamieson, Activities Coordinator Elfreda Lewis, and Social Coordinator Karen Vestrocy.

At our year end, August 31, 2020, the membership totaled 566. The Club provides 20 activities as listed on the Website. Each activity is run by volunteer activity leaders. The Club is dependent on volunteers to run and operate its programs. Approximately 360 members participate in our weekly sessions. There are 20 Activity Leaders/Travel Coordinators, with another 120 member-helpers who volunteer during the usual 1400 annual activity hours provided to us at the River Grove Community Centre. However, as 2020 was an unusual year, with renovations at the River Community Centre and COVID-19, the annual hours were much reduced. We are extremely grateful to the City of Mississauga for the in-kind support, both administratively and financially, through the benefits of the Community Group Registry Policy. This has allowed us to develop into the vibrant Seniors Club it has become.

I summarized our accomplishments during the AGM and some are detailed in the Objectives below. Printed Income Statements, Balance Sheet and the Budget were presented by Treasurer Ron.

Achievements

1. Organizing, scheduling, logistics of moving equipment and keeping members informed of **River Grove renovations, delays, activity cancellations, relocation information** in the Fall/Winter of the 2019-2020 season. Return to normal activities at River Grove was only achieved in mid-February 2020
2. **A new bulk email program** was launched to communicate with members more effectively
3. **Bingo**, with license and supporting structures was brought back in November 2019
4. We maintained our connection to the community by hosting a York University student to observe our seniors keeping fit at exercise. The student was very impressed.

5. During the pandemic lockdown, the **Board of Directors** learned to work virtually and had meetings regularly via **Zoom** to deal with the many administrative tasks of running the Club. We kept members informed of the **COVID 19 response** and shutdown, in accordance with Public Health Guidelines. We communicated with members about vacant board positions. We mobilized the membership for a **return to RG for October 1, 2020**. We made updates to our website.
6. **Donations** were made to the Eden Food Bank, Trillium Health Partners, River Grove Community Centre for wall pads for the gym. Guest Speakers were given donations for their charity of choice.
7. The **Guest Speaker** program was popular and registration had to be limited by room capacity. The Paramedics of Peel presentation was dynamic and informative. The Advance Care Planning workshop was in a 1.5 hours format and participants were engaged throughout. The other scheduled speakers had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.
8. Club **Membership** for 2020-2021 was extended, at no cost to members

FRIENDSHIP will continue to be our Policy as a non-political, non-sectarian, non-racial Club and support our Purpose to unite for the benefit of all members to enjoy social and recreation programs.

President **Rose Tan**