FY 2022/23

ANNUAL REPORT





# Resilience









#### About NYSC

North York Seniors Centre (NYSC) is a not-for-profit organization that provides a broad spectrum of programs and services connecting older adults to their community and assisting them to live safely and independently in their own homes.

Our dedicated and compassionate staff and volunteer teams work tirelessly to meet our clients' needs. We do this through innovative, high-quality programming and services that promote an active and healthy lifestyle to our clients and their families.



#### **OUR MISSION**

North York Seniors Centre provides programs and services to promote the physical, emotional and social well-being of adults aged 55 years and older, living in our diverse community.

#### **OUR VISION**

North York Seniors Centre, an accredited organization with a solid funding base, is recognized as a leader delivering quality programs and services through the innovative use of volunteers and strategic partnerships.

#### **OUR VALUES**

**Compassion:** We care about our community.

**Relationships:** We build strong relationships through open communication and mutual respect.

**Integrity:** We adhere to high moral principles and professional standards.

**Safety:** We promote a safe, inviting and accessible environment.

**Innovation:** We encourage the development of new opportunities that build service excellence.

# A Message

**FROM THE** 

**CHAIRPERSON** 

**BOARD** 

**AND THE** 

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are pleased to table our report on the activities of North York Seniors Centre for the year 2022-2023. It has been another unique and challenging year.

s the general public is opening their doors and re-engaging after the COVID-19 pandemic, some NYSC clients and members have been hesitant to return to our programs. Participation across all NYSC programs and services has decreased, dramatically, over the past three years notwithstanding our best efforts to provide our offerings remotely wherever possible. Despite these efforts, we have been challenged with reaching out to the most vulnerable in our community with the full suite of programs and services available across all areas of the organization.

As we continue to address these monumental challenges, it is important for us to keep aware that social isolation has taken its toll on many in the community. We are here to support our clients with their mental health challenges, anxieties and general feelings of wellbeing. We also remind that within NYSC facilities, distancing and masking protocols are being lifted, we are a "mask friendly" environment and encourage all clients and members to continue to follow the practices that makes them feel safe.

Entering the 2023-2024 year, we optimistically, identify opportunities to advance our goals through the development of a new Strategic Plan. It will focus on a number of key elements such as the development of a fulsome outreach plan, a strategic human resource review that will protect and enhance the resources North York Seniors Centre needs to deliver its mandate, and the development and implementation of a sustainability plan for our journey towards diversity, equity and inclusion.

On our sustainability pathway, NYSC has focused our efforts to save energy and adopt waste reduction strategies. We are replacing our traditional incandescent overhead lighting with LED energy efficient lighting, adopting a more focused recycling program with recycle boxes (including PPE and coffee pods), and continuing our vigilance in our café for composting and waste recycling programs in collaboration with the North American Centre's program. NYSC is also focused on furthering efforts to reduce our carbon footprint with education opportunities through a Climate Action Grant to enhance community awareness.

Finally, it is our honour to acknowledge the exceptional work of the NYSC Team and the many volunteers and Board of Directors. Although a bit weary from the pandemic years, we optimistically look forward to the coming year, filled with new challenges. We remain undeterred from our goal – helping clients and members live their best lives; happy and healthy in our community.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON PETER FUCHS





EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CANDACE THOMSON

#### BREATHING NEW LIFE INTO

# our community

As we progress into 2023, North York Seniors Centre stands as a resilient pillar of hope and strength, revitalizing and rebuilding its programs and services to better suit the changing needs and interests of the seniors of our diverse community. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the centre has been unwavering in its commitment to providing essential support and care to seniors. Embracing innovation and adaptability, the centre swiftly transitioned its activities to virtual platforms during the height of the pandemic, ensuring that seniors remained connected and engaged from the safety of their homes. As restrictions eased, the centre gradually reintroduced in-person activities, adhering to strict safety protocols to protect the health of its members. Through the unwavering support of volunteers, staff, and the wider community, North York Seniors Centre forged ahead, reinforcing its position as a vital resource for seniors' physical, emotional, and social well-being. In 2022, NYSC focused on reuniting the community and building a safe place to reconnect and remove the walls of social isolation built during the pandemic.

Together, the community and the centre's dedicated team continue to work diligently to rebuild and recover from the pandemic, fostering a spirit of camaraderie and collective resilience. In 2023, we look towards the future where North York Seniors Centre remains a shining example of strength, compassion, and unity, qualities of the human spirit greatly needed in society today.

#### The Impact NYSC Made:

- Over 2000 seniors participated in programs and services
- Approximately 16,600 case management inperson visits and calls were conducted
- 202 individuals served through food insecurity program
- 726 food hampers delivered to individuals needing assistance with basic necessities
- 3,855 meals provided by Second Harvest
- 4682 wellness calls and visits were made to isolated seniors

#### **OUR JOURNEY THIS YEAR**



#### **APRIL 2022 TO JULY 2022**

- Received a grant from OCSA to support food insecurity in the community
- Continued with trial of social and physical satellite programs at Forest Grove United Church
- Completed the "Volunteers are the heart of NYSC" video with For Good Films
- Participated in Doors Open Toronto at the Meridian Arts Centre promoting NYSC
- Partnered with NYEAN to host World Elder Abuse Awareness event at the Active Living Centre (ALC)

- ALC held first in-person special event celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- Transportation vehicles moved from single rides to 2 individuals in the car at a time
- Virtual Tax Clinic offered to members
- Covid Vaccine Clinic offered at the ALC
- Finished and posted the "We are NYSC" video promoting and sharing impact stories
- Travel desk re-opened at the ALC





#### AUGUST 2022 TO NOVEMBER 2022

- Reorganized ALC's lobby back to precovid set-up
- NYSC's special fundraising event, Better With Age: Reunite 2022 returned and was held at the ALC after 3 years
- Received 3-year accreditation from CARE
- Participated in the Charity Challenge at the Toronto Waterfront Marathon
- Received Friday hot meals sponsored by Four Elms Retirement

#### DECEMBER 2022 TO MARCH 2023

- In person holiday parties held at the Active Living Centre and Adult Day Programs
- Virtual Active Living Fair returned with online health and wellness education sessions, including Medication Management in Korean

#### ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE:

# A Place for Energy, Creativity and Community

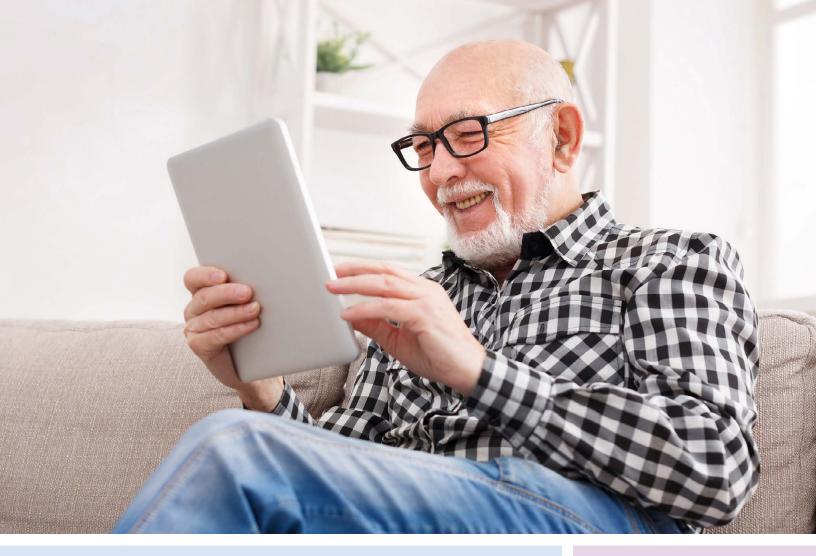


2022 was a year of resilience and revitalization. The Active Living Centre (ALC) staff team was persistent to accommodate the members through this period of transition. As circumstances improved and restrictions eased, the centre carefully reintroduced in-person programs with strict safety protocols. Through thoughtful planning and open communication through our weekly e-bulletin and social media, the staff team assured members that attending in person was a safe option.

Simultaneously, phone and online programming continued accommodating those who still faced challenges coming to the centre. By embracing this blended approach, the ALC staff team showcased their resilience and commitment to inclusivity, creating a dynamic and supportive environment that catered to the diverse needs and interests of members.

"The Active Living Centre had a very exciting year. Membership increased by 32% from the previous fiscal year as more and more of the community's seniors are returning to in person activities. Special Events were particularly popular, as our seniors want to maintain and create connections with each other. Social programs such as cards and scrabble returned as well. and provide a great venue for fellowship. The ALC continued to provide virtual programs over phone and zoom for those folks not yet ready or able to attend the Centre in person. We found through surveys that Centre participants feel good connections are important to feeling positive emotions. We are so happy to provide a space that offers that opportunity. The Active Living Centre looks forward to another great year!" -Bethany Vallentin, ALC Supervisor





NYSC
<b>PROGRAMS</b>
STATS

Delivery mode	Zoom	Phone	In-person	Outdoor
# of programs:	357	211	839	15
Participants:	3,495	1,657	8937	61

<b>521</b> Memb	pers
14,269	Service Hours

"I joined the North York Seniors Centre in 2015, soon after I retired and have since enjoyed many different programs they offer. Very competent coaches conduct the various exercise programs suited to individual physical ability and this has made it easy for me to choose the right ones.

The presentations organized at the Centre from specialists relating to health and other pertinent subjects for seniors are very informative and useful. In the past few years, I have also benefitted from the Spanish language classes at the Centre. Throughout the years we have celebrated together at NYSC important events such as Chinese New Year, St. Patrick's Day, the holiday party and many more events. I must also mention the cafeteria where I have enjoyed many relaxed lunches at reasonable rates and more importantly made many new friends. Additionally, with the help of NYSC I have found an opportunity to offer volunteer service, which is very fulfilling.

During the pandemic, the programs at NYSC were efficiently switched to the zoom platform. This helped me immensely at that time to deal with the imposed isolation. Many of the programs are still conducted on zoom, which is very helpful for seniors in winter. I must say thank you to the kind and helpful staff for all their help always. In short, I must say I have found a second home at NYSC." —G.V., ALC Member and Volunteer

## ADULT DAY PROGRAM "A DAY AWAY CLUB":

# For the Mind, Body and Soul

With support from Public Health, the Adult Day Program (ADP) implemented new policies and guidelines relating to COVID. This direction allowed NYSC to gradually increase the number of clients we served in our program.

Cohorts were assigned by focusing on the needs and strengths of each client to help maintain their engagement and capabilities, while also implementing Montessori-based techniques to help clients feel fulfilled and purposeful throughout the day. The feedback we received from our caregivers and clients fueled us to continue to think outside of the box and expand our services while maintaining infection control protocols for the safety of our vulnerable population.





82 CLIENTS PARTICIPATED IN ADP PROGRAMS

(virtually & in-person)

3,421
in-person
programs

326
virtual
programs





Our lovely ladies celebrating International Women's Day in March 2023.

#### TRANSITIONING FROM VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING TO MORE IN-PERSON PROGRAMS

Required a lot of planning and communication with the clients. The ADP team maintained and followed strict protocols to allow more clients to participate in the programming. As protocols eased, masking for the senior clients was no longer mandatory, however staff continued to wear masks during programs and activities.

The ADP hosted a Holiday party in December 2022 which was a tremendous success. Clients and their families were able to gather and enjoy a social event in a safe and friendly environment which hadn't happened since prior to the pandemic.



Having fun together celebrating Halloween.

#### A GRATEFUL NOTE

"Want to say thank you to you and the staff at NYSC! The work you guys do every day is something that is incredible and so appreciated by families and care providers like myself. Although my mom is not an active client, she did enjoy her visits when we were successful at convincing her to go. You and the ladies were always so welcoming and kind and I think, if nothing else, she will remember how important you made her feel."

-P.S., ADP client family member

#### CLIENT SERVICES:

# Providing assistance and support to both seniors and their families

NYSC's Client Services team aims to enhance the comfort and security of seniors, enabling them to retain their autonomy within the familiarity of their homes. Our comprehensive range of services includes referrals, a community dining program, caregiver support, and transportation options. Our ultimate goal is to foster a supportive environment that empowers seniors to sustain their independence gracefully.



#### CAREGIVER SUPPORT

472 participants (both non-registered and registered) | 78 group sessions

North York Seniors Centre implemented a 10week online caregiver education workshop via Zoom. Caregivers and professionals from different organizations and countries joined each week to learn more about the various topics presented such as Navigating the Dementia Care System; Dementia 101; and Chronic Disease Management.

North York Seniors Centre also partnered with "Healthy Living Now" (CLHIN), to offer a 6-week training workshop called "Powerful Tools for Caregivers". This training was aimed at providing caregivers with resources, supports, tools, and strategies to help caregivers take better care of

themselves while caring for a friend, or loved one.

NYSC's Caregiver Binder was presented at NYSC's open houses, community caregiver events and workshops. Caregivers and private agencies expressed positive feedback and interest in the binder. Soft and hard copies of the binders were made available for purchase on our website.



CLIENT SERVICES SATISFACTION SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS:

97% clients agreed they could provide input/feedback

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

1056 clients | 12,425 rides provided

IRIDE is a government-subsidized flexible, door-to-door transportation service that helps older adults/ people with mobility issues get around safely and affordably. Our friendly, trained drivers drop off and pick up individuals in clean, comfortable vehicles. Rides may be provided to medical appointments, shopping centers/ supermarkets, Adult Day Programs.

During Covid, we pivoted to include food delivery as part of

our program. Through the Ontario Community Support program grant through OCSA, we were able to provide and deliver hundreds of food hampers to clients in partnership with No Frills and other providers.

Clients were given hampers including pantry items, fresh produce and toiletries. NYSC collaborated with 13 community agencies to provide food hampers to seniors in need. These partnerships allowed us to better support our community during the pandemic and challenging economic times.



#### IN HOME SERVICES:

# Making Life Easier at Home and in the Community

NYSC supports seniors in maintaining safety and independence, whether they reside in their own homes or within any of the three residential buildings we serve, around the clock, every day of the week. Our team of compassionate and well-trained personal support workers (PSWs) deliver a range of services, including personal care, light housekeeping, meal preparation, accompaniment to appointments, medication assistance, and 24/7 emergency response, among other offerings.

In home PSWs showed resilience and supported clients with increased needs for homemaking services which assisted in reducing waitlists for services. Through the North York Health Partners, NYSC became involved in the NY Cares Program and provided clients with 24-hour care. In home spot checks and safety drills resumed, along with in-person on-the-job trainings.





"The In-Home Services team is dedicated to provide unwavering support to our community. Over the past year, we have admirably risen to the challenge of meeting the increased demand for client services. We have significantly expanded our capacity, effectively extending our services to accommodate the needs of new clients. Ensuring an exceptional level of service, our Personal Support Workers (PSWs) have consistently participated in ongoing training covering a range of essential topics, including Mental Health, Dementia, and behavior management. We have also taken a progressive step by introducing the Mobility Plus program. This innovative tool empowers our PSWs to stay updated with evolving client service requests and any pertinent modifications. We understand that every person's needs are unique, and we're dedicated to meeting those needs with empathy, care, and professionalism. It is truly gratifying when I receive feedback from clients on how PSWs have made such a positive difference in their lives. From offering respite to caregivers for a few hours to taking care of cleaning chores. Our clients deeply value the support we provide."

-Khushbu Patel, In Home Services Supervisor

#### **Fundraising, Gifts In-Kind and Grants**

**FUNDRAISING** 

**Event Amount** 

\$21,098 Direct Mail

General Donations \$90,029

\$2,754 **Employee Giving** 

GIFTS IN-KIND

**Event Amount** 

Second Harvest \$13,338

\$7,152 **Impark** 

\$4,743 **Event Sponsorships** 

Corporate Giving \$10,240



GRANTS

**Fund** 

**Ontario Community Support Program** 

**Special Grant** 

Virtual Active Living Fair

**Education and Training Fund** 

**Funder** 

**OCSA** 

Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

**OACAO** 

**CILT** 

**Amount** 

\$13,295

\$17,580

\$1,000

\$16,290

FUNDING North York Seniors Centre operates with major funding from Ontario Health - Central Region, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, United Way Greater Toronto, City of Toronto, Second Harvest, Employment and Social Development Canada, and Older Adults Centre's Association of Ontario.

#### **REVENUE**

Ontario Health - Community Services - \$3,353,110

Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility - \$102,981

United Way Greater Toronto - \$105,801

City of Toronto - \$102,490

Other subsidies and grants - \$162,339

VHA Home Healthcare - \$106,062

iRide - \$318,677

Community Services - \$155,285

Active Living Centre - \$63,050

Other Contracts - \$80,379

Fundraising and donations - \$113,881

Investment and miscellaneous income - \$77,588

Total - \$4,741,643

#### **EXPENSES**

Programs and Services - \$3,418,175

Administration - \$505,340

Building and Ground - \$338,205

Repairs and Maintenance - \$77,592

Amortization - \$102,050

Total - \$4,441,362

Based on March 2023 Audited Financial Statements

# Awards

We appreciate the incredible service and care our invaluable volunteers and staff provide to all the members of North York Seniors Centre.

You are so valuable and appreciated!



Jane Meredith, Volunteer and Member



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." —Margaret Mead

#### ONTARIO VOLUNTEERS SERVICE AWARD

15 Years

Mehrangiz (Mary) Imani-Mobarakeh Helen Prebble Kit Seelenmayer 5 Years

Jane Meredith Doreen Scott

#### STAFF SERVICE AWARD

20 Years

Donna Drummond

15 Years

Ludmila Bachmutsky

5 Years

Tetiana Brygar Jennie Canon Margaret Codrington James (Jim) Kendle Johnny Wong

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chairperson: Peter Fuchs Vice-Chair: Andy Kin On Wong Treasurer: Stephen Steele Secretary: Caterina Valentino

Directors: Janice Lai, Jamie Mayer, Rishma Nathoo,

Olivia Ng & Leonard Rudner Executive Director: Candace Thomson



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Abdel-Hafez, Regina Abeysinghe, Sheena Abrahamsohn, Veronica Adair, Patricia Adair, Suzanne Alfoldi, Georgina AlMallah, Iman Andreychuk, Joan Antiochos, Athena Averill, Linda Azimzadegan, Zahra Baker, Gary Barwinski, Michael Batchelor, Janet Bayda, Josephene (Joicy) Bell, Marcia Belmar, Mary Belnavis, Asra **Benevity Community** Impact Fund, The Bhagwanani, Primla Bisnath, Joyce Blitz, Karin Bollefer, Ann Bose, Basu Brandao, Adriana Brandt, Carole British, Ernie Brooke, Anne Brown, Florizel Burian, Ingrid Burrows, Maureen Burton, Gail Campbell, Maureen Campion, Margaret Canada Helps.org CDR Footcare & Services Charities Aid Foundation of Canada Chartwell Valley Vista Retirement Residence Chau, Bill Chen, Annette Chlebek, Agnes Chon, Kim Chong, Shaun Chorakaev, Dora Chun, Helen Chung-Chow, Eva Clinkard, Shirley Codrington, Margaret Cole, Margaret Compu2000 Corriero, Amalia Crull, JoAnn Cuaresma, Stephanie Cuaresma, Francisco & Rosalinda Cuaresma, Rachelle Cumming, Geraldine Daniel, Kathleen Delmanor Northtown Retirement Residence Delmanor Wynford Inc. Downing, Rosemary Dowse, Elizabeth Duval, Elsie Eisenberg, Joel Ellison, Heather & Marvin Emberlin, Jane Ens, Wendy Faieta, Nicola Fakhrian, Iraj Faria, Myrtle Faria, Willa Feran, Monica

Fernandes, Albertina

Field, Cyril Findlay, Carol Fishlock, Gary Four Elms Retirement Residence Friedman, Marla Friendly, Lily Fruitman, Larry Fuchs, Peter Gardhouse, Susan Gatsos, Sophie Gaunt, Shirley Ghose, Dilip Glencore Canada Corp Goldberg, Deborah Gonsalves, Jeanne Graff, Frances Grandhi, Padma Grant, Frances Gratacos, Joaquina Grenier, Mary Ellen Griffith, Robert Gunawan, Atjeng Haider, Syed Hannigan, Elizabeth Harauz, Josephine Hare, Madelaine Hareguy, Darlene Harris, Zelda Harsora, Nandlal & Anju Hawke, Liedewy Hayashi, Kay Henderson, Bruce Hernandez, Isabel Hickey, Carol Higginson, Donna Hill, Jean Hill, Russell Hill, June Ho, Albert Holland, Sue Hoyle, Linda Hughes, Robert & Joyce Ilahi, Zamzam Ing, Lillian Jallili, Parvin James, Kelly Jansen, Sjoukje (Shirley) Jeong, Ha-Kang (Maria) Jin, Elvine Jones, Barbara Kahn, Ines Kang, Jeong Karaleva, Liuda Kawasaki, Louise Khory, Pervin Kikuta, Toshiko Kim, Chung Sook Kim, Yong Jon & Tong Sop King, Marjorie Kinaston, Florence Knighton, Gertrude Kozlowski, Kristina Kruus, Reet La Fontaine, Susan Lai, Hio Lam (Janice) Lalani, Zinatara Lam, Yuk-Shiu (Karen) Lansing Retirement Residence Lau, Kam Ping Lau, Molly Lawrance, Heidy Lee, Philip Lee, Catherine Lee, Lynn Lee, John Sun Lee, Lynn

Lee, Sun Hyee (Janet) Lee, Siu Bing (Anita) Lee, Mimi Leon, Helen Lerman, Lilian Levine, Barbara Levitt, Sheldon Lew, Sok Jing Liu, Barbara Loor, Lucia Lowry, Kelly Ludgate, Rogers Luu, Tonu MacFarlane, William or Marilyn MacLeod, Marion Madani, Saliha Magnin, Ellen Mair, Trevor Mak, Hannah Manoim, Lorraine Marans, Elaine Marcelino, Genevieve Marcus, Arnold Marley, Angela Marshall, S Kathleen Matamoros, Luisa Mayne, Eleanor McCabe, Antoinette McCleary, Leta McCrea, Thomas McCubbin, Agnes McFarland, Carol Mead, Charles Medley, Marjorie Meredith, Jane Millar, Joan Millington, Sandra Ming-Sun, Lorrie Moessner, Hilda Mohamed, Soraya Molleken, Frances Morrissey, Susanne Moynes , Ryan Murray, Margaret Murray, Shirley Mvers, Elizabeth Nanton, Sylvia Amabelle Nathoo, Rishma Ng, Olivia Nicholson, Alice Nicol, Joan Nikzadeh, Behjat Nishiyama, Sam Nursey, Catherine Nyburg, Elizabeth O'Brien, Elizabeth Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario Opler, Selma Orozco, Gloria Padmore, Ann Padua, Rosalinda Palmer, Frank Pancoast, David Papadopoulos, Dina Papadopoulos, Luke Park, Cheung Yeul Parsons, Karen Patel, Ava Patel, Khorshed Peace, Kathleen Perez, Emely Peter, Wilhelmina Piltz, Frank Pitkin, Kathleen

Popatia, Parin

Poulton, Norma

Quaratesi, Alison Race, Roster Rataj, Linda Rawni, Zaid Raymond, Michelle **RBC Roval Bank** Rider, Jane Rimmele, Heinz Rocha, Patti Rodrigues, Sharon Rogerson, Barbara Roman, Greta Rosevear, John & Judy Rothman, Elliott Rowland, Katharine Rudner, Leonard Ruff, George Rupf, Helen Saito, Masako Samuel, Marjorie Schon, Rosemary Seelenmayer, Dietmar & Kathryn Sethna, Freny Sharma, Kiran Shea, Henry Sheppard, Rosemary Shlien, Anita Sinapi, Monica Sinclair, Janette Singer, Mark Siu, Kin Po Smith, Margaret Smith, Carolann Sommerfeldt, Charmaine Soparivala, Mahrukh Steele, Stephen Stevens, Delores Stewart, Doreen Su, Yeong Long Sui, Kim Po Szeto, Charles Tan, Leila Tankus, Moshe Teng, Mei Y (Elizabeth) Theobalds, Mildred Thomson, Candace Tiffin, Sue Tom, Ivan Trelevskyy, Sergiy Tsedilin, Elena Tu, Anita Tutton, Elizabeth United Way Greater Toronto Valentino, Caterina Van Steen, Gisela Vohryzek, Mary Voss, Helga Weiss, Maria Whyte, Kerri Willick, Brian Winkler, Sirkka Wintrob, Frances Wong, Andy Kin On Woo, Tracey Wood, Rosemary Yagudin, Felixs Yashinsky, Esther Yee, Mary Chong Yoon, Seung Rye (Vivian) Young, Linda Yu, Deanne Zaeimi, Mahin Zanini, Mafalda Zhao, Zhen





#### **Active Living Centre** & Administrative Office

21 Hendon Avenue Toronto, ON M2M 4G8 Tel: 416.733.4111 Fax: 416.733.1858



#### A Day Away Club & Senior Care

80 Sheppard Avenue Toronto, ON M2N 1M2 Tel: 416.733.4111 Fax: 416.225.9867

### Enhancing Lives

www.nyseniors.org | email@nyseniors.org