

**The Shepherd's Welcome Centre
Brockville Ontario
Annual General Meeting May 7th, 2015
1000 Islands Mall Community Room #1**

President's Report:

The past year was another one of success and accomplishment in fulfilling the Shepherd's Welcome Centre's (SWC) mission and mandate of enhancing the lives of our area seniors by providing affordable programs that promote mental and physical activity.

The number of programs offered was an impressive 25 in each semester. A total of approximately 600 participants enrolled over the fall (350) and winter (250) sessions.

In terms of accomplishments and initiatives, the SWC:

- Hosted a Volunteer Appreciation lunch on June 5th 2014.
- Hosted very successful Open Houses in September 2014 and January 2015
- Purchased an LCD projector for class and general use
- Purchased a new computer for office use
- Operated within budget with a small surplus
- Offered new programs: Spanish (Elizabeth Stratton), Gentle Mobility Exercise (Eileen Ling) and a second Book Club (Gael Bullard); considered Pickleball but gym not suitable
- In addition to the above 3 new instructors, we also welcomed: William Thomson (Computers) and Muriel Laderoute (Exercise)
- Started use of the Community Room in the 1000 Islands Mall as a Painting Studio
- Continued to publish a monthly newsletter, edited by Cheryl Nix, to keep participants informed of SWC happenings and events. We again availed of email distribution for the majority of our clients.
- Cheryl Nix compiled excellent profiles of five (5) of our class instructors: Elizabeth Stratton, Hugh Campbell, William Thomson, Kay Carlson and Fred Wagner. These were published in the newsletter and posted on the website
- Bill Carlyle completed/updated guidance documents for leaders
- Gail Hanton drafted a revised SWC brochure and also developed detailed bus trip options for our members
- Reviewed Fire/Emergency Evacuation procedures; appointed a Fire Warden
- Organized further CPR/Defibrillator training sessions for leaders and others
- Hosted a very successful Christmas Luncheon in the Wall Street United Church gym on December; 98 attended.
- Continued our Strategic Plan development initiative. (Separately from this report I will give a brief summary of the outcomes of our deliberations.)

Our successes and accomplishments are due to the joint efforts of a dedicated team, all volunteers, consisting of course leaders/instructors, office staff, and general volunteers.

Our volunteer board of directors also plays a key role and I would personally like to thank them for their support to me over the past year. A special thank you to directors Kay Carlson and Laura Papaioannou who have stepped down after a number of years of dedicated service as board members. We are grateful that Kay has continued as fitness instructor and Laura will continue in her additional role as office assistant to manager Marian Rafferty.

It's again been a privilege to serve as president of this fine organization and I look forward to our continuing together to foster and promote our organization in its important role of providing affordable activities to our seniors.

In closing, on behalf the SWC, I would like to thank those other organizations who provided support. First and foremost the Shepherd's Centre Foundation for their financial support. And thanks to the Brockville Library, TISS School, 1000 Islands Mall and to the Wall Street United Church for the use of their facilities.

And, as always, remember: *We may be getting older, but we're not old yet!*

Thank you.

Tony Dunbar
Brockville,
May 7, 2015