

# BROCKVILLE 50+ ACTIVITY CENTRE

Formerly the Shepherd's Welcome Centre

Newsletter March/April 2018

613-345-2412

[www.fiftyplusbrockville.ca](http://www.fiftyplusbrockville.ca)

## President's Message

Given it seems that winter does not want to leave us this year, it is good that there are still plenty of things to do at the Activity Centre.

Two of our newest activities, Table Tennis and Mosaic Art have been a real success. The Table Tennis group moved into the kitchen to accommodate the numbers and judging by the laughter coming from the room when one enters the church, I think they are having a very good time. We hope to have a display of the work done by Elske Harris' Mosaic Art students at our **Annual General Meeting on May 9.**

The AGM closes the year with brief reports which clarify where we stand financially, gives everyone the opportunity to vote on new candidates for the Board and time to say farewell to those Board members who are leaving their positions. The meeting generally takes about an hour and we close with light refreshments. Please consider saving space on May 9 for the Activity Centre's AGM. I hope to see you there.

**Cheryl Nix**  
**Board President**

## AGM Wednesday, May 9

The Activity Centre Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held **May 9 at 2 pm in the second floor Living Room at Wall Street United Church.**

The business portion of the meeting will include various reports, including financial, on the past year and election of directors for 2018 - 2020. The AGM of the **Shepherd's Welcome Foundation** will also be on the agenda.

### Election of Directors:

Under the AC Constitution & By-Laws, the Board shall consist of no fewer than five (5) and no more than nine (9) persons elected from a slate of nominations by the Nominating Committee at the Annual Meeting. Upon election, directors shall hold the office for a two (2) year term. Directors can be re-elected every two (2) years with no limitations.

### **Current Status of the Board of Directors**

**Five (5) Directors** are returning to complete the second year of their term.

**Two (2) Directors** are completing their current two (2) year term and have indicated their willingness to serve on the Board again; their names will be put forward for re-election at the AGM.

**Two (2) Directors** are stepping down from serving on the board, meaning:

**Two (2) New Director positions** to be filled for the two (2) year period from 2018 – 2020.

## **AGM Wednesday, May 9 (cont'd)**

If you are interested in being a member of the Board, please submit your name in writing to the Nominating Committee (in care of the AC office) as soon as possible and no later than **April 13**.

Please include a summary of your work and/or volunteer experience and the special skills you would bring to the board as director. The Nominating Committee will review all applications and may call the most suitable candidates for interview.

As well, Activity Centre participants may present further willing nominees by submitting their names, with the endorsement of two (2) other participants, in writing, to the **Nominating Committee** (in care of the AC office) **at least seven (7) days prior** to the May 9 Annual General Meeting.

If the number of nominees exceeds the number of vacancies, the election of Directors shall be by ballot at the AGM.

Note: Nominees for the Board of Directors do not have to be a participant of the Activity Centre.

## **Shepherd's Centre Foundation**

### **Directors Needed.**

This Foundation which provides annual funding to our Activity Centre has an urgent need for 2 - 3 volunteers to serve on the board of directors.

The Foundation was established as a trust to manage the funds deriving from a 1998 bequest of a Mr. Lawrence Stein. Mr. Stein requested that the funds be utilized to benefit the senior citizens of Brockville and area in respect to providing organized activities for them.

The separate organization, the Shepherd's Welcome Centre, was seen to fulfill this mandate and the Foundation has been supporting our organization by way of an annual donation for many years now.

The Foundation's board of directors, with administrative assistance, oversees the management of the funds and assets of the trust.

When necessary, the board meets once or twice a year to review, with associated financial advisers, the performance of these investments and the management of assets

Both groups want to maximize return on investments and safeguard the long-term value of the funds. The purpose is to continue to support well into the future the provision of organized activities for area seniors. The funds are used to help organizations such as Shepherd's Welcome Centre (now Brockville 50+ Activity Centre) to operate.

Directors vote to decide the best approach to handling the funds.

Meetings are usually called only when requested by the Foundation's financial advisers.

Prospective directors should have some financial or business background.

The current president of the Foundation's board is Marian Rafferty and the treasurer is Ralph Greenhalgh. Marian and Ralph are of course also board members of the 50+ Activity Centre.

If you would like to be considered for a Foundation board position, or need further information, please contact Marian Rafferty at the AC office: [fiftyplus@myhighspeed.ca](mailto:fiftyplus@myhighspeed.ca) or phone 613-345-2412.

## Registration Process Streamlining

At their April 3 regular monthly meeting, the board continued to review how best to streamline the class registration process to mitigate some of the delays and backups encountered at the January 10 second semester registration.

The participant feedback solicited and received after the January event was a major focus of the board's deliberations. A number of measures were agreed upon and next steps and responsibilities were assigned.

It is a major undertaking to institute all the measures suggested and considered, but the plan is to have a number of the more significant changes in place, with the concurrence and agreement of our volunteer class leaders, for our next registration in September.

We will keep members posted as to the changes that will be in place for September. This will be done via the website and the August 2018 newsletter in particular.

## Leaders' Handbook

Bill Carlyle has been diligently working for a number of weeks now on updating his original Leaders' To Do guideline and developing it into a comprehensive handbook.

The intent is to have a single document that our volunteer leaders can reference and find guidance on any issues or questions they may have.

Bill is to be commended for his work in developing such a valuable and important tool that may be used by our leaders and indeed serve as a useful reference for office staff, our board of directors and others.

Bill plans to roll out and introduce the finished product at the upcoming standard end of the semester feedback meetings with our leaders.

## Mosaic Art Display

As president Cheryl Nix alluded to in her message above, among the very successful new activities introduced recently was Mosaic Art. Course instructor **Elske Harris** expertly guided her class and they have produced some excellent pieces.

If members would like to see a display of some of these pieces you, and your friends, are invited to a:

MOSAIC ART SHOWCASE  
MONDAY MAY 7  
10:00-11:30 am  
THE WEDGEWOOD  
King and Market St. East

It is also planned to have some Mosaic Art pieces on display at our AGM in the church Living Room on May 9.

## Information Sessions

We were happy to host some interesting information sessions in March. One was on Safe Driving for Seniors and the other was on financial topics directed to seniors, relating to Ontario Tax Credits and Estate Administration Tax.

Each session featured an external subject matter expert. The sessions were well attended and positive feedback was received.

## Irish Dance Class

In preparation for March 17, St. Patrick's Day, Eithne Dunbar provided instruction on the basic dance steps involved in some of the Irish group or céilí dances. The small class enjoyed the March 13 session in the church gym and danced up a storm to a selection of Irish jig and reel tunes. Thanks, Eithne.