

MINUTES
SENIORS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
December 8, 2015
3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Attendance: Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong, Ramma Chabra, Vincent Cheung, Diane Gabay, Katy Kwan, Yash Kapur, Gail Leet, Dr. Devendra Mishra, Asad Shariff, Sajeda Shirazi, Manickampillai Velauthapillai, Christine Wong Staff: Janet Beatty, Recreation Coordinator; Diane Samek, Corporate Communications; Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator Regrets: Councillor Colin Campbell, Councillor Amanda Collucci, Laila Jiwa, Faiz Mohyuddin, Balasunderam Ponniah Absent: Jason Tsien, Community Manager, North
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Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. CALL TO ORDER	The Seniors Advisory Committee convened at 3:00 PM with Ramma Chabra presiding as Chair.	
2. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 10, 2015 SENIORS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES	Moved by Christine Wong Seconded by Diana Gabay That the minutes of the November 10, 2015 meetings of the Seniors' Advisory Committee be approved. Carried	
3. CELEBRATE MARKHAM GRANT	Ramma gave an overview of Markham's Celebrate Markham Grant Program, and listed some of the eligible expenses. The Seniors' Advisory Committee could apply for a grant of up to \$3,000 which could be used to fund events; however, as an Advisory Committee that already has a budget from the City of Markham, the Committee may not be eligible. It was suggested that the Committee consider filing an application. Janet provided copies of the application. It is also available at markham.ca/celebratemarkham . Applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on January 7, 2016 for the 2016-2017 grants. Gail indicated she may submit applications.	Diane Samek will confirm if the Committee is eligible for grants.

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4. MARKHAM ACCESSIBILITY FAIR	Kristin Hayes, Co-Chair of Markham Advisory Committee on Accessibility, attended the meeting to discuss the Markham Accessibility Fair. Kristin advised that the objective was to provide outreach to the community and to groups with common interests, such as the Seniors' Advisory Committee. The Accessibility Committee has undertaken various projects such as the Accessibility Fair, (the 4th annual fair was held in 2015); sponsoring the Markham Board of Trade Award for Accessibility; and reviewing site plans and new developments to ensure accessibility issues are addressed. Discussions included effectively providing outreach to the public regarding available resources and how to obtain help. Gail provided an overview of the Senior's Advisory Committee events and suggested that the two Committees join forces for next year's fair. The two Committees agreed to keep each other updated.	
5. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES EXTRACT – NOVEMBER 16, 2015	Kitty explained the extract provided from the Development Services Committee meeting held on November 16, 2015, regarding York Region Transit and VIVA. On November 16, the discussions included a possible reduced transit fare for seniors, and staff were directed to keep the Senior's Advisory Committee informed. An update will be provided to the Development Services Committee in 2016.	
6. NEW BUSINESS - Markham Life - Health Fair - Trade Mission - Harvest Celebration - Minto Advisory Committee	Diane advised that submissions for the next edition of Markham Life are due at the end of this week. Committee members were encouraged to make submissions. Gail advised of an article Jason Tsien had been working on, and Diane will follow up on it. The Committee discussed the success of the Health Fair. The Health Fair Subcommittee is considering another fair, perhaps broadened to include accessibility and the Accessibility Advisory Committee, as well as the participants from last year's Symposium. Gail will provide the names of the Symposium participants to Janet to try to invite a few of them to the Seniors' Committee meetings. The Committee indicated support for a fair next year, in Thornhill, in November. If booked early enough, more space can be obtained. Thursday November 3 or 17 were suggested. Diane will confirm that there are no conflicts with the proposed dates, and will contact Thornhill CC to reserve 3 auditoriums.	Diane Samek will follow up with Jason regarding article. Gail Leet will provide the names of the Symposium participants to Janet Beatty, to invite to future meetings. Diane Samek will confirm dates and book rooms for 2016 Fair.

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	Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong provided highlights of her recent trip to China on behalf of the City's Economic Development Trade Mission. The Tamil Community's 'Harvest' celebration will be held on January 16 (at Civic centre) and on January 17 (at Flato Markham Theatre). Members were encouraged to attend. Gail advised that she has been invited by Minto Communities Canada to sit on an advisory committee for matters pertaining to a proposed 'senior's campus' development in Unionville.	
7. ADJOURNMENT	The Seniors' Advisory Committee adjourned at 4:25 PM.	