

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

Attendance: Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong, Ramma Chabra, Vincent Cheung, Councillor Amanda Collucci, Diane Gabay, Laila Jiwa, Yash Kapur, Gail Leet, Dr. Devendra Mishra, Faiz Mohyuddin, Sajeda Shirazi, Manickampillai Velauthapillai, Christine Wong Staff: Janet Beatty, Recreation Coordinator and Kiran Saini, Legislative Coordinator Guest: Amy Go, Executive Director, Yee Hong Regrets: Councillor Colin Campbell, Katy Kwan, Balasunderam Ponniah, Asad Shariff and Diane Samek, Corporate Communications
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Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. CALL TO ORDER	The Seniors Advisory Committee convened with quorum at 3:02 PM with Gail Leet presiding as Chair.	
2. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 14 AND AUGUST 11, 2015 SENIORS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES	The minutes of the July 14 and August 11, 2015 meetings of the Seniors' Advisory Committee were approved as distributed.	
3.	Amy Go, Executive Director of the Yee Hong Centre provided a presentation to the Committee. She advised that the Centre is a non-profit charitable organization that was founded by Dr. Joseph Wong in 1994 and opened its first location in Scarborough, Ontario. Currently, the Centre has 4 locations in the Greater Toronto Area (Mississauga, Markham and 2 locations in Scarborough). "Yee" means peace and tranquility and "Hong" means health. Yee Hong provides a range of services for seniors, ranging from those with an active lifestyle to those who require palliative care. The Centres strive to provide the highest quality health care for those living in the facilities.	

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	Amy noted that most individuals in the Yee Hong Centres self-identify as being of South Asian or South-east Asian descent. She provided a brief overview of the recent achievements of the Centre, noting that in 2012, they were accredited with “exemplary standing”, which meant they met 531 of the 532 criteria. In 2014, Yee Hong had the lowest number of emergency transfers to hospitals of all the senior care facilities in Ontario. Yee Hong has had close to 1000 delegates visit their facilities from individuals worldwide. China is in the process of developing a similar senior’s care program, which will be modeled after Yee Hong’s care program. Amy also noted that Yee Hong provides an alternative to traditional senior care facilities through their 26 townhomes located near their McNicoll Avenue facility in Scarborough. The townhomes are for rent and one tenant must be at least 55 years or older. Due to the high demand, the wait time for one of these townhomes is 13-14 years. <u>Committee Member Feedback</u> There were questions regarding the waiting list to get into a facility such as Yee Hong. Amy noted that Yee Hong currently has over 4,000 individuals from across the nation on the Yee Hong waiting list. Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) maintains the list and in order for individuals to get onto that list, they must have an element of personal care that requires 24 hour supervision. Once a person is eligible for the list, they can choose up to 5 facilities of their choice. Amy further noted that residents can apply to the Yee Hong Centre from across Canada. The Committee thanked Amy for providing information on Yee Hong and Members expressed interest in visiting one of Yee Hong’s facilities. Gail advised that she would work with Melissa Qi, Councillor Amanda Collucci’s assistant, to set up a tour at Yee Hong in the near future.	Gail Leet to work with Melissa Qi to arrange a tour for the Committee at Yee Hong.

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4. HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR	Gail advised that the Health & Wellness Subcommittee is meeting on September 15 to discuss the Health and Wellness Fair. They have 29 confirmed vendors and have room for 40. Amy Go advised that Yee Hong may be interested in participating in the Health and Wellness Fair as well.	
5. NEW BUSINESS	<u>Organ Donor Awareness Workshop</u> Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong advised the Committee that an organ donor awareness event will be held in the Council Chamber on Saturday, October 10 from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM. The purpose of this event is to generate awareness in the community, provide information or answer questions with respect to organ and tissue donors. She further advised that this event has been targeted for the South Asian Community and invited all Committee Members to attend as well as encourage their fellow family and friends to attend this event.	
6. ADJOURNMENT	The Seniors' Advisory Committee adjourned at 3:58 PM.	