

THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK  
Operating as Syme 55+ Centre



# Annual Report 2022



## **Mission Statement**

To improve the quality of life for older adults by providing opportunities for exercise, congregate dining, travel, education and socializing so that members can maintain self-esteem, functional ability, and wellbeing, enabling them to remain in their homes and communities.

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
Operating as Syme 55+ Centre

**Our Organization**

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Board of Directors 2021-2022**

Geoffrey Taylor – President  
Gary Peltz – Vice President  
Lola Kratz – Secretary  
Ray Strong – Treasurer  
Emily Martin – Director  
Marlene Peltz – Director  
John Reynolds – Director  
John L Reynolds – Director  
Joyce Woronchak – Director

**Committees**

- Executive
- Finance
- Human Resources and Safety
- Trips and Travel
- Programs
- Office Standards/IT
- Membership
- Renovations

**Teams**

- Café Crew
- Delta Bingo
- Donations
- Newsletter
- Reception
- Special Events
- Syme Seedlings

**Advisory Committee**

Councillor Frances Nunziata  
  
MP Ahmed Hussen  
  
MPP Michael Ford  
Representative Parks &  
Recreation - City of Toronto

**Staff**

**Kelly Montgomerie** – Executive Director  
**Cleriese Lewis** – Program Manager  
**Julie Tye** – Program & Snow Link Coordinator

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**MINUTES OF LAST YEAR'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

FRIDAY APRIL 29th, 2022

**President Donna Tettmar** welcomed the members to the meeting and called the attendees to rise for the singing of O Canada. There was a short discussion on how the meeting would be conducted and how to signal the host with questions.

Welcome to our guests:

Paul Mason, Representative for MPP Faisal Hassan  
Stephanie Loor-Ruiz, Representative for MP Ahmed Hussen  
Shawn Cabral, Representative for Councillor Frances Nunziata,

Representatives bring greetings and congratulate the Syme 55+ Seniors' Centre on all the good work over the last year.

**Vice President Gary Peltz** read the Land Acknowledgement

The George S. Syme Seniors' Centre of York acknowledges that the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat people and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples. We also acknowledge that we are covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa Bands.

**Amendments for the April 29th, 2022 Agenda:**

Please add Election of Directors under section # 9

Therefore:

10 Swearing in of Directors  
10.1 Election Results

10.2 Reading of Oath by New Directors  
10.3 Motion to destroy ballots on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
11 New Business  
11.1 By Laws Amendment  
12 Adjournment

**Motion:** To approve the Agenda for April 29th, 2022, as amended

Moved by: Marlene Peltz

Seconded by: Cathy Branch

Carried

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
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**Motion:** To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the year 2021, held April 29th, 2021

Moved by: Marlene Peltz

Seconded by: Gary Peltz

Carried

**Gary Peltz Vice President**, read the Syme 55+ Creed

**Overview of 2021**

President Donna Tettmar, gave a brief overview of the activities in 2021, and encouraged members to read her full report in the printed material.

Last year was very difficult and challenging time.

I want to thank the Board for their unwavering support and optimism.

Thanks to staff, for their hard work, for their innovating programmes, and their togetherness.

Thanks to the funders for their continuing support and their diverse offerings, particular with the Red Cross, which allowed staff to test twice a week for Covid.

Thanks to the members, for believing in Syme 55+ Senior Centre, by donating, taking out memberships, even though we had no idea what was going to happen, and for signing up for Zoom classes and other events.

**Financial Overview**

The financial statements presented in the Annual Report are the audited statements for the Syme 55+ Centre for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, showing 3 years' comparison of income and expenses. This is to show how the Covid years compared to 2019, the last year of normal operation.

Thank You to the members of the Finance Committee for their time and dedication in uncertain times.

We closed the year with a surplus of \$23,422, mostly due to the continued Federal Wage Subsidy. Our Reserves are very high, over \$166,000 dollars.

**Motion:** To approve 2021 Financial Statements

Moved by: Gail Barber

Seconded by: Sabine Beblo

Carried

**Motion:** To approve Deeth & Co. LLP' as the Syme 55+ Centre's Auditors for 2022

Moved by: Richard Kratz

Seconded by: Sabine Beblo

Carried

The Syme 55+ Seniors' Centre thanks Susan Horvath for her time and commitment. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
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**What Next!**

**President Donna Tettmar**

- Pre Covid, we refinished our gym floor and purchased a number of new items, including a new ping pong table. We hope to get a lot of use out of these items.
- Goals for the future include increasing our membership, attracting new and younger members.
- We are open to any ideas from the members, please pass on your ideas to staff.
- Focus will also be on the implementation of ONCA, new legislation for not for profits.

**Election of Directors**

- Each year 5 directors are elected; the position is a two-year term.
- Call for nominations from the floor was made three times without any response.

**Swearing in of Directors**

Marlene Peltz has been re-elected 2022-2024 to the Board of Directors' by acclamation.

**Reading of Oath by New Director:**

Welcome aboard Marlene Peltz

**Destroying of the Ballots**

**Motion:** To destroy the ballots on May 9th, 2022

Moved by: Susan Horvath

Seconded by: Joyce Woronchak

Carried

**New Business**

The following addition to the Bylaws was presented and discussed.

To Add:

#26.6 "Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa and words importing one gender include all genders."

**Motion:** To accept the Bylaw addition as presented

Moved by: Geoffrey Taylor

Seconded by: Stella Hesketh

Carried

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
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Thank you to our retiring board members for all your time and commitment.

Anne Woods  
Richard Kratz  
Susan Horvath  
Donna Tettmar

**Motion to Adjourn**

Moved by: Anne Woods  
Seconded by: Marlene Peltz  
Carried

**PREPARED BY:**



Lola Kratz  
Secretary  
April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**APPROVED BY:**



Donna Tettmar  
President  
April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
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**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**2022 in Review**

In writing about 2022 it is impossible to avoid reference to Covid 19. The pandemic has occupied our thoughts and determined our way of living for more than two years. It has disrupted our lives and subjected us to behaviors that would have been previously unthinkable. The story of 2022 is a tale of cautious re-emergence. Step by careful step we put the furniture back to where it used to be. We had tried to come out of hiding in 2021 but scurried back into lockdown before the year end.

We had a reduced schedule when the year began, but in person classes had to wait as we met and talked and exercised through the medium of Zoom, an ingenious and practical medium but unfortunately a pale imitation of the gatherings that we used to enjoy. Not surprisingly given the reduced circumstances membership was also somewhat reduced though as we picked up the pace throughout the year we began to welcome back previous members and to add new members to our number. Our excellent staff was busy sending out invitations to past members to return to the fold and help with the increase.

Syme is, in large part, a drop-in centre where members continue to arrive early to visit with their friends prior to their classes and stay afterwards to prolong the experience and visit with other friends. While in-person classes began slowly and with limited participation, we now have exercise classes that are full. We experienced a gradual return to shared activities and confidently expect this trend to continue. Friday lunch and learn sessions recommenced in October and the first class presentations are enjoying increased popularity.

Your Board returned to in-person meetings in April and worked diligently to bring our bylaws into compliance with the up-dated Ontario regulations. You are invited to familiarize yourselves with the latest changes. Also in April the Delta Bingo volunteers returned to their responsibilities and further reinforced the ties between the two organizations.

The slow start to the year saw us picking up the pace through April although the AGM was still restricted to Zoom. Those attending the Centre were required to wear masks and declare their vaccination status. The Syme Family Food Bank was active throughout and catered to many who needed help. Hard work and careful organization were required in dealing with the significant numbers who were able to benefit from the contributions from local food banks and from the Syme Centre, and many useful lessons were learned.

In the early part of the year uncertainty about the future led us to take a cautious approach to our finances. April saw a limited return to courses in the Spring and we were all delighted to participate in a Welcome Back Social in May. How good it was to meet and mingle with old friends!

The Summer ushered in more fun activities. The patio reopened after repairs and members enjoyed a picnic with ice cream in the car park. A walk was planned in High Park to be followed by a breakfast in the Grenadier restaurant. Unfortunately, the weather negated the walk and attendees were forced to settle for a sumptuous breakfast. I even heard it suggested by some that they preferred it that way.

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**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
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We sadly said goodbye to a few loved ones who passed on and remember fondly their past contributions. In November we honored them at a memorial lunch when we updated the memorial tree and shared precious memories. We were reminded how much we owed to them and gave thanks for their friendship, support and inspiration.

In September we made masks optional. We gathered to watch the Blue Jays, some wearing copies of the player's uniforms and of course we celebrated Halloween in October, a treat after a couple of tricky years.

The Christmas Party in December was another opportunity to gather and to count our blessings as we looked forward to better times to come in the future when we will meet without fear and throw off the ghastly restraints imposed upon us by Covid. We are confident that even so trying a time will slowly fade from our memories and be consigned to history as we await the promise of 2023.

Syme members rely on services from old friends, dental clinics, massage sessions and foot care in addition to advice on financial and safety matters so it was good to welcome these back into our lives during the year, and to enjoy sessions of virtual Bingo. These and other useful and supportive activities will add to support to our lives in the future. We give thanks to our staff, to our instructors and to our volunteers as we move forward to a new year.

**Geoff Taylor, President**



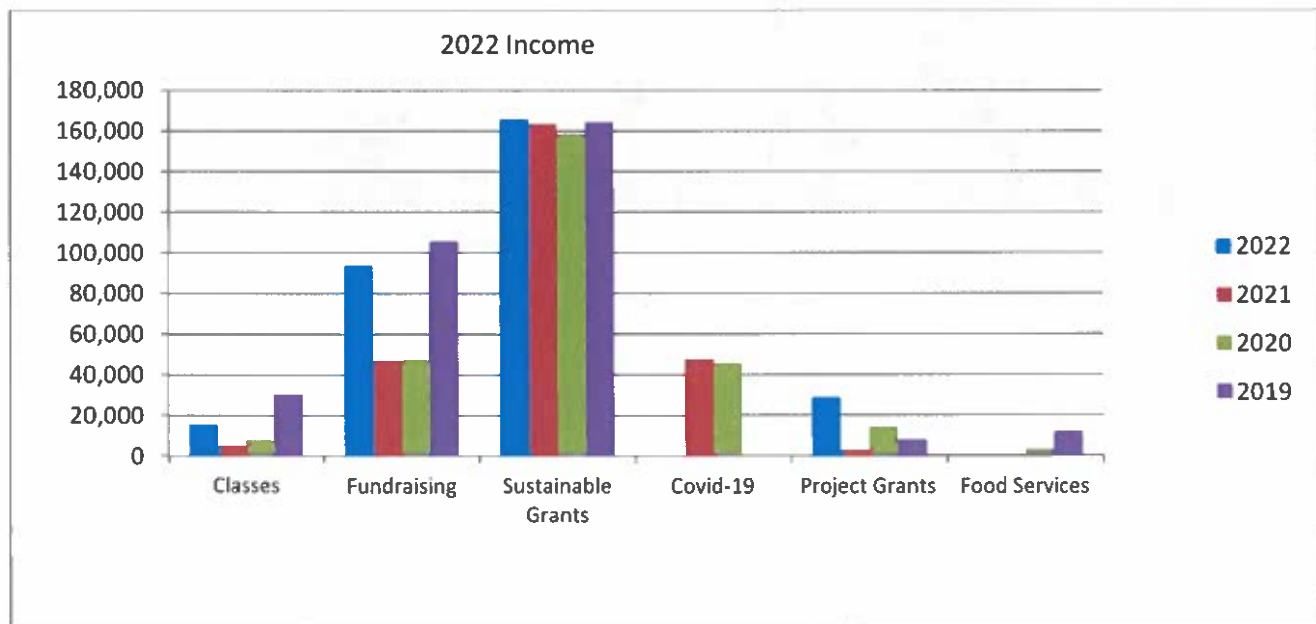
# THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK

## Operating as Syme 55+ Centre

### TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial statements presented in the Annual Report are the audited statements for the Syme 55+ Centre for the period of January 1st – December 31st 2022.

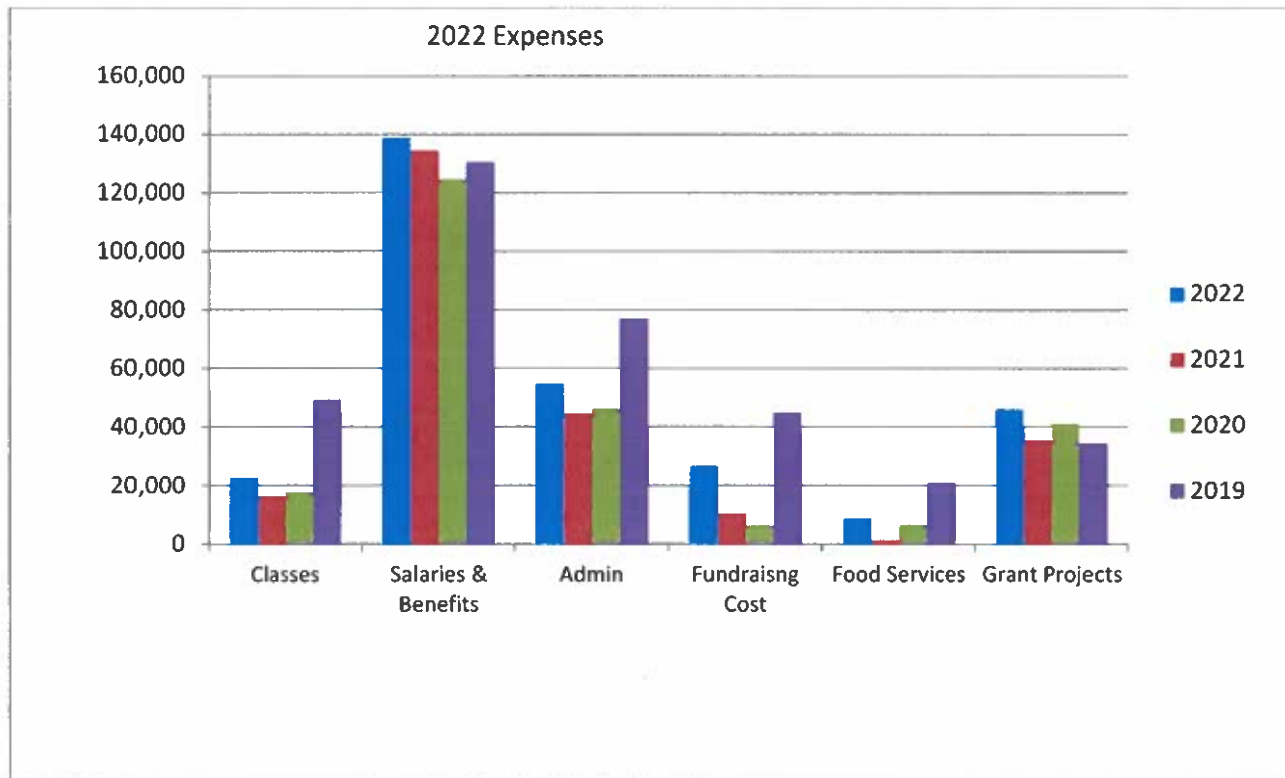
The 2 charts following compare the 2022 financial results to the previous 3 years. 2019 was the last year we were able to fully operate normally followed by 3 years of COVID restrictions.



**Total Income:**  
 2022 - \$304,177  
 2021 - \$270,154  
 2020 - \$276,461  
 2019 - \$319,731

- Classes represent class and club fees
- Fundraising represents all fees not including class fees. Donations, Bingo income, grants received, for example from Daily Bread Food Bank and Chum City in 2022
- Sustainable Grants represents Grants from the City, the Province, and in 2019 the Federal Summer Student Grant
- Covid-19 represents Federal Wage Subsidies received
- Project Grants represent Special Grants from the province for:
  - 2019 new stoves, new freezer, misc. kitchen items
  - 2020 misc. kitchen items, computer equipment, patio furniture, patio work
  - 2021 rooftop patio
  - 2022 Computer & Technology Classes, Membership Return
- Food services represents income from congregate dining, lunches, and coffee

## THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK Operating as Syme 55+ Centre



**Total Expenses:**  
 2022 - \$296,851  
 2021 - \$243,949  
 2020 - \$242,165  
 2019 - \$356,713

Classes represent Instructor fees

Salaries and Benefits

Admin represents Board Expenses, Office expenses, Accounting, Computer Maintenance, Insurance, Xerox lease (printer), Audit fees

Fundraising Cost represents Program and Material expenses, Food Bank expenses

Food Services represents moneys spent for lunches, coffee, special events

Grant Project represent moneys spent on Special Capital projects and related staff time

During 2022 the Finance Committee met often to monitor our income and expenses and to ensure we were able to maintain the move to full operations

The Syme 55+ Centre was able to continue with full staff during 2022

**Ray Strong, Treasurer**

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
**Operating as Syme 55+ Centre**

**The George S. Syme Seniors' Centre of York**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended December 31, 2022**

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
**Operating as Syme 55+ Centre**

To the directors of

The George S. Syme Seniors' Centre of York

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

***Opinion***

We have audited the financial statements of The George S. Syme Seniors' Centre of York, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2022, and the statement of changes in net assets, statement of operations and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The George S. Syme Seniors' Centre of York as at December 31, 2022, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-For-Profit Organizations.

***Basis for Qualified Opinion***

In common with many charitable organizations, the Organization derives a portion of its revenue from fundraising and donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Organization. We were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to fundraising and donation revenues, excess of revenue over expenses, assets and net assets.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report.

We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

***Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-For-Profit Organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

# THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK

## Operating as Syme 55+ Centre

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Mr. Richard Clarke, CPA, CA.

Chartered Professional Accountants  
Licensed Public Accountants

Mississauga, Ontario  
March 17, 2023

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
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**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at December 31, 2022**

	Notes	2022	2021
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash		\$ 132,998	\$ 182,640
Accounts receivable		96	392
Government remittances receivable		2,408	1,492
Guaranteed investment certificates	3	61,213	45,487
Prepaid expenses		1,211	1,018
		<b>\$ 197,926</b>	<b>\$ 231,029</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		\$ 12,480	\$ 9,848
Deferred contributions	4	11,412	54,472
		<b>23,892</b>	<b>64,320</b>
<b>Net assets</b>			
<b>Unrestricted</b>		<b>64,034</b>	<b>71,709</b>
<b>Internally restricted</b>	5	<b>110,000</b>	<b>95,000</b>
		<b>174,034</b>	<b>166,709</b>
		<b>\$ 197,926</b>	<b>\$ 231,029</b>

X

Geoff Taylor  
 President

X

Ray Strong  
 Treasurer

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
**Operating as Syme 55+ Centre**

**Statement of Operations**  
Year ended December 31, 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
<b>Revenue</b>			
Grants			
City of Toronto - Community Service Partnership		\$ 72,900	\$ 71,471
City of Toronto - SnowLink		26,963	26,172
Congregate Dining		15,960	15,960
Ontario Seniors' Secretariat - Elderly Persons Centres		49,720	49,720
Ontario Seniors' Secretariat - Special		28,790	2,561
		<b>194,333</b>	<b>165,884</b>
COVID-19 related benefits and subsidies	8	-	47,486
Food services		282	-
Fundraising, donations, and other income		109,562	52,002
		<b>304,177</b>	<b>265,372</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
City of Toronto - SnowLink		27,225	27,372
Daily Bread Food Bank expenses		10,335	8,115
Events and programs		39,166	18,616
Food services		8,608	1,269
Legal and audit		8,471	8,107
Office supplies		10,018	5,965
Office equipment and services		34,061	27,503
Ontario Seniors' Secretariat - Special Grants		17,353	7,898
Recruitment and promotional		1,522	2,533
Repairs and maintenance		1,235	-
Salaries and benefits		138,831	134,478
Transportation and staff travel		27	94
		<b>296,852</b>	<b>241,950</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>		<b>\$ 7,325</b>	<b>\$ 23,422</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
General operating		\$ (63,071)	\$ (9,964)
Fundraising, donations, and other income		70,396	33,386
		<b>\$ 7,325</b>	<b>\$ 23,422</b>

**THE GEORGE S. SYME SENIORS' CENTRE OF YORK**  
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**Statement of Changes in Net Assets**  
Year ended December 31, 2022

		Internally Restricted			
		(note 5)	Unrestricted	2022	2021
<b>Balance, beginning of year</b>	\$	95,000	\$ 71,709	\$ 166,709	\$ 143,287
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses		-	7,325	7,325	23,422
Interfund transfer		15,000	(15,000)	-	-
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	\$	110,000	\$ 64,034	\$ 174,034	\$ 166,709