



2024 Annual Report

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.

Our Organization

Board of Directors Committees

Executive Geoffrey Taylor - President John Reynolds - Vice President Finance Lynda Cummings - Secretary Human Resources & Safety Trips & Outings Ray Strong - Treasurer Gary Peltz - Director **Programs** Office Standards/IT Jim Lane - Director Membership Kim Lambert - Director Jovce Woronchak - Director Renovations Wieslawa Bilan - Director Rose Nardi - Director

Advisory Committee Teams

Councillor Frances Nunziata

MP Ahmed Hussen

MPP Michael Ford

Representative Parks & Recreation – City of Toronto

Delta Bingo

Newsletter

Reception

Special Events

Syme Seedlings

Staff

Kelly Montgomerie – Executive Director Cleriese Lewis – Program Manager

Donna Tettmar - Past President

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 peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples. We also acknowledge that we are covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of Credit and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa Bands.

Agenda

Friday, April 25th, 2025 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

1. Opening Remarks & O Canada	Geoffrey Taylor
2. Land Acknowledgement	John Reynolds
3. Approval of Agenda	Geoffrey Taylor
4. Approval of Previous Minutes April 26th, 2024	Geoffrey Taylor
5. Reading of Syme Creed	Lynda Cummings
6. President's Overview of 2024 & What's Next	Geoffrey Taylor
 7. 2024 Audit & Financial Overview 7.1 Treasurer's Report 7.2 Approval of Financial Statement 7.3 Appointment of Auditors 2025 	Ray Strong
8. Election of New Directors Call for nominations from the floor	Geoffrey Taylor
9 Speaker: "The Toronto Book of The Dead & The City's Morbid Past"	Adam Bunch
10. Acknowledgment of Retiring Board Members	Kim Lambert
 11. Election Results 11.1.1 Election Results 11.1.2 Reading Oath of Office 11.1.3 Motion to destroy the ballots on May 9th, 2025 	Jim Lane
12. New Business	Geoffrey Taylor
13. Adjournment	Geoffrey Taylor

Minutes of Last Year's Annual General Meeting

Friday April 26th, 2024

President Geoffrey Taylor, welcomed the members to the meeting and called on the attendees rise for the singing of O Canada.

Vice President John Reynolds, 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 peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Metis Peoples. We also acknowledge that we are covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa Bands.

WELCOME TO OUR GUEST: Councillor Frances Nunziata, York South Weston

Frances Nunziata congratulated the Syme 55+ Seniors' Centre for their good work and support to the members. She also thanked the Centre and volunteers for their support of the local food bank.

Motion: To approve the Agenda for April 26th, 2024

Moved by: Gary Peltz Seconded by: Rene Jilek

Carried

Motion: To approve Minutes of Annual General Meeting April 14th, 2023

Moved by: Stella Hesketh

Seconded by: Catherine Yeomans

Carried

Secretary Lynda Cummings, read the Syme 55+ Creed.

Minutes of Last Year's Annual General Meeting

PRESIDENT'S OVERVIEW OF 2023 AND WHAT'S NEXT

There was a brief overview of the activities of 2023. Members are encouraged to the full report in the printed materials. Many thanks to the Three Angels in the office who keep the Centre running smoothly. Kelly Montgomerie, Cleriese Lewis and Julie Tye.

2023 AUDIT AND FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The financial report given to the members is based on the audited financial results for the Syme 55+ Seniors Centre for period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Our Total Income for 2023 was \$359,789 and our total Expenses were \$354,261. We are in a good financial position. This will enable us to continue and possibly increase our programs and events.

Motion: It is moved that the membership approve the 2023 Financial Statements as

presented

Moved by: Arlene Smetaniuk **Seconded by:** Kim Lambert

Carried

Motion: It is moved to procure the services of Deeth & Co. LLP as auditors for 2024

Moved by: John Reynolds **Seconded by:** Susan Horvath

Carried

ELECTION OF NEW DIRECTORS

There were no nominations from the floor. The following nominees won by acclamation: Gary Peltz, Geoffrey Taylor, Ray Strong, Jim Lane, Kim Lambert, Rose Mancuso-Nardi.

SWEARING IN OF NEW DIRECTORS BY JOHN REYNOLDS

All new Directors read out the Oath of Office. Welcome to all new Directors.

ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you to retiring board members John Kiwi Reynolds, Ilona Reynolds, Emily Martin and Marlene Peltz.

Minutes of Last Year's Annual General Meeting

NEW BUSINESS

GUEST SPEAKERS: Dr. Bob Roden and Susan Roden spoke about Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe.

ADJOURMENT

Motion: To adjourn the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: Geoff Taylor Seconded by: Marlene Peltz

Carried

Prepared by:

Lynda Cummings

Lynda Cummings, Secretary June 13th, 2024

Approved by:

Geoffrey Taylor, President June 13th, 2024

Creed

We believe in the value of human life, the dignity, the self-worth, the warmth of caring, sharing, giving and supporting of the older adult.

We believe that human beings need peers with whom they can interact and who are available as a source of encouragement and support.

We believe that adults have the right to have a voice in determining matters in which they have a vital interest.

The philosophy of our Centre is based on encouraging each individual to maintain or attain, their maximum potential in terms of self-esteem, functional ability, confidence and well-being.

President's Overview of 2024 & What's Next

2024 was a positive year for the Syme 55 plus Senior Centre. Members continue to enjoy good fellowship, classes, games, lunches and social gatherings, features beneficial and attractive to seniors. We also enjoy material support from a number of sources. Clearly an organization such as ours needs financial support principally but also efforts from our volunteers. Financial support comes in the form of grants from the province and the city as well as from Delta Bingo. The membership also contributes financially through class and club costs in addition to their annual membership fees.

We have been fortunate as we continue to receive regular increases in government grants. In these inflationary times we rely on a substantial income to support our activities. In order to satisfy the granters, we need to demonstrate our value to the community in providing support to our elderly members, and to demonstrate our continued attention to changing times and circumstances. Delta Bingo provides a substantial proportion of our income. Our volunteers attend Bingo sessions to give assistance where needed. It is greatly to our advantage that we do this and we appreciate the continuing need for volunteers. As noted above, member contributions are important and we must recognize that increases in these contributions are inevitable. In our daily lives we note the increased costs of pretty much all expenses and these in turn increase the costs in the Syme's Centre.

In case we are in any doubt about the necessity for careful stewardship of the Centre's assets and income the members of the Board receive monthly updates from our treasurer who is doing sterling work in monitoring our financial performance and ensuring that we are on the right track for the future. The treasurer is but one of our volunteers who work to keep our Centre strong and resilient. He has surely the most onerous of all the volunteer roles and performs it with diligence and a cheerful demeanor. Of course, the smooth and successful running of the Syme Centre depends on a number of individuals in a variety of roles. None more significant than our permanent staff. When 1 spoke of these ladies a year ago, I expressed my admiration and gratitude for the excellent job they do keeping the Centre running. I am pleased and more than impressed that they continue to perform at a high level of competence and concern despite a thirty-three percent reduction in their numbers, which necessitated some reconsideration and redefinition of their roles. As they always do, our staff adjusted seamlessly to the changes, and continue to combine professional levels of leadership with a cheerful and nurturing level of care. I confess that I often seek their expertise in technical and other matters.

President's Overview of 2024 & What's Next

My opening paragraph made reference to the services on offer at the Syme Centre, the courses, classes and clubs enjoyed by many of the members. The planning of these functions to satisfy the needs of as many members as possible in a tricky and onerous one. In redesigning the registration process, we have managed to smooth out many of the rough features and by allowing the staff adequate time to prepare the schedules have improved the process significantly. Of course, that process lays down the skeleton of the session's activities. To that must be added other activities, lunch and learn meetings and pop-up classes for examples. A major consideration in this process must be the actual membership numbers. Post Covid our membership numbered 106 souls. This number has climbed steadily to over three hundred members, a number which is bound to put stress on the Centre's ability to absorb them.

There are physical limitations in the buildings, for example, which have led us to beg additional accommodation from North Runnymede church. The classes also have limits which in some cases have meant doubling or tripling their number and prevailing on instructors to be available more often. Increased membership has benefits, persuading our grantors that we are worth their investment as well as earning us extra membership contributions. It all constitutes a balancing act which takes careful thought and execution. Increased membership unfortunately eventually implies increased mortality and, of course, this is reflected on the tree on the wall of the General Purpose room, where we may add our remembrances of departed members. Saying Goodbye is not always a totally negative experience. I remember pleasant chats with Harry, a member who stayed with us until he was one hundred and five years old. To me that is a triumph.

As I suggested above we depend very much on our volunteers who range from Board members to meal servers to Delta Bingo helpers and more. We are indebted to these folks and to those who might be considering helping out we can assure of a measure of satisfaction in the role. In an organization as diverse as ours one might expect occasional lapses from a preferred way of behaving. The Syme Centre is aware of the possibility of this and has a guiding policy designed to enable all members to enjoy a pleasant experience. I am happy to say that I am impressed by the thoughtful and accommodating habits of the general membership. Your Board of ten members, being the guiding influence on the policies and activities of the Syme Centre is divided into teams in order to carry out the Centre's policies. Their activities are not always obvious to the general membership. Some however are clearly visible and an example of this is the Renovations Committee who are frequently instrumental in redecorating or refurnishing activities from the kitchen to the patio.

President's Overview of 2024 & What's Next

A clear and exciting example of this is the Art wall in the General Purpose room, where works of art produced by our members are displayed. I am on record as being more than impressed by the manifold abilities of our members and this wall is clear evidence of the artistic talent among us. I often pause to appreciate the lovely paintings and photographs displayed there and I encourage our members to do the same.

For a few years the Syme Centre provided a Food Bank on the premises. A popular activity which needed the efforts of the staff for one day each week. Regrettably it was necessary to close the Bank during 2024 for several reasons including the staff reduction referred to earlier, the unavailability of physical effort needed to move goods and the increased bureaucratic burden. A useful service to the local population was thus forced to close to our regret.

Looking forward I would say that the future of the Syme Centre appears to be bright. There is no doubt that it provides a valuable service to our aging population, particularly those who find themselves alone in the final years of their lives. Sociability and companionship are important and the guidance of subject matter experts available from the lunch time talks very useful.

Recently the Board has embarked on a fundraising campaign to assist in supplementing our finances and to this end has organized two lunchtime events, a concert and a Bingo session. These events were considered successful and further entertainments are planned.

It is necessary for the Board to look to the future to ensure our continued success and to this end we are engaged in strategic planning to map out our future course. We have engaged the services of a professional organization and are presently working towards a plan. This will clarify necessary future activities and make clear to our granters that their contributions are worthwhile.

I personally look forward to a few more years in the arms of the Syme Centre and plenty of association with Like-minded individuals.

Geoffrey Taylor

President The George S. Syme Seniors' Centre

This Financial Report to the Members is based on the Audited Financial Results for the Syme 55+ Centre for the period January 1st – December 31st 2024

We had a net deficit in 2024 of \$3,319 on an income of \$389,620. The Deficit was covered from Reserves.

Our Balance Sheet is a very healthy at \$229,956. However, with current rising costs we will have to remain fiscally responsible and consider more fundraising opportunities in 2025

Syme 55+ was able to add new programs in 2024 for the benefit of our Members

Our good Financial Position will enable Syme 55+ to continue and possibly increase programs and Special Events during 2025

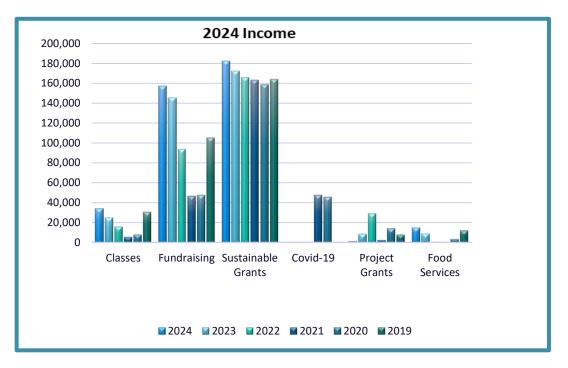
The financial statements presented in the Annual Report are the audited statements for the Syme 55+ Centre for the period of January 1st – December 31st 2024.

The 2 charts following compare the 2024 financial results to the previous 6 years. The Syme 55+ Centre is financially stable moving into 2025



2024 - \$389,621 2023 - \$359,789 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, Bingo income, grants received

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

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

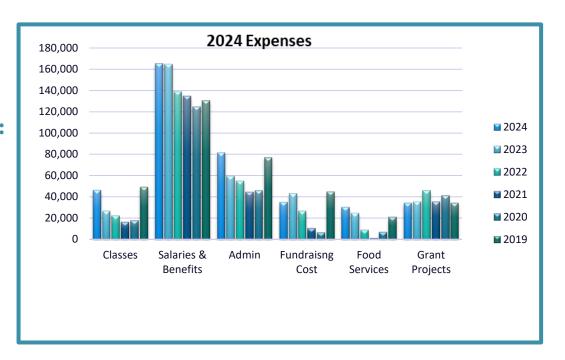
2023 Church Hall Air Conditioner

2024 Art Program

Food services represents income from congregate dining, lunches, and coffee



2024 - \$392,740 2023 -\$354,261 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 2024 the Finance Committee and Syme 55+ Board met often to monitor our income and expenses and to ensure we remain in a good financial position.

There was an overall deficit of \$3,119 in 2024 made up from Reserves.

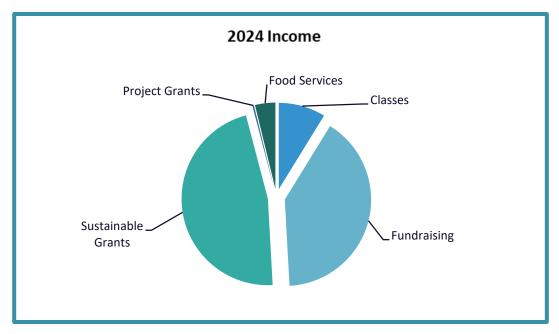
Ray Strong

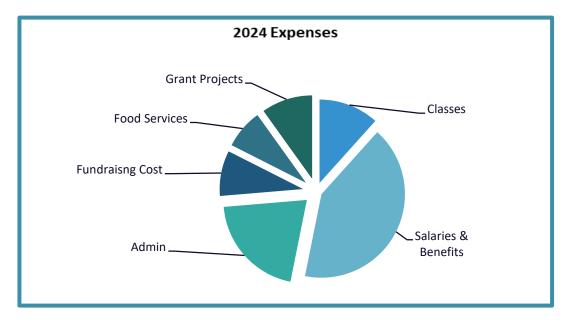
Treasurer
The George Syme Seniors' Centre

The Syme Centre continues to be supported by our Grants (50%). This with internal fundraising allows us to provide much needed senior's services for the community

Delta Bingo Revenue is critical to Centre Operations. Thanks to the Volunteers who support Bingo. This allows us to hire excellent instructors and buy equipment

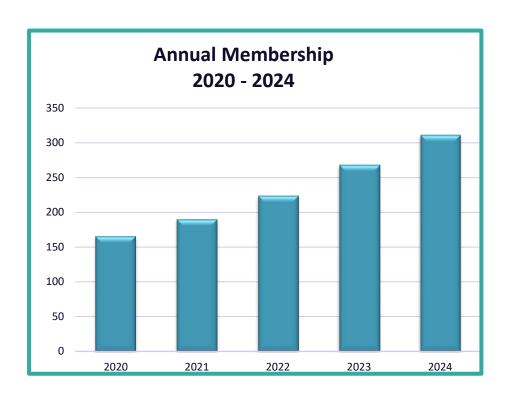
Syme 55+ Members enjoy a financially stable Centre due to our Volunteers, Staff and Our Loyal Members





Members:

2020 = 166 Members 2021 = 190 Members 2022 = 224 Members 2023 = 268 Members 2024 = 311 Members



Motion: It is moved that the Membership accept the Financial Statements as presented

Moved by: Seconded by: Carried

Motion: It is moved to procure the services of Deeth and Co. LLP as the Auditors for The Syme 55+ Centre for the year 2025.

Moved by: Seconded by: Carried

Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2024



Independent Auditor's Report

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, 2024, 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, 2024, 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.



Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

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.

Deeth + 6. 66P

Chartered Professional Accountants

Mississauga, Ontario

Licensed Public Accountants

February 24, 2025

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Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2024

	Note	5	2024		2023
Assets					
Current assets					
Cash		\$	165,393	\$	145,40
Accounts receivable	3	T	3,095		5,01
Guaranteed investment certificates	4	T	60,708		60,65
Prepaid expenses			760		42
		\$	229,956	\$	211,49
Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities		s	12,791	(t	10.50
Current liabilities Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities		s	12,791	· •	10.50
Deferred contributions	5			L	10,58
		1	40,720		
					10,58 21,34 31,92
Net assets			40,720		21,34
Net assets Unrestricted			40,720	P	21,34 31,92
	6		40,720 53,511		21,34 31,92 69,56
	6		40,720 53,511 66,445	# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #	21,34

Approved:

Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31, 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
Revenue			
Grants			
City of Toronto - Community Service Partnership		\$ 79,198	\$ 77,857
City of Toronto - Snowlink		31,935	28,690
Congregate Dining		15,960	15,960
Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, Seniors Active Living Centres		55,195	49,720
Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, Seniors Active Living Centres-Special Grant		1,137	8,447
		183.425	180.674
Food services	ļ	14.814	8.585
Fundraising, donations, and other income	- 	191,381	170,530
		389,620	359,789
Expenses	 		
City of Toronto - Snowlink		31,935	22,40
Daily Bread Food Bank expenses		7,030	3,932
Events and programs		74,367	52,090
Food services		30,442	19,79
Legal and audit		9,200	8,830
Office supplies		6,493	5,349
Office equipment and services		40,856	36,241
Ontario Seniors' Secretariat - Special Grants		2,037	12,867
Recruitment and promotional		4,354	3,276
Repairs and maintenance	!	5,442	9,983
Salaries and benefits		165,274	164,568
Transportation and staff travel		15,308	14,934
		392,738	354,262
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)		\$ (3,118)	\$ 5,527

Represented by:

- -			
General operating	\$ (120,132)	\$ (112,913)	
Fundraising, donations, and other income	117,014	118,440	
	\$ (3,118)	\$ 5,527	

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended December 31, 2024

		Internally Restricted				
		(note 6)	 Unrestricted	 2024		2023
Balance, beginning of year	s	110,000	\$ 69,563	\$ 179,563	s	174,034
Excess of revenue over expenses		-	(3,118)	(3,118)		5,527
Balance, end of year	\$	110,000	\$ 66,445	\$ 176,445	\$	179,561

Statement of Cash Flows			
Year ended December 31, 2024			
	20	24	 2023
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue) for the year	\$ (3,1	18)	\$ 5,527
Change in non-cash working capital items related to operations:			
Accounts receivable	1,9	16	(2,507)
Prepaid expenses	(3	36)	 787
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,2	08	 (1,895)
Deferred contributions	19,3	74	 9,934
	20,0	44	11,846
Cash provided by (used in) investing activities:			
Purchase of guaranteed investment certificates	(60,7	08)	(60,652)
Redemption of guaranteed investment certificates	60,6	52	 61,213
	(56)	561
Net increase in cash from activities	19,9	88	12,407
Cash at beginning of year	145,4	05	 132,998
Cash at end of year	\$ 165,3	93	\$ 145,405

Election of New Directors

Call for nominations from the floor

Speaker

Adam Bunch:

The Toronto Book of the Dead & The City's Morbid Past

Acknowledgement of Retiring Board Members

Election Results

Reading of Oath of Office

OATH OF OFFICE for Directors 2025 - 2027

I	do solemnly promise and declare that I will
of Director to which I have been elected in and will not receive any payment or rewa office, and that I will disclose any pecuniar	of my knowledge and ability, execute the office this municipality, and that I have not received rd, or promise thereof, for the exercise of this ry interest, direct or indirect as required by and ict of Interest Act, and I make this solemn
Declared before the members at the George Toronto, on the 25th day of April at the Ann	e S. Syme Seniors' Centre of York in the City of nual General Meeting.
Signature:	

Motion: To destroy the ballots on May 9, 2025

Moved by: Seconded by: Carried

New Business

Adjournment

Celebrating 40 Years





















Celebrating 40 Years











