

SENIOR SCAPE: Happy New Year

By **Jim Abram**

Hi folks! I trust you all are enjoying the holiday season and that you had a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Joyous Kwanzaa and/or Happy Advent! Hope you are all having safe, fun and enjoyable holidays!

December has traditionally been the month for connecting, or re-connecting, with friends and family. Usually this is done with phone calls, family get-togethers, dinners, parties and other celebrations. We have something extra here: we have the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

So, let me take this opportunity to ?connect? with you. May all the volunteers, Association members, Town officials and Town staff and all older community members find Peace on Earth and Peace in Aurora. Warmest wishes for a wonderful New Year filled with peace and happiness and filled with spectacular success and good health.

We should be proud of all we, as an Association, have accomplished in 2015. Midway through the year, I was elected by caucus as A.S.A. President and I have been proud and happy to serve. I hope I met your expectations. I can only do my best effort and even though we don't all agree on every decision, I think we have, as a Board of Directors, collectively done a pretty good job. We have had good debates, many successes and no one got critically injured.

Among our many accomplishments, we renewed our agreement with the Town for 5 more years at terms I think represent a fair contract to benefit all seniors in our community. Pretty well every group activity we host week after week has increased in member participation. Our volunteers have done an excellent job, but to me that comes as no surprise. They are the most dedicated, thoughtful, kind and hard working people I have the pleasure to know and work with.

Unfortunately, we lost several good friends in 2015 but that comes with the territory. They are truly missed. That includes my Dad, about the best bridge player you'd ever meet.

I can't wait to get started fresh in the New Year on ASA business. It has truly been a pleasure serving our membership and working with all members and Town staff in 2015. Let's make sure 2016 and all the years thereafter serve our membership to the best of our hopes and ambitions.

Should you make a New Year's resolution, my suggestion is to make it to treat yourself better by enjoying your seniors' centre for all it has to offer. I encourage you to volunteer as it is quite rewarding.

The CSGA-OSGA 55+ Games

The CSGA-OSGA 55+ Games Committee would like to invite you to register your intent to participate in the 2016 Canada 55+ Games being held on August 16-19, 2016 in Brampton.

Save these dates! The Spring 2016 Invitational Events include, but are not limited to:

Swimming: March 16/17 ? Trenton

Scrabble: March 19 ? Brampton

Pickle Ball ? April 25/26 ? Markham

Detailed information on all events can be found at www.ontarioseniorgames.ca. More information, including registration will be available in January 2016. We will have application forms available at the seniors' centre registration desk.

Please note that priority for entry to events in the OSGA program is given to medalists from the 2014/15 Ontario 55+ Games and the 2015 Regional Games. Entries for events not in the OSGA program will be taken on a first come/first serve basis.

You must register your intent through the online system at <http://www.ontarioseniorgames.ca>. The deadline for registering your intent is January 31, 2016. Once registrations of intent have been received and qualification reviewed, a formal registration form will be forwarded to you to fill out and return to CSGA-OSGA committee with the appropriate payment.

2016 Canada 55+

Games Fee Information

Participant Fee

\$141.25

Non-Participant Fee

\$96.05

OSGA 55+

Administration Fee

\$10.00

OSGA 55+ Membership 2016

\$8.00

OSGA 55+ Golf Shirt (Optional) \$35.00

*There are additional fees for golf, as well as per team for hockey, curling and slo-pitch

PLEASE NOTE:

Registrations are not considered complete until all forms and payment are received.

My last word is: Happy New Year!

For more information on the Aurora Seniors' Centre and all it has to offer, drop by 90 John West Way, visit the web site www.auroraseniors.ca, email auroraseniors@rogers.com or call 905-726-4767 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.