



March 1, 2023

**To all Members of the Port Dover Senior Centre:**

It's a new year, and we want to send a big shout out to everyone who supported us through our first year of operation. As you know, the PDSC was started just a year ago by Adam Veri and some like-minded volunteers. Supported by the Board of Trade, and some initial grant funding from the Province of Ontario, the dream of the Centre became a reality.

We've had a great first year and currently have about 325 members. We've met new friends, pursued new interests, and improved our health and wellbeing, with dreams for so much more to come. Though this year has had some triumphs and some challenges, it has been a fantastic beginning.

This coming new year is going to be an exciting time as well, and we are sure it will also have its' triumphs and challenges. One thing that every non-profit struggles with is establishing a balanced budget while maintaining value for participants. We have looked long and hard at how to meet the costs of the Centre while keeping fees as low as possible. We were fortunate to have some grant funding at the outset, but we have not received any further grants since then. We continue to pursue additional funding whenever and where ever possible.

So that brings us to the place of having to examine how we move forward and continue to deliver the great programs you have come to enjoy.

The long and short of it is, there needs to be a fee increase. The good news is that the basic membership fee will remain the same at \$50 for this year. Unfortunately, we will have to attach fees to our fitness and yoga programs in order to cover the cost of delivering them. These are the most subscribed programs that we offer, and with good reason. Melissa and Jenny do a fabulous job, but their expertise comes with a cost.

Starting April 1, 2023, in addition to your basic membership fee, yoga and fitness will require an additional participation fee. Yoga or fitness will be \$120 for the membership year; that's just \$2.50 per week. An unlimited fitness and yoga membership will be \$200 for both; that's just \$4 per week. While we understand this is a significant change, it continues to be an outstanding value compared to other options in the community, and it's geared specifically for seniors.

Memberships and renewals will be available in early March at the Centre. Look for the announcement about dates and times coming soon. If you have additional questions, check out the Q&A's on our website or talk to a Board member.

Once again thank you so much for making this first year a great one!