

## **Our Story - Pickering Village Friendship Centre**

- The history of the Pickering and Village Seniors Club dates back to 1964 When the Pickering branch of the Red Cross expanded its services to include a Service for Seniors Program. Jean Tyas who was active in the Red Cross Women's Work Committee was appointed as Committee Chairman, along with Mary Scott and Clara Wilson as committee members to organize and take on the responsibility of developing a senior's club for the benefit of senior citizens. The Committee participated in various Red Cross conventions, workshops and seminars.
- On March 18, 1964 the inaugural meeting was held at Pickering United Church and The Pickering and Village Seniors Club was duly formed under the auspices of Pickering Township and Village branch of the Red Cross with Jean Tyas as our first President.
- January 1, 1974 the Village was amalgamated with the Town of Ajax. Since 2012 steps have been taken to be recognized as Ajax Seniors and we now have one membership card, one fee of \$15.00 and will soon have one Executive to govern Ajax Senior's Club, Pickering Village Centre and St. Andrew's Friendship Centre. In 2019 the Village changed their name to Ajax Seniors, Pickering Village Centre.
- Over the years we have strived to offer a safe, welcoming, friendly environment where seniors can enjoy various activities and develop new friendships and improve quality of life. Although we are small, (120 members), we have continued to have lunches, teas and social events and have contributed to the Ajax hospital, Community Care, Salvation Army , OPP, First Responders as well as a yearly bursary to Pickering High School located in Pickering Village. We look forward to welcoming new people and new ideas to the Ajax Seniors, at both the Pickering Village Centre and St. Andrew's Friendship Centre.