

## **2021 VOscars Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient**

### **Jacquelin Holzman**

Jackie has been an active volunteer all her adult life. Her goal has always been to remove barriers of all kinds so that every individual has the opportunity to realize their dreams. Her role models were her parents, Sally and Israel Feldman and her sister, Evelyn Greenberg....Sally with magic creative hands, always knitting, crocheting, cooking for others, Issy sharing his mathematical skills with those who needed them, and Evelyn, a pianist, bringing joy to seniors in residences, May Court hospice and palliative hospital wards.



The 1950's saw Jackie taking a leadership role in the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW). This led to the formation of the Golden Age Seniors Club, a men's woodworking program at St. Luke's Centre and a Jewish Information Service.

During that time the NCJW launched an annual show and sale of Canadian art. The event was eagerly looked forward to by art lovers.

In the early 1970's, Jackie was chair of a study of Jewish social services in Ottawa. This led to the creation of the Jewish Social Services Agency, which 40 years ago, became the Jewish Family Service (JFS). The JFS is now a multi-cultural multi-lingual 'go-to' agency for settlement services for immigrants and refugees.

The study also resulted in the recognition that the program and services at Hillel Lodge should be upgraded to nursing home/long term care because that was the piece in the continuum of care that was missing in the Ottawa Jewish community. It now serves the whole community.

Jackie is proud to have had a hand in the founding of TAMIR, Salus and the Rehabilitation Institute apartments, all enabling persons with disabilities to live in the community. Causeway Work Center, Centre 454, Para Transpo, the Royal Ottawa Hospital, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, the Canadian Cancer Action Network, the Ottawa Congress Center, the National Capital Commission, among others, were all major beneficiaries of Jackie's enthusiasm and leadership skills.

Jackie served as a member of Ottawa City Council for 15 years, from 1982 – 1997, the last 6 as Mayor.

She is an active member of Temple Israel and was instrumental in refurbishing the old James Street Synagogue and the building of the present Temple where her son, Mark, served as President and 4 generations worship.

Since 2016, Jackie has been a co-founder and vice-chair of Compassionate Ottawa, a volunteer facilitated initiative that wants Ottawa to become a city where we can live as long and as well as we can with the supports in the community to help it to happen if we are diagnosed at any age with a life ending illness or are frail elderly.

Jackie has four adult children and their three spouses, four adult grandchildren and one spouse, and 2 great grandsons. When she and John Rutherford were married in 1987, the family increased by his three adult children, one spouse and four grandchildren.

Jackie and John's greatest pleasure is having all of them together in their dining room or garden for one of John's delicious dinners! These dinners will continue after February 2020 when Jackie and John will move into an independent apartment in Unitarian House. They met in May 1982, at a planning workshop for the House. They have come full circle!