

Toronto North LIP (TNLIP) is a community-based, multi-sectoral planning table working to enhance the settlement and employment experiences and outcomes of immigrants and newcomers in Toronto North communities.

TNLIP has developed a Settlement Strategy and Action Plan for the region and is in the process of implementing the plan.

Read the Strategy at: www.torontonorthlip.ca

For a list of members, to learn how to get involved, or for more information on Toronto North LIP, visit: www.torontonorthlip.ca email: info@torontonorthlip.ca

TN LIP is funded by:



Toronto North Welcomes is the bi-monthly e-Newsletter of the Toronto North Local Immigration Partnership. It includes resources, information and ideas relevant to your work serving newcomers and offers reflections on working collaboratively to build welcoming communities in Toronto North.



From the Planning Table

Launching Toronto North Welcomes

The Toronto North Local Immigration Partnership (TN LIP) is pleased to launch this first edition of *Toronto North Welcomes*.

Structural Change at TN LIP

Over Spring 2013, TNLIP Council has been planning the implementation of the Toronto North Settlement Strategy and Action Plan. In preparation for implementation, an assessment of Council's structure was undertaken to make sure that operations were streamlined and that Council was prepared to effectively embark on implementation.

We are pleased to report that the review found Council's 3 workgroups to be highly effective and productive.

TN LIP's workgroups are decision-making tables where initiatives are selected and plans developed to implement them. They are also venues for regular information sharing.

A new Project Management Committee has been struck to help better coordinate, integrate and communicate

Every two months, this bulletin will deliver news, resources and information based on service collaboration around the TN LIP planning table. We hope it will help you connect with opportunities and activities and that you will share it with others in your network.

the great work at TNLIP workgroups. The Project Management Committee consists of staff contracted to deliver TNLIP among three partner agencies: JVS Toronto, Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office and Working Women CC.

With the Project Management Committee taking more responsibility for coordinating Council's work, the Steering Committee body will be phased out. This will eliminate duplication and allow Steering Committee members to more actively participate in workgroups.

Steering Committee members have been consulted throughout this process and we thank them for encouraging the review and for their continued support and leadership at workgroups.

As we move forward in this structure, we acknowledge and thank all TNLIP members who have been at the forefront of discussions and initiatives.

Upcoming Events

Over the coming months, Toronto North LIP will be hosting events of importance to your work. Mark your calendars!



Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30 and Oct 7, 21	Connecting Communities Tenant School A 6-session in-class workshop bringing legal experts to discuss tenant rights and the legal housing framework. This is a project of the Federation of Metro Tenant's Associations.	Open to anyone serving/ supporting newcomers in Toronto North communities. Register by contacting: prince@torontonorthlip.ca Location: Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office 1 Leaside Park Drive.
Sept.25 1:00 – 2:00	TN LIP All-Council meeting Connect with colleagues across the Toronto North catchment and get updates on the progress of the Action Plan and LIP process.	Open to TN LIP members only. Register at: tnlipcanadianexperience.eventbrite.ca Location: North York Community Memorial Hall, Burgundy Room North York Civic Centre, 5110 Yonge St
Sept.25 2:00 – 4:00	Ontario's new Canadian Experience Policy In July 2013, the Ontario Human Rights Commission unveiled a new policy that makes recruiting for 'Canadian Experience' a human rights violation. The OHRC will be presenting on its implementation and implications.	Open to service providers serving Toronto North communities. Register at: tnlipcanadianexperience.eventbrite.ca Location: North York Community Memorial Hall, Burgundy Room North York Civic Centre 5110 Yonge St.

In the Community

Little Ones' Early Detection Clinic

Statistics tell us that immigrant families in the Toronto region are made up of younger people with larger families. For those who have never immigrated, it is difficult to imagine the challenge of moving to a new country and having to settle young children. Connecting with schools and daycares, registering with a family physician, identifying recreation programs and enrolling in them, all the while providing the emotional support that young children need is a tremendous undertaking for parents new to Canada. Understandably, this process can take a long time, and many families struggle to understand what's available or how to access it and many get left behind.

The *Little Ones'* Early Detection Clinic was developed as a pilot project to provide immigrant families with young children, with the opportunity to get the services they need, especially medical services, in a single location on a single day.



On June 7th, nine organizations came together to provide services and information in the Fairview community. They planned in advance and used outreach to target specific newcomer communities facing language, isolation or other barriers.

The pop-up clinic included dental, nutrition, physical assessment, child development, speech/ language assessment, and parental support stations. Parents had an opportunity to learn about various services available in the community (i.e. settlement, legal, language, housing, recreation, etc.) by visiting the Community Resources booth.

Childcare, tokens, and interpretation were available for those who needed them, and every child received a gift packet. Fourteen children were screened and many other families visited to learn about available services and to connect with

the providers who deliver them.

This was the third such 'pop-up' clinic in the Fairview community supported in-part by the Local Immigration Partnership. To share this promising model of outreach and service, TNLIP will be developing and sharing a process guide so that others can replicate this highly effective service model. Already, TNLIP partners are discussing the potential of using this model to serve other vulnerable groups like seniors, and piloting it in other communities such as Flemingdon Park where residents face similar barriers.

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Past Events and Resources

Life and work happens and you may have missed these events. Luckily, Toronto North LIP makes information on past events readily available. You won't want to miss another!

Visit www.torontonorthlip.ca/resources to download your copy of these great resources.

Inter-agency Network Research and Summit	February, 2013
Inter-agency networks play a vital role in building welcoming communities. TN LIP learned about networks operating in Toronto North and brought them together to explore common areas of work. Read the Network Summit Report here .	
Immigration Policy Changes Information Sessions: Conditional Permanent Residence	March, 2013
Changes to Canada's immigration system have affected sponsorship between partners in newlywed couples. This presentation from the South Asian Legal Clinic (SALCO) provides an overview of the changes.	
Immigration Policy Changes: the Changing Citizenship Process	March, 2013
Changes to Canada's immigration system have impacted the citizenship process. This presentation highlights scenarios that clients face under the new system.	
CLARS Information Session	May 8, 2013
The <i>Coordinated Language Assessment and Referral System</i> is a new way of organizing the language learning system in Ontario. It will roll out in Toronto in 2014. This presentation was followed by a Q&A between settlement providers and architects of the system.	
Mental Health and Cultural Competency Training and Report	May 24, 2013
Understanding one's own cultural compass can make one better able to support diverse communities. In this session, participants explore their worldview while learning about the mental health system. TNLIP compiled a report on the need for such training.	