

TNLIP Settlement & Language Work Group Meeting (Virtual)

Tuesday Oct 08th at 10 am-10:30 am

Meeting Minutes

Attendees (17): Nataliia Marushchak (North York Community House), Eillen Sellam (CSVIAMONDE), Raluca Costea (YMCA-NIC), Tanya Yousufi (CICS), Parwana Siddiqi (Afghan Women’s Organization), Maria Crupi (NYCH), Vincent Lang (The Housing Help Centre), Aline H Merlette (Centre-Francophone | Toronto), Wendy H (TNO), Duvalier Monkam (Centre-Francophone | Toronto), Ansuya Chetty (Working Skills Centre), Melanie Watt (WWCC), Christine Allum (OSC), Lena Samoilichenko (YMCA Language Assessment Centre -CLARS), Alberto Munoz (New Circles), Sadia Zafar (TNO), and Jodi Block (JIAS)

TNLIP Team: Srna Stambuk (TNLIP/JVS), Rachele Molto (TNLIP/JVS), Astha Priya (TNLIP/WWCC), and Isabella Yan (TNLIP/WWCC)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Follow up Action
Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions		
<p>Update: TNLIP Settlement & Language WG activities</p>	<p>1. <u>Indigenous and Newcomer’s relationship building task group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The task group was established in May 2024. The group meets every six weeks on Friday morning. • There are 7 members at the group. We are still accepting new members. Wendy from TNO indicated the interest in joining the task group. • Progress #1: information/knowledge sharing. TNLIP works on creating a webpage at TNLIP website to share the relevant resources including upcoming events, past events recordings, report as well as funding opportunities • Progress # 2: information/knowledge sharing. Isabella shares the relevant resources to the task group on a monthly basis, the first Friday of each month. • Progress # 3: Capacity building/learning opportunity: To foster the learning within the group, Isabella shares monthly learning materials (three pieces of materials, either video or article), on the first Friday of each month. The group members learn them at their own pace and make notes if want, and has the opportunity to share their key takeaways at the upcoming task group meeting. 	<p>Isabella to add Wendy to the TNLIP newcomer indigenous relationship building task group</p> <p>Isabella to add Lena to TNLIP Language SPO group</p> <p>Isabella to add Raluca to the Francophone and Anglophone service coordination task group</p>

	<p>2. <u>Francophone and Anglophone service coordination and collaboration task group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the planning stage. There are a few interested members. Raluca indicated the interest in joining the task group • Had a meeting with Toronto Newcomer Office and Francophone Local Immigration Partnership last week to discuss how to collaborate. A lot of good brainstorming ideas came up from the meeting. • Srna will share this initiative at the upcoming the InterLIP Executive committee. It is possible that other quadrant LIPs are interested too. <p>3. <u>TNLIP Newcomer Community Advisory Table (NCAT)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some NCAT members attend in person PC meeting on Sept 17th 2024 at North York Central Library and shared the positive feedback. • Isabella is planning virtual PD session on e-commerce like email marketing for the NCAT members in Nov or Dec. Please contact Isabella if you know any facilitator or if your agencies run the similar workshop. • Melanie share the resources on email marketing https://envoke.com/. Isabella can share it with the NCAT group. <p>4. <u>Language SPO group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melanie, co chair of language SPO group, is planning to schedule the next meeting. • Srna shared that we would like to expand the membership of the Language SPO group... to ESL providers, ELT, OSLT as well. This could be an agenda item at the next meeting. Looking forward to the discussion on this. <p>5. <u>Housing task group</u> Underway. In the planning stage, conducting research and environmental scan.</p>	<p>To everyone: Please contact Isabella if you know any facilitator or if your agencies run the similar workshop on the topic of e-commerce</p>
<p>Member spotlight for Fall 2024: YMCA-Newcomer Information Centre</p> <p>Presentation: Immigrant Services at the YMCA: Language Assessment and Settlement Services</p> <p>Followed by Q & A</p>	<p><u>Presenter:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raluca Costea, Outreach and Community Relations Coordinator, Newcomer Information Centre-YMCA • Lena Samoilichenko, Outreach Coordinator for the YMCA Language Assessment Centre (CLARS) <p><u>Presentation:</u> Will be shared with the workgroup members along with the meeting minutes</p> <p><u>Q & A:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Q #1:</u> Re: <u>personalized settlement plan</u>. Is each client assigned a case manager/settlement worker? A: The Information Specialist creates a personalized settlement plan for the client. It is more like information and resources sharing, rather than case 	

	<p>management. The information specialist will refer the clients to the settlement workers based on the client needs. The information specialist does follow-ups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Q #2: As our languages change (for example, we just hired new settlement workers with additional languages) what is the best way to update for YMCA? Who is the best contact person?</u> A: Raluca is the best contact person. She will pass the information to her team so as to update their database. • <u>Q #3: Referrals: Do information specialists have the list of language specific settlement counsellors to make appropriate referrals?</u> A: Information specialists have data base to make referrals. They usually update the database every two months. • <u>Q #4: How do language assessors to make referrals?</u> A: HARTS, SYSTEM-Centralized system, is used for language services providers to make referrals. Assessors are accessible to a map of language services providers so that they can check the availability for the clients. • <u>Q #5: Generally how long does it take for get language assessment at this moment?</u> A: About 4-5 weeks. Etobicoke location is the least busy location, and it needs usually 3 weeks. In Scarborough location it needs up to 6 weeks. • <u>Q #6: For Ukrainian clients, they are able to continue their classes until June once the funding ends in March, if they are already registered in classes. Correct?</u> A: Correct only if the Ukrainian clients get their language assessed by March 31, 2025. • <u>Q #7: The accessibility of online resources?</u> A: The online resources are accessible for those registered clients. 	
<p>Workgroup member engagement Practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Member engagement practice part one:</u> book 1-one-1 meeting (30 minutes) with Isabella on Monday afternoons 2 pm-2:30 pm or Friday afternoons 1:30 pm-2 pm starting Oct 28th 2024 till March 31st, 2025. I will provide a new booking link in February or March of 2025. A little bit thought behind it: I believe there is no shortcut for building real connections. 1-one-1 meeting is a valuable opportunity for regular and meaningful exchange of information and a safe space to share, connect and collaborate. My plan is to meet each member at least once a year either virtual or in person. I am also aware Mondays may not work for certain members, but please don't worry about and we can schedule other time if there is a need. Will send the booking page in a separate email. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member engagement practice part two: Virtual Drop-in Hours: Pathways to connect with Isabella on Monday afternoons 2:30 pm-3:30 pm starting Oct 28th 2024. These virtual drop-in hours are offered at Teams on Mondays 2:30pm-3:30pm starting Oct 28th, 2024. I will send the recurring teams invite shortly today. Please feel free to drop in if have a quick question to ask, want to discuss any issues that you are facing at work, or just want to say hi. I am here to meet, connect and support you.:) 	
Member updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Francophone School Board: if you are interested in information session for parents about education in French and our school board, please reach out to Eileen at sellame@csviamonde.ca • New Circles: is expanding and will be moving to a new location by Jan 2025. There will be a new logo too. More information to come. <p>Any program updates can be sent to isabella@torontonorthlip.ca. or rachelle@torontonorthlip.ca to be included in bi-weekly newsflash.</p>	
Wrapping up	Isabella thanked all members for attending.	Isabella to send out the next meeting date at least two weeks in advance