



TNLIP Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom 10:00 am-11:00 am on Jan 10th, 2023

Attendees: Kaitlin Murray (TNLIP/JVS), Misha Hossain (TNLIP/TNO), Srna Stambuk (TNLIP/JVS), Astha Priya (TNLIP/WWCC), Migdalia Jones (Tropicana Employment Centre), Habib Ullah (ACCESS Employment), Melanie Watt (WWCC), Rola Hamdan (WCLS), Adey Worku (COT), Anita Liu, Aline Kargotsian (ARS Social Services), Ashraf Mansouri Bonab (Seneca College), Corine Hibberts (TNO), Danilla Moshi (NYCH), Diana Harrop (Centennial College), Elaine Berry (TPL), Eillen Sellam (CSViamonde), Karine Vodopianova (YMCA), Fatima Khan (LDATD), Elena Krishchuk (Youth Assisting Youth), Maxine McKoy (NYCH), Laura Gold (JIAS), Monica Brennan (York University), Nataliia Marushchak (NYCH), Olivia Lum (York University), Radhika Sharma (Skills for Change), Robbie Shifman (Consolidated Credit Canada), Roberto Echeverria (YMCA), Sabrina Von Vopelius (Feldt), Tanya Yousufi (CICS), Vincent Liang (THHC), Wendy H (TNO), Zarine Dordi (WWCC)

Facilitated by TNLIP team: Kaitlin Murray (TNLIP & JVS), Misha Hossain (TNLIP & TNO), Astha Priya (TNLIP & WWCC), Srna Stambuk (TNLIP & JVS)

Minutes by: Astha Priya

Agenda Item	Presented by	Discussion
Land Acknowledgement, Introduction & Networking Activity	Misha Hossain (Health & Wellbeing Coordinator)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misha Hossain presented the Land Acknowledgements TNLIP members participated in introductions, followed by networking/discussion activity
Regional Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Toronto – Newcomer Office & Refugee Resettlement 	Adey Worku, Community Development Officer (Toronto Newcomer Office - City of Toronto)	<p><u>Toronto Newcomer Office Updates</u></p> <p><u>Toronto Newcomer Day</u> 9th annual Toronto Newcomer Day celebration is on Thursday May 25th 2023 at Nathan Phillips Square and City Hall (in-person). An official Save the Date email will be sent out at the end of January.</p> <p><u>Refugee Resettlement</u></p> <p><i>Ukrainian Arrival updates</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bi weekly task force meetings with Ukrainian serving agencies at all levels of government – they are trying to respond to the large number of arrivals 478,357 CUAET applications have been approved for Ukrainian Refugees. Since Jan 2022, approximately 140,000 Ukrainians have arrived to Canada As of December 4, over \$234 million in federal financial support/assistance has been given. Effective December 15, CUIAS has taken over from the Canadian Red Cross in providing onsite support at Pearson airport and 24/7 virtual support. <p><i>Provincial response</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31,000 OHIP cards have been issued. Approximately 700-800 new cards issued each week

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx 7,500 applications approved for Emergency Assistance. Over 4,000 individuals accessed the Ontario Drug Benefit Program. • The province has approved settlement service funding of \$3.1 million (over 18 months) to 14 agencies to provide settlement services, housing, mental health, and employment supports to Ukrainian arrivals. <p>Housing</p> <p>The City of Toronto has been working with the GTHA municipalities (Peel, York, Durham, Hamilton, and Halton) to provide emergency lodging for Ukrainian arrivals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GTHA temporary shelter sites have a total of 174 room capacity and around 10% vacancy at this time (Toronto site is currently at capacity and rarely has more than 1 room available). Length of stay for some families is 3-4 Months. • Housing, employment, mental health, English language classes are most requested services. • The federal government has a 14-day hotel accommodation program implemented through AMEX and provides about 200 rooms in the GTA. CUIAS is managing the booking for the federally funded accommodation. CUAIS Booking Hotline Number: 1-888-557-6133 <p>* CUAIS hotline does not do referrals to GTHA sites. They need to access the GTHA temporary shelter sites at end of 14 days. They can be referred directly by the settlement agencies</p> <p>Toronto Impact</p> <p>Ukrainian community agencies are seeing an increase in the number of arrivals with disabilities and families with children who have a disability. In addition, the most recent cohort of arrivals have minimal connections to Canada and require greater support with their settlement and integration</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>How to get involved with the work that Ukrainian-serving agencies are doing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend the table meetings - YMCA is conducting language assessments at the lodging sites – can aid refugees in joining bridging programs - Can contact Adey for more information
<p>Discussing Updates on Bridges 2023 Event</p>	<p>Misha Hossain (TNLIP/TNO)</p>	<p>Bridges is city wide partnership and collaboration forum that brings to service providers and representatives from across GTA/multiple sectors to discuss and share experiences and learn about collaboration and partnership buildings. Participants to share their own ideas for collective action with other attendees. It is a free, annual event, hosted on April 26, in person at centennial college. <u>This year’s theme is looking to the future, inclusive leadership and meaningful collaboration.</u></p>
<p>North York Housing Initiative Update</p>	<p>Rola Hamdan (Willowdale Community Legal Services)</p>	<p>Affordable Housing Advocacy Initiative that WCLS is working on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group of local residents called Justice Makers – The staff at WCLS is supervising them <p>Fairview Redevelopment Project:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 towers built around Fairview area – residential – extremely expensive to rent • Advocating to have affordable housing units for low income as part of this expansion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum 10% of these units be made as affordable housing rental units, or rent geared to income (subsidized housing) units for min. 99 years ○ The affordable housing units be built and designed with an EDI framework in mind, considerations for disability persons in mind and no segregation of sections within the development. Also, want safety considerations be made for the residents in mind as increase in population density and vehicle traffic will come • Justice Leaders Sent City counsellor, Shelly Carroll, and other city planners, a letter but reply stated that provincial government passed Bill 109 and 23 which changes city’s roles in planning process, and makes it difficult to get community input and involvement with developer decisions • Church and faith groups, FIN Table, are part of this – their goal is to discuss the negative effect of having so much construction in current little space • Rola’s Team and FIN Developed survey to be distributed to residents/organizations around Fairview mall to gain feedback – will send to members to fill. We need greater advocacy
<p>Work Group Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment & Labour Market (Srna Stambuk – JVS) • Settlement & Language (Astha Priya – WWCC) • Health & Wellbeing (Misha Hossain – TNO) 		<p>SRNA/ ELM WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ELM formed two new task groups – ‘mental health and employment’ and ‘employment services for temporary workers, refugee claimants, and non-eligible groups’ - Jan 30- LUNCH AND LEARN Event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Topic: jobs in IT, IT industry overview in GTA and how newcomers can create pathway to get into IT Field with microcredentials, bridging programs etc. - Working on getting more info about EO Service model Transformation and supporting service providers as they adjust EO Model of service delivery to target highly barriered clients and provide better service <p>ASTHA/ S&L WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quite some member changes to the WG. The goal now is getting the task groups work pushed forward - Re-engagement of the NCAT Table was focus of last quarter – moving forward the table will hold advisory roles with TNLIP activities, instead of having their action-oriented ones - Faith networking event and the annual faith forum planning will begin in full swing - The language SPO group will be working with SISC WG, part of TSLIP, to emphasize and increase knowledge/awareness on pathways of indigenous reconciliation - The NewTO is on its way! We will be conducting focus groups and looking for feedback from TNLIP partners on it soon <p>MISHA/H&W WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launched 3 brand new task groups and had first meeting for all of them - TMH – Mental health task group

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ activities include editing and reviewing the mental health additions and resources list in collaboration with the North York Community Cluster - Planning a few mental health capacity building activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trauma and informed care for settlement and front line workers ○ Naloxone training for all members ○ Combatting Anti-Asian racism in the front lines Part 2 (Part 1 on Youtube) ○ Mindfulness Event with Centre of Transformative change - YPA- Young Peoples Adverse Childhood Experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ first meeting Dec 14, brainstormed projects to promote early intervention for learning disabilities in newcomer children with cultural sensitivity ○ e.g creating toolkit or webinar or more research on topic - Healthy homes Advocacy task group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Looks at housing action plan & food insecurity and its effects on newcomers' health, families and livelihood.
Next Meeting Dates	Kaitlin Murray (TNLIP/JVS)	Proposed dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ May 9, 2023 ○ September 12, 2023 ○ December 5, 2023 ○ February 13, 2024
Membership Updates & Emerging Issues	Program Updates from Chat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elena Krishchuk, Outreach Coordinator, Youth Assisting Youth. Provide mentoring, tutoring, English programs for kids aged 6-15 focusing a lot on newcomers. We need volunteers aged 16-29 to become mentors and tutors. Open to make presentations for workers and clients about the services we have. Also, have a special online program for Ukrainian kids to learn English in a group and 1-on-1 with tutors, we also match them with mentors and organize events for the families to find friends. Contact: ekrishchuk@yay.org ● Monica from the York University Bridge Training Programs form immigrants, refugees and refugee claimants. Reach out to us if you have any clients who might like to join. Also, are running information sessions with agencies this month - if you want us to do one with your clients just fill out this form https://laps.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=1640722 ● Robbie Shifman from Consolidated Credit Canada - non-profit credit counselling org. We're offering free financial education workshops, booklets, resources for their clients and staff. Let me know if you want to schedule some time to learn more about what we do - rshifman@consolidatedcredit.ca ● Tropicana Community Services is offering in partnership with Centennial College a new Early Childhood Education Diploma-Tropicana's Black Fast Track Stream. This is a tuition free program. For more information on the program, please email ECEinquiries@tropicanaemployment.ca ● For French Speaking Newcomers - Conseil scolaire Viamonde is having their open house of all elementary schools this month and in February. Here is the link with all the info: https://csviamonde.ca/english/elementary-schos-open-houses 	