



TNLIP Data Advisory Group (Fall 2024)
Wednesday, October 16th, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Virtual – MS Teams

Participants (6): Alin Moayed (New Circles), Diana Harrop (Centennial), Elaine Berry (TPL), Kay Ham (TCDSB), Rola Hamdan (WCLS), Wendy (WCLS)

Facilitated by: Rachelle Molto (TNLIP/JVS), Isabella Yan (WWCC) Farheen Meraj (TNLIP/JVS)

Agenda Items	Presenter	Discussion Notes
Territory Acknowledgement, Introduction	Rachelle	Rachelle shares the meeting agenda and territorial acknowledgement with the members, followed by a round of introductions.
Housing Task Group and Research Support	Isabella	<p>TNLIP is planning to launch a Housing Task Group within the Settlement and Language Working Group to address the housing needs of newcomers.</p> <p>Isabella conducted initial scans of housing programs and projects in Ontario, including transitional and emergency shelters for refugee claimants and newcomers.</p> <div data-bbox="613 1102 1562 1501" style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #ccc;"> <p style="text-align: center;">SCAN ON HOUSING PROGRAMS IN ONTARIO</p> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid #e91e63; margin: 5px 0;"/> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transitional Housing by Romero House. This program provides short-term housing to refugee claimants of all backgrounds. 2. Emergency Shelter Program, Emergency Family Shelter Program by Sojourn House. These programs provide safe, temporary emergency housing for refugee claimants and refugees, including separated youth, single men and women and families. 3. Transitional Housing by Sojourn house. The program provides longer-term (two-year) subsidized housing support for refugee claimants and refugees who have experienced trauma and those with high needs who require longer term support for their settlement and integration. 4. Newcomer Housing Help by Sojourn House. It provides refugee claimants and refugees with information, guidance, and income supports needed to find and secure permanent housing in their local community. 5. Refugee Housing Canada by Happipad. It provides refugees with safe and secure temporary housing through a home sharing programs as they start their new lives in Canada. 6. Housing Help Centre provides one-on-one counseling to assess newcomer's needs and help them to find and maintain safe secure and affordable market rent or subsidized housing. 7. Housing Drop-in by COSTI. The program assists newcomer individuals and families who want to live in North York and under-housed, or facing cultural linguistic and socio-economic barriers to suitable housing. 8. Housing Information for Newcomers to Canada by Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation. -Federal Government. The resources provide immigrants and refugees with information about renting and buying safe and affordable housing. It also shares information about how to plan for and manage a mortgage. 9. Shelter program by Home First. </div>



SCAN ON HOUSING PROJECTS BY LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIPS

1. **Hamilton LIP: Newcomer Services in Hamilton-a guidebook for service providers.** It's reference tool for service providers, equipping them with information about programs and services to assist the newcomer clients with the settlement process including a dedicated section on housing.
2. **Francophone LIP: Developed a free mobile application called GuideMe** dedicated to providing support for French speaking immigrants who wish to settle in Ontario
3. **Waterloo LIP: Established the immigrant housing working group,** involving 30 members who meet regularly to discuss housing related issues, share resources and contribute to the policy processes. **Invests significant effort in connecting with landlords,** such as the annual newcomer landlord award to recognize and engage landlords who go above and beyond to assist newcomers.
4. **Durham Region LIP:** Developed a **Housing Journey Map** which will help newcomers understand how to get housing, and what they will need, and where to find housing support. The region offers a **Renter's Toolkit** which provides answers to common questions about finding and maintaining housing, with direct links to resources that can help.

Key Questions for Task Group:

Isabella presented five main questions to guide the Housing Task Group's focus:

1. Identifying unique aspects of the housing crisis in Toronto North.
2. Understanding the impact of the housing crisis on newcomers.
3. Mapping housing-related projects and initiatives.
4. Identifying available housing support and resources for newcomers.
5. Establishing actions for capacity building, research, advocacy, and information sharing.

Discussion:

- **Rola:** Pop up hub; Suggested collaboration with housing support organizations in Toronto, including [Fred Victor](#), [HomesFirst](#), and other shelters. Those who provide housing support in Toronto should be on the table as they deal with these issues, e.g., bring in Misha (Health & Wellbeing Coordinator, TNLIP)
- **Isabella:** Mentioned potential funding opportunities, such as a grant from [United Way](#) for housing-focused programs.
- **Kay:** Emphasized the importance of involving faith leaders and Service Provider Organizations (SPOs) to gain a more comprehensive understanding.
- Diana: Woodgreen also has housing programs
- **Alin:** Consulting early settlement organizations like COSTI and Polycultural, as they manage the initial settlement process for newcomers arriving at airports, which could provide useful data on newcomers' early housing needs and plans. Highlighted the need for research on the settlement journey of newcomers, including temporary housing solutions and long-term plans.

Workforce Diversity
in Toronto - Report

Rachelle

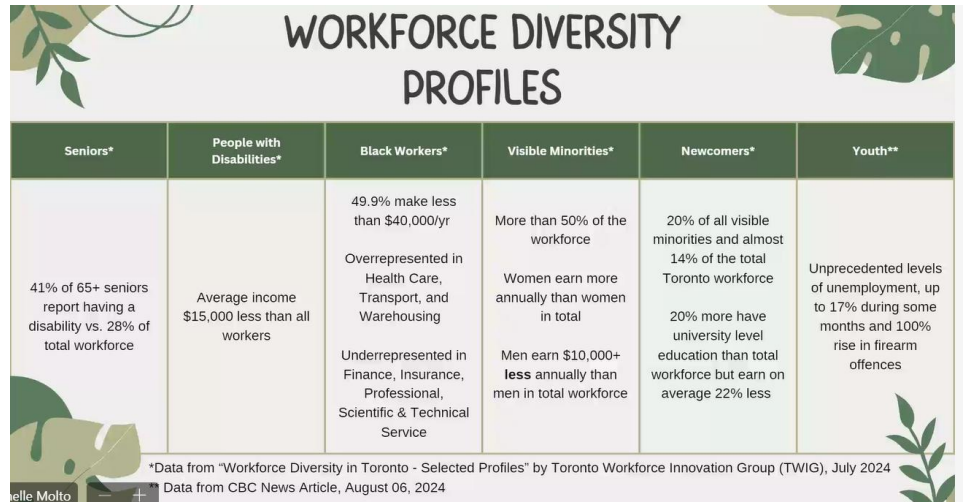
The Toronto Workforce Innovation Group (TWIG) reports on workforce diversity in Toronto, focusing on various demographics like seniors,



by TWIG

people with disabilities, Black workers, visible minorities, newcomers, and youth.

The report can be [accessed on the TWIG website](#) or by [viewing the PDF version on the TNLIP website](#).



Specific demographic highlights were shared.

Discussion Questions:

- How will this information impact your work?
- Are there gaps in the data that need addressing?
- What role can TNLIP play with this information?

Feedback:

Participants discussed potential applications of this data to support policy development, community programs, and advocacy efforts. There was interest in additional intersectional analysis across diversity factors for deeper insights.