

## TNLIP Newcomer Indigenous Relationship Building Task Group Meeting (Virtual)

Wednesday June 27<sup>th</sup> 1pm-2pm

### Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Dwayne O'Connor (MNLCT), Zarine Dordi (WWCC), Parwana Siddiqi (Afghan Women's Organization), Rola (Willowdale Community Legal Services)

**Regret:** Danielle Ungara (the Children's Aid Society of The Region of Peel), Nkeiruka Osagie (ACT Toronto)

**TNLIP Team:** Srna Stambuk (TNLIP/JVS), and Isabella Yan (TNLIP/WWCC)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Follow up Actions
Welcome, Introductions, and agenda review	<p>The group discussed around Land Acknowledgement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What land acknowledgement are we using?</i></li> <li>• <i>How did we use it?</i></li> <li>• <i>Do we understand it?</i></li> </ul> <p>The group shared that the Land Acknowledgement in their organization is either created by the consultant or EDI team. The group will discuss further at the next meeting.</p>	Rola and Zarine to share the Land Acknowledgement with the group
Group sharing	<p><u>Rola</u>: lots of activities happening in North York in June 2024. There is an activity happening on June 29<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><u>Srna</u>: Dr. Niigaan Sinclair hosted webinar series for NYCH. He published a book.</p> <p><u>Rola</u>: attended an indigenous event in Pickering. <b>Allyship is critical and can be embedded in lots of things.</b> We can see the collaboration within it. <b>Another important learning is that service providers cannot be just a check box.</b></p> <p><u>Srna</u>: Toronto's 3rd Annual 2-Spirit Powwow is happening in Downsview area on June 1st.</p> <p><u>Rola</u>: <b>created a list of events and suggested making it as a google document for the group members to edit.</b></p> <p><u>Parwana</u>: two events happened over the weekend last week.</p> <p><u>Rola</u>: suggested doing something on Sept 30<sup>th</sup> to celebrate.</p> <p><u>Dwayne</u>: did try to do something for that day last year. Reached out to indigenous community but was told that it's a holiday for them.</p>	Rola to share the list of events

	<p><u>Parwana</u>: Suggested doing it a day before</p> <p><u>Srna</u>: how to share the resources effectively? Could be shared monthly and shared in TNLIP website. The resources could include events and funding information.</p> <p><u>Isabella</u>: Attended the webinar on Five Good Ideas for being inclusive of Indigenous Peoples. Important learning includes <b>be valued based in everything you do-respectful, meaningful, and collaborative; be relationship focused rather than project focused; consider co-developing reconciliation action plan; take cultural competency or cultural safety training</b>, and commit to lifelong learning about first nations, metis and Inuit. To learn traditional protocols, using tobacco, smudging, sharing circle, and land acknowledgements, the Indian Act, residential schools, working with indigenous people, community engagement and more</p>	
Update on supporting NYCH on organizing Reconciliation Conference for the settlement sector in Toronto (Srna)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instead of organizing Reconciliation conference for the settlement sector, the learning webinar series were recommended before March 2025.</li> <li>• Joan secured 7 speakers for 7 sessions. Funding is needed. Srna will share more details. Please note funding sources need to be tracked.</li> <li>• Joan at NYCH has three indigenous leaders who are available to be hired part time permanently as a consultant. The idea behind that they could form a community of practice of indigenous newcomer relationship building in our sector. Will share the name with the PC member and the work group.</li> </ul>	Srna to share detailed training session series with the group
Community Consultation on Indigenous & Settlement webinar series (Srna and Isabella)	<p>Since Joan has developed well-structured plan for learning webinar series, should we still continue the plan of organizing community consultation?</p> <p><u>Srna</u>: Consultation can happen. Can inform all the way.</p> <p><u>Dwayne</u>: may want to check if different nations would like to work with us and with each other. Need to be very careful, such as who should be invited? Do they have issues with each other? Be careful with the relationship clashes.</p>	
Brainstorming discussion: What we can do collectively this year?	Not discussed.	
How often should we meet?	<p>The meetings could be every 4 weeks, 6 weeks or 8 weeks.</p> <p>The group agreed to meet on Friday morning every 6 weeks.</p>	Isabella to send out teams meeting calendar invite
Wrap up	The next meeting: Aug 16 <sup>th</sup> 2-3	Isabella to share the meeting notes