

North West Scarborough Local Immigration Partnership

Cluster 4: Community Engagement and Social Inclusion – Meeting Minutes

Date: December 15th, 2010

Location: ACSA – ISAP - 1911 Kennedy Rd.

Attendees: Ralph Gain (Youth Link), Sulekha Sathi (Agincourt Library), Hanifa Kassam (ACSA)
Mani Mahadeva (NWS LIP), Rezwan Karim (NWS LIP), Michelle Davis (NWS LIP)

1. Welcoming
2. Review Worksheet Feedback
(Please refer to the following chart for Cluster 4)
3. Next Meetings

There are no more cluster meetings due to changes in the future working structures and mechanisms that will be put in place with the inception of phase 2.

**Community Summit January 11th, 2011 – Scarborough Hospital Auditorium, 3050
Lawrence Avenue, 5:30pm-8:00pm**

**Partnership Council January 18th, 2011 – Afghan Association of Ontario (AAO), 100 Tempo
Avenue, Ste. 305, 9:30am-12:00pm**

Cluster 4: Community Engagement and Social Inclusion – December 15th 2010

Goal:

- Identify our strengths and opportunities
- Highlight key steps required to enhance our strengths and move forward our opportunities
- Identify stewards and participants

Strategy	Major Activity	What services/ activities do we have in this area?	What opportunities exist for us to take advantage of?	Key Steps We Recommend	Who needs to lead? Who else needs to be involved? Time line?
Strengthening the capacity within faith-based groups, residents groups and other community based organizations (not including service agencies) to help newcomers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community capacity building through training and coaching to enhance their capacity to support newcomers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Way has various workshops for residents provided through ANC • City of Toronto has a Development network training for Community groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City – Crisis Response • NAP – LIP coordination • CIC – Inter-Action Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint a committee to coordinate community capacity building • Inventory of faith-based groups and community groups serve newcomers • Assessment of level of ability and interest of community groups (requires funds) • Develop training guide or customize available guides to enhance skills and knowledge (requires funds) • Facilitate selection and training of different faith-based groups and resident groups (requires funds) 	<p>Working Committee</p> <p>Partnership Council</p> <p>Initially Short Term then becomes Long Term and On-going</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agencies expand existing community resource pool of volunteers to approach and connect newcomers with relevant service providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are community members serve as volunteer with various organizations to outreach newcomers • There are independent volunteers help newcomers in their area to start their life in Canada 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Toronto help to connect with volunteer positions and provide training (can we establish a satellite office) • Collaborate with TPS - for background check • Toronto Public Library has a Volunteer fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect to ethno-media to advertize and recruit (requires funds) • Identify interested individuals in the community • Share best practices • Identify agencies that can recruit interested volunteers (requires funds) • Agencies establish collaboration (requires funds) • Screen, recruit, train and 	<p>Working Committee/ Partnership Council (limited financial resources – for staff, training programs)</p> <p>Core funding for volunteer program</p> <p>Short Term</p>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> support volunteers (requires funds) ▪ Organize volunteer forum for volunteer recognition, peer support, info. fair, networking, etc. (requires funds) 	<p>Long Term On-going</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explore opportunities to educate community groups on political / civic awareness and engage newcomers in the political process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Civic awareness – ACSA SCAN Project ▪ Civic engagement project – Mennonite ▪ Toronto based Chinese organization - ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upcoming provincial election ▪ Newcomers to connect with councillors to learn about politics and governing system ▪ Civic awareness – ACSA ▪ Use locality based organizations (Ex: SLYE, ANC) to incorporate political and civic awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inventory and review of agencies conduct orientation and exposure to Canadian culture & places of interest ▪ Identify innovative areas to promote and support community participation in civic awareness (requires funds) ▪ Create “place base” tools ▪ Engage other stakeholders to expand on-going civic awareness programs (requires funds) ▪ Support new agencies engaged in Civic and political awareness (requires funds) 	<p>Working Committee</p> <p>Short Term</p> <p>On-going</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expand awareness of the community to amplify social cohesion through integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approach external organizations that are already doing this work and take advantage of existing resources ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inventory and review of existing service providers that conduct tours on life in Toronto and orientation (requires funds) ▪ Explore the possibilities of engaging mainstream organizations and government institutes ▪ Support organized citizenship ceremonies/ 	<p>Partnership Council</p> <p>Short Term</p> <p>Long Term, On-going</p>
<p>Explore opportunities for newcomer service providers – community groups collaboration to support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify different models for Newcomer service providers to engage community groups and improve working relationship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Safety event “Neighbourhood Speak” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inventory of community groups working relationship(requires funds) ▪ Identify other models work in other places ▪ Select suitable models to establish to build working relationship with community groups 	

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newcomers where they live	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage newcomer Service providers to identify and engage potential community groups to disseminate information about their programs and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage existing networks to cooperate with newcomer initiatives (Ex: SYLE, locality based) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inventory of faith-based groups and community groups interested Provide training on outreaching and information dissemination Support community groups to implement community initiated small projects 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcomer service providers connect with community churches, community centers and schools to create space for interaction and integration of different cultural groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach to libraries, community centers, schools, places of worship to secure free space for community events and regular meetings of community groups Encourage and support community centers, libraries and schools to organize cultural events (requires funds) 	
Explore opportunities to promote active participation of community based organizations to welcome and support newcomers' settlement process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize community led social gathering and cultural activities to connect newcomers with their neighbourhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CASA support cultural focused events and help on issue based campaigning Explore ANC models to engage the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study existing models Connect agencies with grass-roots community groups interested in organizing community gatherings (requires funds) Review and select existing mechanism and networks to connect different target groups (\$\$) Redefine communication strategy and restructure web based communications to effectively disseminate information on community events, workshops, training, etc. (requires funds) Explore possibility of facilitating street festival & community fairs (requires funds) Incorporate existing tools to organize community events to encourage inclusivity Collaborate with existing 	Partnership Council Newcomer Committee Long Term On-going

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				community groups to enhance newcomer – residents gatherings quarterly or annually (requires funds)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explore collaborating on community led neighbourhood tours and community orientation sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual Jane’s walk to do neighbourhood scan ▪ TPL hands out pedometers for walks ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collaboration among interested agencies and community groups ▪ Identify resource requirement for community tours and orientation sessions ▪ Develop a guide for community tour and community orientation ▪ Facilitate and support community groups to lead the events 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educate community groups to disseminate details about employment scam and immigrant frauds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online resource are available ▪ Some settlement programs conduct awareness program on preventing employment scam and other common newcomer fraud 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online resource are available ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify basic scam that affect everyone and newcomers scams ▪ Newcomer service providers connect with interested community groups and provide ToT ▪ Support community groups to connect with newcomers and educate on possible traps ▪ Create mechanism to receive feedback from newcomers about different newcomer traps 	