

North West Scarborough Local Immigration Partnership

Cluster 5: Housing & Basic Needs – Meeting Minutes

Date: December 10th, 2010

Location: ACSA ISAP – 1911 Kennedy Rd.

Attendees: Wael Homaidan (ACCT), Lucy Ren (NWS LIP Animator), Lee Soda (ACSA), Mani Mahadeva (NWS LIP), Michelle Davis (NWS LIP)

1. Welcoming

- Introductions of each participant as seen above
- Regrets were sent from Glen Gifford (SHHC) and Bona Chen (Newcomer resident)

2. Review Worksheet Feedback (Please refer to the following chart for Cluster 5)

3. Missing Links

Rooming Houses

- Create awareness on hidden homelessness and poor living conditions
- Tap into existing information from working groups on rooming houses
- Address issues surrounding rooming housing

4. 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

Housing and Basic Needs Cluster 5 - December 10, 2010

Goal:

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

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?
Build a network of organizations that coordinates and enhance access to assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a team to educate newcomers on tenants rights and responsibilities and support to access affordable housing faster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing support service providers are educating community members and help to find suitable housing • Newcomer services such as YMCA and CICS educate their clients on tenants rights & responsibilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith-based groups and residents groups interested to help newcomers • Action for Neighbourhood Change could train community members • Tenant Association • Women shelters. Youth shelter, family shelter are available in South Scarborough • Heyworth House East York/ Scarborough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form a working committee to coordinate and facilitate planning and implementation • Member organization contribute to develop training guide (funding required) • Continue and improve on-going training programs to educate the community on tenant rights and responsibilities funding required) • Outreach & establish relationship with potential community groups (Member Agencies) (funding required) • Expand network with housing providers (individual and apartments) to secure more affordable housing (funding required) • Advocate with Government authorizes to reduce waiting period for subsidized housing(funding required) • Advocate for additional funding for rent supplement 	<p>Scarborough Housing Help Centre</p> <p>ACCT & ACSA can support</p> <p>Short term</p> <p>Long term</p>

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?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote healthy living conditions among newcomers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Periodic pest control programs ▪ Information flyers ▪ Community cleaning day ▪ Awareness programs conducted about beg bugs and other unhealthy housing conditions – ACSA, Toronto Public Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Awareness programs conducted about beg bugs and other unhealthy housing conditions - Wood green 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ (programs) funding required) ▪ Advocate with the City of Toronto to address issues surrounding rooming houses (funding required) ▪ Advocate with apartment management, building supervisors on pest control and hygiene condition (funding required) ▪ Educate tenants and home owners on pest control, hygiene at home and surrounding (funding required) ▪ Conduct cultural events and social activities to promote management tenant relationship (funding required) ▪ (Create pride in ones living environment by) Encouraging peer accountability and exploring tenants' values ▪ Encourage community Leaders to become more involved in the process and sustainability 	<p>Long term/ On-going</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explore opportunities to form a coalition to enhance better food, furniture and clothing delivery of services to the people in need in North West Scarborough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Now organizations work in their own catchment area ▪ Also refer to other places based on the cultural specific needs ▪ Rotary clubs provide fund for food banks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tenant association and apartment management staff ▪ Rotary club can help to collect more food items for need groups ▪ Organizations run food bank like to work in collaboration ▪ Temples and other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make an inventory of food bank, furniture bank clothing bank and the features ▪ Inventory of agencies provide free & fresh meal ▪ Connected with faith-based groups to mobilize resources and utilized as delivery points 	<p>Working Committee</p> <p>Short term</p>

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				transport associations (e.g.: taxi drivers) to connect their customers with relevant settlement agencies (requires funding)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educate newcomers on their environmental responsibilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ City of Toronto has Live-Green Program: community gardening, healthy food, waste management – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create video clips or use existing videos on environmental responsibility (requires funding) ▪ Connect with City of Toronto to train community on environmental responsibility ▪ Educate tenants on ways to become more environmentally responsible and its benefits(requires funding) 	<p>Long term/ On-going</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educating newcomers on financial system and income management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Awareness and education on banking system and managing your credit (requires funding) ▪ Identify existing training materials and institutions provide training on income management ▪ Training on Household income management/ financial management (requires funding) 	<p>Working Committee</p> <p>Short term / On-going</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Safety and support newcomers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building safety – breaking the unit - not aware of insurance facility ▪ Neighbourhood community watch ▪ Crisis intervention team of City of Toronto 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ANC can help in community safety ▪ Toronto Police can help ▪ City Crisis Intervention team can support community education ▪ Encourage community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use existing videos or create videos on community safety (requires funding) ▪ Awareness program on community safety (requires funding) 	<p>Working Committee</p> <p>Long term / On-going</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community safety audit training provided by METRAC 	<p>leaders to merge in the process (apply to other areas too). Working committee to mindful of role of community and keep community also accountable to take the lead in long run</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build relation between community and police ▪ Explore activating existing Neighbourhood watch ▪ 	