

North West Scarborough Local Immigration Partnership

Cluster 5: Housing & Basic Needs Meeting – Minutes

Date: November 24th, 2010

Location: ACSA – 4155 Sheppard Ave.

Attendees: Wael Homaidan (ACCT), Bona Juan Chen (Newcomer Resident), Lee Soda (ACSA), Glen Gifford (SHHC), Mani Mahadeva (NWS LIP), Rezwan Karim (NWS LIP), Michelle Davis (NWS LIP)

1. Welcoming

- Introductions of each participant as seen above

2. Appoint Chair Person

- Glen Gifford appoint as chair for Cluster 5 to represent in the Steering Committee

3. Worksheet Feedback

(Please refer to the following chart for Cluster 5)

4. Missing Links

Environmental adaptation:

- Education sessions or workshops to create awareness on environmental issues
- City of Toronto “Live Green” educational program – on environmental responsibility

Community safety:

- Need to bring the police force or representative on the Partnership Council
- Connect with ANC’s to further connect with the community

- Need to break down the stigma related to police and build relationships with the community
- Connect with civic awareness program SCAN to educate
- Create awareness on safety issues and rights on safety and well-being

Transportation services (Public Education):

- Promotions more culturally sensitive and in other languages
- Connect to the TTC and bring them into the council

Financial system - banking, credit, mortgage:

- Provide information on the various factors that will greatly affect your financial profile (hidden or lesser known facts)
- Household money management workshops and sessions (can be obtained by other organizations that already provide such workshops - e.g. WoodGreen Community Services)

5. Next Meeting

Next Cluster 5 Meeting: December 10th, 2010 at ISAP – 1911 Kennedy Rd. from 10:00am to 12:00pm

Cluster 5: Housing & Basic Needs – November 24th, 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 lead? Who else needs to be involved?
Build a network among organizations providing services to fulfill basic needs and housing to coordinate and enhance access to assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create a team to educate newcomers on tenants rights and responsibilities with the support of housing support service providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing support service providers educating community members ▪ Newcomer services such as YMCA and CICS educate their clients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Faith-based groups and residents groups interested to help newcomers ▪ Action for Neighbourhood Change may train community members ▪ Tenant Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Form a working group to coordinate awareness program ▪ Member organization contribute to develop training guide ▪ Outreach & establish relationship with potential community groups 	Scarborough Housing Help Centre ACCT & ACSA can support
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explore opportunities to form a coalition to enhance better food, furniture and clothing delivery services to the underprivileged 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, ▪ Organizations like to work in collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make an inventory of food bank, furniture bank clothing bank ▪ Inventory of agencies provide free & fresh meal ▪ Information sharing sessions ▪ Planning meeting and terms of reference ▪ Explore the need for training on cultural sensitivity 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ identify effective tools to outreach to the private sector for sponsorship and donations to increase services to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are banks and some private companies funding food bank and other priority needs 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Refer protect list (from United Way) ▪ Make a list of private sector already contribute and list of potential donor 	

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	the disadvantaged			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify individual funders thru foundations ▪ Form a resource mobilizing team ▪ Mobilize resources from private sector 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote healthy living conditions in private and Government Housing 		Awareness programs conducted about beg bugs and other unhealthy housing conditions – ACSA, Toronto Public Health, WoodGreen	Educate apartment management on pest control and hygiene condition	
	Environment Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ City of Toronto has Live-Green Program: community gardening, healthy food, waste mgt. - RRR 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create video clips on environment adaptation, transport facilities ▪ Connect with City of Toronto to train community on environmental adaption ▪ Connect with TTC to develop training guide and educate ▪ Advocate with other transport associations (ex: taxi drivers) to connect their customers with relevant settlement agencies 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educating newcomers on financial system and income management 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Awareness and education on banking system and managing your credit 	

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	<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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ANC can help in community safety ▪ Toronto Police can help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training on Household money management/ financial management ▪ Awareness on community safety ▪ Build relation with between community and police ▪ Civic awareness – education about legal rights 	