

Northwest Scarborough Local Immigration Partnership

Partnership Council Meeting #8 - Meeting Minutes

Location: CICS - 2330 Midland Avenue

Date: March 8th, 2011

Attendees: Mary Shari (CCS), Glen Gifford (SHHC), Connie Wong (CICS), Artan Spahui (Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services), Karen Evans (TDSB), Gary Gomez (Toronto Police Services), Oleg Valin (EMYS), Justine Barone (Elizabeth Fry), Adair Heath (City of Toronto), Ning Zhang (L'Amoreaux C.C. - TNI Project), Eileen Alexander (L'Amoreaux C.C.), Laura Harper (ACSA - ANC), Sulekha Sathi (TPL), Lucetta Lam (Hong Fook Mental Health Assoc.), Helena Huang (ACCES), Hanifa Kassam (NWS LIP), Mani Mahadeva (NWS LIP), Rezwan (NWS LIP), Michelle Davis (NWS LIP)

1. Mani reviews today's mandate:

- To gain approval for the revised Implementation plan
- To share the changes to the future plan
- To discuss future opportunities and challenges

2. Introductions of all participants and new members:

We would like to welcome new Partnership Council members: Artan Spahui (Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services), Gary Gomez (Toronto Police Services), Ning Zhang (L'Amoreaux C.C. – TNI Project), Eileen Alexander (L'Amoreaux C.C.)

3. Overview of the revised Implementation Plan – Quick Tour (Refer to Power Point slide 3)

4. Mani informs participants of the following dates and events:

- 29 Partnership Council members were interviewed in February and March to receive feedback on the Settlement Strategy and Implementation Plan before finalizing them
- The revised versions of the Settlement Strategy and Implementation Plan containing the collective feedback from the partner meetings had been completed
- The Final submission of the Settlement Strategy and Implementation Plan is March 15th 2011

- It was revealed that in the Implementation Plan there were some networks and agencies missing and should be included to carry out critical tasks outlined
- Participants proposed to review the Implementation Plan to decipher who is already doing certain activities and the missing gaps to be filled in the NWS area

5. Deciphering who is already doing what and what are the missing gaps in NWS area

- In groups participants worked on the Implementation Plan and answered the following questions:
 1. Who is already doing this work in the NWS area?
 2. Which NWS LIP working group (Ex: Partnership Council, Management Committee, Working Committee, or LIP Staff) can take a leading role for this activity?

6. Participant Feedback

- Since gaining feedback many of the strategies have been revised and simplified into 16 core strategies
(Refer to Participant Feedback document)

7. Project Structure and Activities in 2011-12 (Refer to Power Point slides 8 to 15 & New Working Committees document)

- Due to the lengthy Implementation Plan discussion we did not discuss this point in the meeting

8. Announcements:

1. Final Evaluation of LIP Phase One taking place in the last week of February until the second week of March
2. Community Fair at L'Amoreaux Community Recreation Centre - March 19th 2011
3. Adult ESL Community Fair at Highbrook Learning Centre - April 6th 2011
4. Executive Directors meeting in April 2010

9. Open Discussion on funding cuts and its impact (Refer to Power Point slides 17 & 18)

- Mani briefed the Council members about some of the initiatives taken by MCI and the local community to push to reverse budget cuts. He also shared some steps taken by community organizations and different LIP projects to support agencies that have lost significant funding.