

# Steeles/L'Amoreaux Local Immigration Partnership

## Steering Committee Meeting – Minutes June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

**Location:** ACSA, 4155 Sheppard Ave. E

**Time:** 2:00pm – 4:00pm

**Attendees:** Jorge Silvestri (MNLCT), Helen Yang (YMCA – Newcomers Centre), Mei Tin Lee (CICS), Lee Soda (ACSA), Mani Mahadeva (S/L'Am LIP), Michelle Davis (S/L'Am LIP)

### 1. Welcome

- Mani will chair for the meeting and briefly runs through the revised meeting agenda

### 2. Progress update from each team

- Participants and Mani briefly discuss the previous Team meetings, which will be found in the Team meeting minutes (Team 1 - May 25, Team 2 – June 1, Team 3 – May 27)

### 3. Feedback of what capacity community residents will have in settlement of newcomers

- Agencies need to acknowledge that there are informal groups that are aiding in settlement
- Is there a body that these ad hoc groups will register with, and be accredited to? Is this even possible?
- Qualification for community will be: - Who are you speaking on behalf of? (Newcomers)
- As agencies we can provide information only to these grass roots groups
- Community ambassador roles can be abused and will need to be regulated
- Need for cultural sensitivity training
- How will these groups be compensated for aiding in settlement, not just volunteer experience
- Decision of volunteers to participate and give their time, need to understand that it is their choice and it will not lead to paid position necessarily
- Timelines of how long the community members will assist in settlement and helping to refer newcomers to agencies

### 4. Announcements

- Hong Fook received funding for basic training on counselling (mental health issues)
- SHHC has hired a new outreach worker to conduct Housing workshops in communities
- SHHC will be exploring the “Hidden Homelessness” within Scarborough funded by CIC for 1 year

## **5. Review of Agency Assessment**

- Only six were completed
- Mani and Deluxshan will be gathering existing information of agencies

## **6. Next Steps**

- June 22<sup>nd</sup> will be Planning Session #4
- After the strategic paper has been submitted and after the extension LIP may reorganize the Teams to go over the recommendations
- Propose to have a Community Summit to receive feedback from the community – is this necessary at this stage?
  - To be done before October

## **7. Meeting Closing**

- **Next Steering Committee meeting - TBA**