

Working Committee # 4: Community Engagement & Social Inclusion - Minutes

Date: June 23, 2011

Location: 4155 Sheppard Ave. – ACSA (upstairs Boardroom)

Attendees: Ping Hu (Community Resident), Laura Harper (ANC – ACSA), Cynthia DuMont (WSNCC), Oleg Valin (EMYS), Adair Heath (City of Toronto), Sadia Khan (MNLCT), Mani Mahadeva (NWS LIP), Rezwan Karim (NWS LIP), Michelle Davis (NWS LIP)

Purpose of the Meeting

- Discuss and plan data collection from community groups for inventory survey
- Discuss and secure support for the future activities

1. Welcoming and objective of the meeting

- Brief intro of members
- Laura chairs today's meeting

2. Activities undertaken during first quarter

Rezwan gives update:

TDSB Community Information Fair

- The LIP promoted the event among the Council members, resulting in 6 LIP Council organizations participating, and an additional 6 non-member organizations in attendance
- It was attended by ESL students
- LIP gave a brief info. session to 33 students in two groups
- Significant feedback was that the students were very interested in having more information on available resources and that there needs to be more informal opportunities to practice English skills
- Adair suggested that the LIP Council members could establish an English cafe

Asian Heritage & Cultural Event

- The LIP provided its support to Asian Heritage event organized by L'Amroeaux Community Recreation Centre during last week of May
- LIP outreached and connected Tamil/ Hindu Cultural Association to perform at the event

- LIP also supported in translation of document for the event

Inventory Survey of Faith-based and community groups

- Developed by Cynthia
- Reviewed and feedback was collected and incorporated from all members

Information about ongoing orientation programs for newcomers

- Conducted by our member organization
- Collected through Service inventory form sent to all the member organizations
- LIP has received 12 responses to date

3. Share the inventory survey form and plan data collection

- Meeting participants do final review of survey format

Slight changes need to be made to the survey and Mani will send the revised document to WC #4 members. Work to be done:

- Get a list of faith based groups from 2010 Green book
- Collect list of faith based groups from Christine Azeez(ACSA)
- Make a list of contacts:
 - James Anderson of Salvation Army to be contacted for faith-based groups' information
 - Connect w/ MP, MPP, and Counsellors for their contacts to resident groups and faith-based groups
 - Connect with Lai Chu – to get contact info. from Adair
 - NAP residents representatives
 - Connect with tenant's associations
 - Contact with Women in Action group at Chester Le Corner
 - Contact with some Muslim faith based groups such as Muslim Welfare Centre
 - In Co-ops check for boards, committees, resident groups – Ex: Bridlewood circle area

Cynthia will send out the final inventory survey to LIP partners for their support in conducting the survey

4. Discussion on activities for the second quarter

- Identify available training/supports
 - On-going resource list for community capacity building, leadership skills, civic engagement and self-empowerment
 - Through the inventory where will this info. need to be obtained from
 - Send to Adair to pass on to NAP

- Identify appropriate approach to engage residents
 - Focus on the entire community
 - Include both newcomers and residents
 - Get support through NAP, SCAN, SLYE and some other networks
 - Need to keep record of best practices continuously.
 - Prepare a list of organizations/ community groups currently using or interested in using volunteers
 - Will be collected through the CBO inventory Survey
 - Information from member organizations to be added to this data
 - Inventory of existing networks and their features
 - Networks such as SLYE, NAP, and SCAN and other coalitions
 - Information to be collected: Mandates, function, contact info., members and resource partners, meeting frequency and interest in partnership
 - Plan for cross community organizing or networking
 - Figure out what are the key issues each community network is dealing w/ or advocating for
 - Inventory tool will be shared with WC#4 and their help will be needed to conduct the survey
 - Support on-going events and activities
 - Adair sought support from LIP for NAP's community event to be held in August - newcomer focused community driven tour. Participants will be Glendower Community and Victoria Park & Sheppard Ave E area.
 - Laura shared that community at Chester le Corner is going to celebrate Corner's anniversary on July 19th
5. Other Business
- Community Speak Event through the NAP in November on health, LIP members are encouraged to participate
 - East Metro Youth Services will nominate a new representative in the next meeting who will replace Oleg Valin

6. Wrap up

Next WC #4 meeting: September 8th 2011 at ACSA from 10am-12pm