

Agincourt Community Services Association

Steeles/L'Amoreaux Local Immigration Partnership

Steeles/L'Amoreaux LIP - Progress

What is Steeles/L'Amoreaux LIP ?

The Steeles/L'Amoreaux Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) aims to establish a comprehensive Settlement Strategy with community stakeholders, services providers and residents for the Steeles/L'Amoreaux neighbourhood. Through coordination and work, this partnership will establish a collaborative settlement strategy that includes solutions for successful social and economic integration for immigrants of North Scarborough region.

Update on Steeles/L'Amoreaux Partnership Council

The partnership council is responsible for the oversight and guidance of developing a comprehensive local settlement strategy and implementation work plan. First Partnership Council held in December 2009 and Council, discussed and decided on steps and strategies to move forward.

Key Initiatives:

- Partnership council agreed on a holistic approach, to include more agencies ensuring a wide spectrum of service providers take part in the council, define the role of the Council, number and types of clusters, and outline the Terms of reference.
- Council agreed on future meeting dates for Partnership Council, Steering Committee and Cluster committees.
- Project invited 35 agencies engaged in newcomer services to join the Council and had them complete a survey, in which 20 agencies completed.
- A draft of Terms of Reference was developed and shared with partners and stakeholders. Terms of Reference will be the governing document of overall project implementation

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Establishment of Cluster Committees

The Partnership Council proposed to establish four clusters to enhance the analysis of different service areas, and to develop a strategy that effectively addresses the issues faced by service providers, thus hindering their ability to deliver services and newcomers to access these services. As recommended by the Council, clusters were established. The Project management team has worked on including more agencies to each cluster and an inauguration meeting of clusters was held in January 2010.

Education, Training and Employment

This cluster includes agencies and services which respond to language development, schools and parent committees, skill training - pre employment, accreditation, support of people who are out of the education system, bridge programs and funding

Cluster Committee (as at Jan 20, 2010)

- Toronto Employment & Social Services
- Canadian National Institute for the Blinds
- Toronto Catholic District School Board
- Mennonite New Life Centre of Toronto
- Centre for Information and Community Services (CICS)
- Children's Aid Society of Toronto

Inclusion and Engagement

This cluster includes agencies and services which respond to engaging immigrants in all processes, host programs - general and youth, community engagement, community capacity building, social inclusion and civic education.

Cluster Committee (as at Jan 20, 2010)

- Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- City of Toronto
- Mennonite New Life Centre of Toronto
- West Scarborough Neighbourhood Community Centre
- Afghan Association of Ontario

Settlement

This cluster includes agencies and services which respond to regular and Non-profit housing and shelters providers, pre and post - ESL, childcare, translation and escort to service, information and referral - INR, case management, settlement counseling, legal issues/ support and sponsorship

Cluster Committee (as at Jan 20, 2010)

- Care first Seniors and Community Services Association
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- South Asian Family Support Services
- Scarborough Housing Help Centre
- Mennonite New Life Centre of Toronto
- Afghan Association of Ontario
- Catholic Cross Cultural Services

Health and Wellness

This cluster includes agencies and services which respond to recreation, physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing, addictions, disabilities, family violence, trauma counseling, child welfare, food security and nutrition.

Cluster Committee (as at Jan 20, 2010)

- Youth link
- West Hill Community Services
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- Children's Aid Society of Toronto
- Scarborough Support Services for the Elderly
- The Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture
- Centre for Information and Community Services
- Toronto Public Health
- Children's Aid Society of Toronto

Establishment of Project Management Team

Project core staff are on board and commenced their activities in January 2010.

Project management team currently engaged in:

- Expanding Partnership Council members
- Establishing cluster committees
- Revising and fine-tuning the work plan
- Developing survey instruments for neighbourhood scan
- Identifying additional community animators

Project Management Team

Gael Gilbert - Executive Director

Mani Mahadeva - Project Manager

Shirin Mandani - Community Engagement Worker

Michelle Davis - Administrative Staff

Community Animators –TBA

Future Activities

Partnership Council :

- Expand membership by adding new partner agencies
- Finalize and submit Terms of Reference with the consensus of the Partners
- Hold Strategic Planning meetings and development workshops

Cluster Committees:

- Complete partners survey and expand membership in each cluster.
- Inauguration of Cluster Committees

Neighbourhood scan :

- Collect and review existing data
- Identify existing resources, services and needs
- Identify potential agencies and forge new partnership

Demographic information collection:

- Develop community outreach tools
- Recruit and train the animators
- Develop community conversation guide and other outreach tools
- Conduct field survey and use the data for strategy development

Future Meetings

Partnership Meetings

S/L'Am partnership meetings will be held on the following **Tuesdays 1pm-4pm** at Agincourt Community Services Association, 4155 Sheppard Ave. E.

** APRIL 13th 2010

** JUNE 22nd 2010

** OCTOBER 12th 2010

Steering Committee Meetings

S/L'Am Steering Committee Meetings will be held bimonthly. The first Steering Committee meeting will be held in February 2010 .

Cluster Meetings

Cluster Meetings will be held monthly during the **last week of every month.**

First Cluster meetings dates were:

Education, training, and employment resources - Jan 26th - 2:30-5pm at Mennonite New Life - 2600 Birchmount Road

Inclusion and Engagement - Jan 27th - 9:30-11:30am at ACSA - 4155 Sheppard Ave. East
Settlement - Jan 28th - 9:30-11:30am at SFSS - 1200 Markham Road Suite 214

Health and wellness - Jan 25th - 9:30-11:30am at CCVT - 2425 Eglinton Ave East Suite 218

Timelines

Strategic Planning and training and evaluation

- **Partnership review and training day (STRATEGIC PLANNING)** - February 11, 2010
- **Community Summit** - April 13, 2010
- **Settlement Strategy and Planning Day** - DATE AND LOCATION TBA (June 2010)
- **Planning for implementation and sustainability** - DATE AND LOCATION TBA (September 2010)
- **First draft of the local settlement strategy** - September 2010
- **Final draft of the local settlement strategy** - October 2010