



*"Community cannot long feed on itself; it can only flourish with the coming of others; their unknown and undiscovered sisters and brothers."*

*Howard Thurman*

## Website and Communication

### Website

For all the updated information on the activities of the Toronto South LIP, check out our website at [www.torontolip.com](http://www.torontolip.com). Here you will also find newcomer services, languages classes, news and resources.

### Communication

The Toronto South LIP uses several different social media and communication tools to keep their members and the community updated on information, events and resources. We publish a quarterly newsletter with information about our committees and working groups. We also publish a weekly update which outlines new events and programs featured on our website. Follow us on twitter for highlights of events, news and resources @torontosouthlip. Our newsletters are available online at [www.torontolip.com/newsletters](http://www.torontolip.com/newsletters)

## Toronto South LIP Partnership Council

The Toronto South Local Immigration Partnership is a community partnership focused on developing a local settlement strategy that coordinates and enhances innovative service delivery to newcomers.

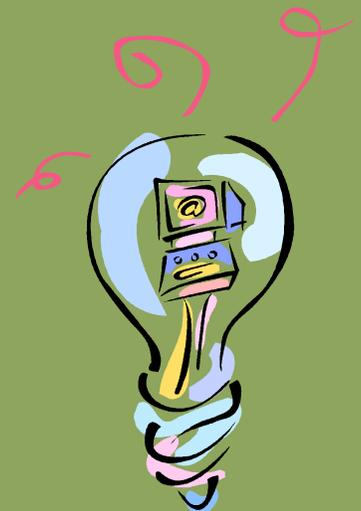
The Toronto South LIP is an amalgamation of 3 neighbourhood LIPs, West Downtown LIP, Toronto East LIP and East Downtown LIP and is one of 20 LIP projects across Ontario. St. Stephen's Community House is the lead organization and is partnered with WoodGreen Community Services and The Canadian Centre for Victims of

Torture. The catchment area runs west from Victoria Park Ave to Parkside Drive/Keele Street, and north from Lake Ontario up to St. Clair Avenue West. Currently, the Partnership Council consists of 46 agencies working to develop a Regional Settlement Strategy and Action Plan for our neighbourhood. This is achieved through working with a broad audience through work groups and committees. The Toronto South LIP also has an Executive Committee that ensures we are on track and fulfilling our funding requirements. For more information, visit us at [www.torontolip.ca](http://www.torontolip.ca).

## Newcomer Advisory Committee

The Newcomer Advisory Committee is a standing committee of the Toronto South LIP. This committee is composed of 25 newcomer community members, all of whom reside in or access services within the Toronto South region. The Newcomer Advisory Committee provides an opportunity for newcomers in the Toronto South LIP catchment area to provide input and feedback on the Regional Settlement Strategy and Action Plan. Committee members meet on a bimonthly basis at the Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT). All committee members are passionate about community development and social action and are committed to affecting change within their communities. Newcomer

Advisory Committee members met on August 14, 2012 to review and offer feedback on the draft settlement strategy for the Toronto South LIP. Based on a summary of the results, employment, healthcare and safe, affordable housing emerged as top concerns, along with the need for quality services. Members also expressed that a neighbourhood network of agencies (such as the Toronto South LIP) is an effective means of improving the way in which newcomers find information on services available to them in downtown Toronto. Members will meet again in October 2012 to provide input on the draft Action Plan.





*"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."*

Henry Ford

## Partnership and Service Coordination Committee

The Partnership and Service Coordination Committee is one of two committees working within the Toronto South Local Immigration Partnership (LIP). Consisting of members from 42 agencies representing a wide range of sectors, the Partnership and Service Coordination Committee focuses on discussing and developing different ways to collaborate around settlement programming for the benefit of newcomers while also offering an opportunity for agencies to provide input on the development of the LIP's Settlement Strategy. Given its collaborative nature, the committee also provides an opportunity for agencies to share information with each other on best practices and provides a space to develop partnerships, both informal and formal. For more information visit us [www.torontolip.ca/partnership-and-service-coordination-committee](http://www.torontolip.ca/partnership-and-service-coordination-committee).

## Mental Health Working Group

The Mental Health and Emotional Supports working group brings together agencies interested in collaborative approaches to improving mental health services to newcomers. The working group held its first meeting in July to review the report ["Investigating Health Literacy in Mental Health & Addictions Issues in the Settlement Sector"](#). Using this report, members worked to identify key priorities and directions for future initiatives. Members were particularly interested in increasing the capacity for health promotion through training initiatives for frontline staff. Future meetings will involve an investigation of current training opportunities and possible options. The group also discussed the importance of overcoming stigma and cultural challenges associated with accessing mental health services. For more information visit us [www.torontolip.ca/mental-health-working-group](http://www.torontolip.ca/mental-health-working-group)

## Newcomer Youth Working Group

The Newcomer Youth Working Group focuses on supporting the fulfillment of the LIP's Settlement Strategy and Action Plan relating to newcomer youth issues, including employment, education and successful transition to life in Canada. The group plans to advance work that began in the previous three LIPs, particularly in the area of unaccompanied youth. During their first meeting on July 3, 2012 the group reviewed ["Migrant Youth Alone"](#), a report developed by the former West Downtown Toronto LIP which looked at current research surrounding the unique needs and service opportunities of unaccompanied youth. As a broad definition the group understands "unaccompanied youth" to be persons between the ages of 0-24, who while under the age of 18, arrived in Canada separated from their parents or guardian and/or who has no adult or guardian to provide care for them in Canada. Working group members discussed the possibility of hosting a forum on unaccompanied youth and will be meeting again on September 18, 2012 for a forum planning session. To ensure adequate stakeholder representation at the September meeting, the Newcomer Youth working group has extended invitations to various community stakeholders, including, shelters, legal clinics, researchers, youth from the Toronto South LIP Newcomer Advisory Committee, and a number of other LIP partners. The group hopes to host the forum later this year. For more information visit us [www.torontolip.ca/youth-working-group](http://www.torontolip.ca/youth-working-group).



*"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."*

Henry Ford

## Seniors Working Group

The last of the Toronto South LIP Working Groups will be the Newcomer Seniors Working Group. It will meet for the first time in October. The previous working group looked at access for newcomer seniors to homecare and long term care, such as nursing homes. As our community ages, this will become a critical issue for agencies serving newcomers. For more information, or to join the working group, please contact Bill Sinclair at [sbill@ststephenshouse.com](mailto:sbill@ststephenshouse.com).



*"Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean."*

*Ryunosuke Satoro*

## Language Services Working Group

The Toronto South LIP is continuing to build on the work and progress made by several of the Working Groups that were in place as part of the three former neighbourhood LIPs that have come together to form the Toronto South LIP. One of these Working Groups is the Language Services Working Group. Toronto South LIP member agencies have the opportunity to have a staff representative to sit on the Language Services Working Group. The first meeting of the Language Services Working Group was held on Monday, September 10, 2012. As part of this first meeting, members of the Language Services Working Group discussed and agreed on the expansion and updating of the LIP's

online English Language Classes Map, the updating of the LIP's online Conversation Circles Calendar, and the identification of possible Language Services items that could be included in the LIP's Action Plan.

For more information:

- on the LIP's online English Language Classes Map, please go to <http://torontolip.com/documents/english-language-classes>
- on the LIP's online Conversation Circles Calendar, please go to <http://torontolip.com/documents/conversation-circles-calendar>.

To learn how to add your organization's English language classes to the map or your organization's Conversation Circles to the calendar, please contact Jacqueline Lawrence at [jlawrence@wisesolution.ca](mailto:jlawrence@wisesolution.ca) or Sandra Guerra at [sguerra@woodgreen.org](mailto:sguerra@woodgreen.org).

For more information, visit us [www.torontolip.ca/language-training-working-group](http://www.torontolip.ca/language-training-working-group)

## Systemic Issues and Social Change Working Group

The Systemic Issues and Social Change Working Group is a city-wide network of organizations and LIP staff working to address broader systemic issues faced by newcomers in Toronto. The working group is currently developing strategies to address 4 issues identified as priorities. They include 1. the eradication of the "Canadian Experience" requirement by employers, 2. healthcare for the uninsured, 3. low-wage and precarious employment and 4. culturally appropriate

healthcare.

These initiatives will be addressed in a variety of ways which may include collaborating with organizations and agencies who are currently working on these issues, developing a media or letter writing campaign to raise awareness or producing resources for frontline staff.

For more information, visit us <http://www.torontolip.ca/systemic-issues-social-change-working-group>.



**Contact Us:**

**Toronto South LIP**  
[info@torontolip.ca](mailto:info@torontolip.ca)  
[www.torontolip.ca](http://www.torontolip.ca)

For information about this newsletter, contact Sandra Guerra at [sguerra@woodgreen.org](mailto:sguerra@woodgreen.org)



## Toronto Newcomer Initiative (TNI) and City-Wide LIP

The City-Wide LIP is part of the Toronto Newcomer Initiative, a pilot initiative to explore the ways for the City of Toronto to encourage the participation of newcomers in the life of the city and community. The pilot activities included focusing on the enhancement of City Service systems and the broader service system.

The main focus of TNI is for the City to experiment with pilot projects with an emphasis on partnering and collaborating with partners from multiple sectors to help develop the City of Toronto Newcomer Strategy. The practical learning from pilot projects as well as the advice and input of the broad range of stakeholders will help the city develop a Toronto Newcomer Strategy.

In this phase of the City-Wide LIP, the project will be restructured to include a new governance model and a Toronto Newcomer Strategy Report for Toronto City Council (Spring/Summer 2012) will

be completed.

The City-LIP will be working closely with the 4 Quadrant LIPs to re-synthesize priorities with accomplishments to-date and then develop a work plan for the upcoming year. Four areas of focus, that will form the basis of the work, have been identified, they include:

1. Improved Health Outcomes,
2. Access to Labour Market,
3. Access to Municipal Supports and
4. Civic Engagement and Community Capacity.

For more information, visit the City website <http://www.toronto.ca/newcomer/>.

*"Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."*

*Mattie Stepanek*

*"Many ideas grow better when transplanted into another mind than the one where they sprang up."*

*Oliver Wendell Holmes*



## Our Partnership Council Members

ACCES Employment  
Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services  
AIDS Committee of Toronto  
Bangladeshi-Canadian Community Services  
Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture  
Centre francophone de Toronto  
Christie Ossington Neighbourhood Centre  
Citizenship and Immigration Canada  
Collège Boréal  
Conseil scolaire de district catholique centre-sud  
COSTI Immigrant Services  
CultureLink  
Dixon Hall  
Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre  
Family Service Toronto  
FCJ Refugee Centre  
Fred Victor Centre  
George Brown College  
Kababayan Community Centre Multicultural Services  
Madison Community Services  
Massey Centre for Women  
Neighbourhood Centre

Neighbourhood Legal Services  
Neighbourhood Link Support Services  
Parkdale Community Information Centre  
Parkdale Golden Age Foundation  
Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services  
RDÉE Ontario  
Red Door Family Shelter  
Scadding Court Community Centre  
Sherbourne Health Centre  
Sojourn House  
St . Christopher House  
St. Stephen's Community House  
TCDSB Adult Education Program  
Toronto Community Housing Corporation  
Toronto Community & Culture Centre  
Toronto District School Board  
Toronto Employment & Social Services  
Toronto Public Health  
Toronto Western Hospital  
University Settlement  
WoodGreen Community Service  
Workers' Action Centre  
Working Women Community Centre  
YMCA of Greater Toronto