

Summary of Policy Issues Worksheet

Toronto South LIP - Systemic Issues and Social Change Committee

January 2018

	Issue	Definition	What can we do?	Who to engage	I want to participate
1	Newcomer Access to Career Accreditation /Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too many pathways, need more collaboration among agencies to unify the process • Employers are also confused about what accreditation means/says • Employment vs Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to newcomers about their experience – what / where are the barriers – open forum, interviews, survey • Research – more in-depth research on where are people getting stuck • Coordinate services among WES, universities and colleges etc • Map the system – what / who are the players – how does one move through the system • Training for frontline staff 	TREIC/ PINS WES UofT/Ryerson/York equivalency services OCASI MCI OCOT CASIP Fairness Commissioner Ministry of Education Newcomers GEO Frontline settlement/ employment staff	Dilya - TNLIP Carina – Skills for Change Yasmeen –TWLIP Tim - KBCLS
2	Access to Mental Health Supports for Newcomers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need more community based options – not medical • Newcomers are facing stress, fear and disillusionment (break down of family unit, new country is not meeting expectations, realization that employment in their field is difficult to attain) <p>NOTE: discussion arose about long waiting times for services and the lack of culturally appropriate programs. Member talked about a troubling pattern her org is seeing where people are committing crimes in order to access mental health services faster</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote establishing organizational policies (ie: OCASI) educate staff about how to talk to newcomers about mental health • Use popular education style programs (ie: Centre for Spanish Speaking People Café style discussions) • Address the stigma of mental health issues in cultural groups (ie: Strength in Unity) 	Strength in Unity OCASI CAMH CMHA Mental Health Ambassadors	Elmira – TNLIP Muna – TNO Grace – Hospitality Workers Training Gem – UHN