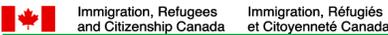




Toronto North LIP (TNLIP) is a community-based, multi-sectoral planning table working to enhance the settlement and employment experiences and outcomes of immigrants and newcomers in Toronto North communities.

TNLIP has developed a Settlement Strategy and an Action Plan for the region and is in the process of implementing the plan. To refer the Strategy and list of members, to engage or for more information on Toronto North LIP, visit: www.torontonorthlip.ca

Funded by: Financé par:



‘Toronto North LIP Welcomes’ is the quarterly e-Newsletter of TNLIP. It includes information on activities and events undertaken by the TNLIP with the council members. It also features a member to showcase their work and promote their projects for information and future collaboration.

Welcome **Alexandra Arraiz**, the new **Coordinator** of the **Settlement, Language and Integration** workgroup. We wish her all the best in creating collaborative projects together with her group!

Alexandra@torontonorthlip.ca
416.494.7978 (225)

Featured Member:



University Settlement
Founded 1910

University Settlement—is a multi-service agency that was founded in 1910 and has the distinction of being the first community-based social service centre in the City of Toronto. Our three offices are part of culturally rich and vibrant neighborhoods in downtown Toronto and North York. As part of these diverse communities, University Settlement helps individuals and families to learn and grow by engaging them in social, cultural, recreational and educational opportunities.

Our services are directed at helping individuals and families live full lives and assisting individuals in identifying and meeting personal goals whether it is to find housing, obtain employment, learn English or get fit and stay healthy. University Settlement offers a wide range of social services to individuals and families in our community with a focus on assisting newcomers to adapt to Canada. Our many annual festivals and celebrations provide opportunities for the community to come together to honor and celebrate the traditions and customs of the diverse communities we serve. Annually, we host a Chinese Lunar New Year, Black and Women’s History Month events, Iranian Nowruz New Year Celebration as well as our summer Grange Festival in the park for children.

In keeping with our focus on newcomers, we offer two newcomer programs: Immigrant Information and Orientation Program (IIOP) and Newcomer Settlement Program (NSP). Through these two programs, we offer a wide range of services and programs. These services include needs assessment, information and referral, settlement counseling, form filling, orientation and edu-

cational workshops, interpretation and translation, employment-related assistance, social support groups, social networking activities for both adults and youth, festive celebrations, day trips, homework clubs, and conversation circles. Our services are free and are offered in English, Farsi, Mandarin, Cantonese, and Korean.

We are particularly proud of our innovative new programs for newcomers such as our Volunteer Leadership Series and the Women’s Empowerment Series. These homegrown projects spring from community needs. Then, gathering expertise from our settlement team and from community partners, we build and tailor these programs to the needs of our clients. This model has proven very successful, and we continue to use it to meet the needs in our community.

In addition to newcomer programs, University Settlement has developed programs to address the needs of more than 10,000 users annually through diverse areas such as English language classes, employment and training programs, senior services, youth programming, homeless programs, music and arts education, and daycare. In addition, our main site hosts a full recreation centre with a pool, gym and nautical facilities.

Today, the members, staff, board, and volunteers of University Settlement are as diverse as the city of Toronto itself. Together, we strive towards our University Settlement vision: a community that is safe and healthy, and where individuals of all ages, from all social classes and cultures belong, mixing freely and respecting one another. In this place, people’s basic needs are met and they have the opportunity to grow and learn through participation in artistic, cultural, recreational, educational and employment opportunities.

Highlights of TNLIP activities

1. Newcomer Services Mobile Application Thanks to the support of IRCC, the TNLIP has been able to implement a project that would increase accessibility of newcomer services in Toronto – a mobile application that features settlement, employment, housing, health and many other services through an interactive map. The official launch of the app will be on the Newcomer Day – May 29th, 2018.

2. Health workgroup organised “**Talk About**” **Forum** in February 2018 and around 50 staff of community agencies participated in the forum. The Forum panel included presentations on Partnership Building and Community Engagement by the Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition, Successful Partnership on the Ground by TNO - The Neighbourhood Organization and Evidence Based Planning by the City of Toronto. The panel was followed by roundtable discussions on measuring collaborative success, referral systems, developing collaborative work plans, and sharing promising practices and toolkits.

2. TNLIP supported the Welcome House community agency in organizing an information fair for the newcomer residents in North York. The “Keep in Touch” event held on February 18th, 2018 demonstrated how a small community agency can bring together a very large group – over 600 people- to celebrate the spirit of community, recreation and well-being.

3. Multi-sectoral group of 13 member agencies involved in piloting of the “**Pop-up Hub**” **model** was formed to develop a toolkit for replicating the model focusing on improving access to health and other social services for newcomers. The working group met twice and developed a framework for the toolkit to be populated with content from the experiences of implementing the pop-up hubs.

The Health workgroup also conducted 2 pop-up hubs on March 13th and 20th at a local food bank, where 121 clients received information about availability of different health and well-being services as well as other social services. The workgroup developed a brochure on local services available in the community, which was distributed to agencies and residents.

4. The Employment and Labour Marketworkgroup organized a **workshop on Building Connections with Professional Immigrant Networks** for service providers in the employment and settlement sectors on February 15th, 2018. The objective of the event was to create a learning opportunity for the service providers to gain a better understanding about the work the Professional Immigrant Networks do and how these associations can be leveraged in supporting skilled immigrants in accessing the Canadian labour market. Over 30 service providers attended the workshop. The feedback of the attendees about the content of the event was positive and encouraging.

4. The Toronto North LIP organized and hosted the **Employment Supports Fair** on March 1st, 2018 at the People’s Church. The objective of the fair was to raise awareness among the service providers in the settlement and employment sectors about the existing employment supports such as Bridging, Mentorship, Internship, Self-Employment, and Training (for employment) programs. The fair was attended by 85 participants and 22 exhibitors representing 18 organizations.

TNLIP Council Meetings 2018-19

June 26th	Venue -	Time - 9am—12 noon
Sep 25th	Multipurpose Room	For more details, contact
Nov 27th	Parkway Forest Community Centre	elmira@torontonorthlip.ca
Feb 26th, 2019		

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To make suggestions on content or format, or to remove your name from the distribution of newsletter please contact:

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