



## Social Inclusion Workgroup

### Meeting Minutes

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017

2:00 to 4:00pm

TSLIP Office @ Centre for Social Innovation

### Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Terms of Reference
3. Being an Active Citizen
4. Newcomers' Speakers Bureau
5. School's as community hubs
6. Next Meeting Date

Attendance	
Rosa Ribeiro	Parkdale Queen West CHC
Pablo Escobar	Dixon Hall and Midtown Community Services
Celine Chen	St. Stephen's Community House
Anita Fortuno	Access Alliance
Rehmat Afzal	CultureLink
Adbi Yousuf	CultureLink
Lisa Randall	CultureLink
Cindy Himelstein	Children's Aid Society of Toronto

Staff	
Giovanni Rico	TSLIP / Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The group was welcomed to the meeting by staff and allowed to introduce themselves.

### 2. Terms of Reference

Members were shown the new terms of reference that was approved by the Toronto South LIP Council. There was then a discussion on the need to define social inclusion and what it means to the group- Enhancing newcomer engagement and participation in the community by providing resources to individuals and removing barriers within systems

to make them more accessible and supportive. There are several definitions of social inclusion the one developed will be sent out to the group for feedback so that we can finalize at the next meeting.

### **3. Being an Active Citizen**

Members gave an update on the development of the curriculum, and talked about some of the changes being made to the final draft. Document will be sent out for external review once it is finished. There will be a small discussion on the curriculum after the meeting. The sub-group will continue to work on the project and update the working group as there process continues.

### **4. Newcomers' Speakers Bureau**

Members continued the discussion from the last meeting on the type of project they were hoping to develop. They were told of getting more information to be brought to have more impact. Members were informed of the request from the new times for meetings. The regular working group meetings will be adding an hour for this sub group to meet and work on the project. Members were asked to do an environmental scan to add to the needs assessment. Pablo, Rosa, Abdi, Cindy. Are the members of the sub group.

### **5. School's as community hubs**

CultureLink who runs the Settlement Workers In Schools (SWIS) came to help in the development of this project. They added that they believe there are schools that would be great to work with like Rose Ave public school, Western tech school, and Central Tech high school. SWIS is referred to by the school once a newcomer registers with the school. Family members are the contacts in elementary school while the student is the immediate contact in high school. Needs assessment are done and referred based on their needs. Group activities are done in the school like workshops and information session. Health, housing and work requirements are part of the needs assessment as well as how to manage the school system. Depending on the topic speakers are brought in with expertise to help in the process. Initial services are done and some follow up but it is to empower the newcomer to navigate and take ownership of their process. Members were explained the basis of the project and the reasons behind the idea. Both the need and the goals of a project. A subcommittee is being formed in conjunction with the settlement services WG and who needs to be a the table. Doodle poll will be created for the subcommittee to meet hopefully before Nov. 7.

### **6. Next Meeting**

Is scheduled for December of 2017