

## **Social Inclusion Working Group**

### **Meeting Minutes**

May 10, 2021

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Zoom

### **AGENDA**

- 1. Land Acknowledgement**
- 2. Welcome & Introductions**
- 3. Grassroots Support Update**
- 4. Social Isolation Network**
- 5. Work Group Changes**
- 6. Strategic Plan**
- 7. Closing**

#### **1. Land Acknowledgement**

TSLIP staff read Land Acknowledgement

#### **2. Welcome and introductions**

Each member was welcomed by LIP staff, members were thanked for attending the meeting. Members that introduced themselves and gave small updates on their organizations.

#### **3. Grassroots Support Update**

Grassroots groups were invited to be members of the SIWG and some were in attendance. A discussion took place on how we should proceed in supporting these groups and others with their ongoing efforts. Refugee 613 was identified as a possible collaborative partner as they have a large database of grassroots groups supporting newcomers/refugees.

The catchment area was highlighted as the old City of Toronto, which includes parts of West York and East York and the criteria for a grassroots group as a self-identified group.

Members discussed possible ways to engage with/support grassroots groups:

- Survey to share with grassroots groups to learn about the supports they need, but should also have a personal component ie. Follow-up phone call or meeting or other media platforms
- Share what type of supports could be leveraged off of the LIPs

- TSLIP would ask for support from grassroots groups to share with others since they may be unfamiliar with TSLIP.

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#### **4. Social Isolation Network**

The network was established in a previous year to coordinate programming geared towards removing social isolation for newcomers. It began conversations between agencies on how to reduce competition, improve program planning and reduce scheduling conflicts. It resulted in new members joining the working group. It will be included in the new strategic plan in development but members agreed to put it on hold at the moment due to the following:

- With the pandemic, it is a challenge for agencies to still say what their set programming will be going forward and are unsure of how to proceed meaningfully at this point
- Another needs assessment will be needed post-pandemic
- Outreach since the pandemic onset has been an ongoing challenge and engagement is down
- Website was previously helpful but currently under construction until around mid-fiscal year
- Available resources are being directed primarily at staff support and workloads are heavy.

A suggestion was made to create a proposal for funding to undertake the work; however as the intent has not been clearly defined, the group will not yet pursue that avenue.

#### **5. Changes to Working Group**

The group facilitator announced they would be leaving their role. Jassi, current co-lead would take over responsibility for next meeting and will be in touch with meeting time.

#### **6. Strategic Planning**

The strategic planning will continue over summer 2021. TSLIP is working on a 4 year plan that will be developed primarily with input from the Council but will also include consultations, roundtable discussions and surveys.

Members were invited to share any pressing concerns they would like included and are as follows:

- Post-pandemic planning and emerging models such as hybrid services
- Targeted action campaigns towards rights, status OHIP etc. also paths to regularization for folks without status and those engaged in essential work
  - Economic development and how it ties together with childcare, possible training for home based service providers
- Tutoring focused on 0-12 age group to support parents with virtual learning

#### **7. Closing**

Group confirmed they would like to retain standing date of every second Monday in the afternoon for meetings.