

**Systemic Issues and Social Change Working Group**

**Agenda, Thursday, May 10, 2018**

CSI Annex, 720 Bathurst Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Approval of agenda items
3. Review of action items from last meeting
4. Update from accreditation and licensing sub-committee
5. Update from mental health supports sub-committee
6. Resources
  - *Housing worker & settlement worker resource*
  - *Social Planning Toronto's provincial election fact sheets*
7. Updates/Any other business
8. Next meeting  
July 12 (tentative) or September 13

**Participants**

Sandra Guerra (Toronto South Local Immigration Partnership); Pam Cardwell (Toronto West Local Immigration Partnership); Ruth Lee (Centre for Internationally Educated Nurses); Grace McDonald (Hospitality Workers Training Centre); Peter Clutterbuck (Social Planning Toronto); Kaitlin Murray (Toronto East Local Immigration Partnership); Tahir Khan (Toronto North Local Immigration Partnership); Time Maxwell (Kensington-Bellwoods Community Legal Services); Sheeba Colvine (Toronto North Local Immigration Partnership); Sharifa Sharif (University Settlement); Kalsang Dolma (Parkdale Community Information Centre); Gem Lee-Herder (University Health Network, Toronto Western Family Health); Angelica de Jesus-Bretschneider (Social Planning Toronto; Toronto South Local Immigration Partnership)

**Agenda**

1. **Welcome**
2. **Approval of agenda items**
3. **Review of action items from last meeting**
4. **Update from accreditation and licensing sub-committee**  
For this fiscal year, the accreditation and licensing sub-committee will:
  - o Research challenges and successes in accreditation and licensing process for newcomers in Ontario (e.g. environmental scan with organizations, and (potential) research with newcomers).
  - o Engage with Office of the Fairness Commissioner to assess how we can work together.
  - o Taking on Collective Impact process with Innoweave to develop a long-term common agenda.

Meeting participants are also considering the relevance of conducting research with newcomers to learn more about where they are getting stuck in the accreditation and licensing process. For example, participants want to know, "What are the biggest challenges that newcomers have in pursuing their career in Ontario?". Grace, Tim, and Sharifa agreed to interviewing newcomers in their work. However, prior to conducting interviews Angelica will support Grace, Tim, and Sharifa in conducting preliminary research about what has already been researched by other organizations and how (e.g. North York Community House Newcomer Stories). The four group members will also discuss research design. Peter agreed to give feedback on the 2-page research design. Pam suggested that this research can be part of the Collective Impact process.

**ACTION: Grace, Tim, Sharifa, and Angelica** to meet and discuss potential research design.  
**ACTION: Pam** to send study by WES

**ACTION: Tahir** to send health immigration report

#### 5. Update from mental health supports sub-committee

For this fiscal year, the mental health supports sub-committee will:

- o Develop a database of existing mental health promotion guidelines (for working with clients regarding mental health issues).
- o Organize a forum with funders and actors who provide(d) non-medically based mental health support services (e.g. peer support groups, cultural meet-ups).
- o Engage with funders (e.g. IRCC and CAMH) to encourage sustained funding for non-medically based supports and mental health services for newcomers and frontline staff.

#### 6. Resources

- \* Housing worker & settlement worker resource

Getting to Know the Housing Worker: <https://infograph.venngage.com/p/402489/housing-worker>

Getting to Know the Settlement Worker: <https://infograph.venngage.com/p/402546/settlement-worker>

- o Sandra explained that a potential output for distributing these resources is a networking session between housing workers and settlement workers (possibly in the fall, early October).

- \* Social Planning Toronto's provincial election fact sheets

<http://www.torontolip.com/2018ElectionResources.aspx>

- o Angelica asked participants to share contacts with ethno-specific media and cultural community groups (e.g. Chinese, Tamil, Tagalog, and Arabic).
- o **ACTION: Tim and Gem** will send contacts for Chinese and Filipino media, respectively.

#### 7. Updates/Any other business

Participants discussed inviting other organizations, such as Community Health Centres, to join this group. Groups listed during the meeting include:

- Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre
- Access Alliance Community Health Centre
- Empowerment Council

**ACTION: Tim** will share contacts with Angelica, and **Angelica** will reach out to organizations.

Event: An all-candidates meeting is taking place on May 16 at 6:30 pm at 23 Grange Road.

#### 8. Next meeting

September 13