

## Newsletter

Winter  
2013/14



Toronto West  
Local Immigration Partnership  
Community Collaboration at Work

# Supporting Newcomer Health Together: A City-Wide learning and Networking Symposium

The Toronto West LIP Newcomer Health Symposium took place on January 28, 2014 at the North York Civic Centre. The event was a great success, with over 100 attendees, workshop speakers and panelists. The day began with a keynote address on health equity by Russ Ford, Executive Director of LAMP CHC.



Workshops for the day included: 'Impacts of Changes to the Interim Federal Health Program', 'Immigrant Women & HIV/AIDS Awareness', 'Early Health Screening for Newcomer Children', 'An Introduction to Health Links', 'Pregnancy and Maternal Health', 'Supporting Newcomers' Access to Healthy Food', and 'Health Inequities: Five Referrals for the Newly Arrived.'



Attendees also enjoyed a very informative panel on the importance of collaboration between the health and settlement sectors.



The day ended with an interactive reflection/de-brief session where participants were asked to think about what had been learned and to share their thoughts on what is needed to improve health outcomes for newcomers in Toronto.

Information tables were set up at the symposium for participants to learn about programs and services available in the city.





## What has happened and what is happening

### Removing the Canadian Experience Barrier Forum

On February 19, 2014, the Civic Engagement Group held a successful forum on the Ontario Human Rights Commission's new **policy on 'Canadian Experience' as a ground for discrimination**. Barbara Hall, Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission, was invited as the keynote speaker. She set the tone of the forum by introducing the policy and sharing her experiences working with other experts who are also passionate about the issue.

The forum also included a breakout session which provided opportunities for the participants to share their thoughts and opinions in a smaller group setting. The entire forum was videotaped and will be used as a tool by groups that were unable to attend the forum. The video will be posted on TWLIP website and possibly on other partners' websites for broader accessibility.

### Parent Engagement Resources

The Education & Language group is developing an inventory of programs, workshops and resources that support **newcomer parents' engagement with the education system** and involvement in their children's learning and their school community. The inventory, which is a collaborative project with the Toronto South LIP, will be available as an electronic document on the TWLIP website and promoted directly to settlement agencies as well as other groups and organizations that work directly with newcomer families.

The objective of the inventory is to increase frontline workers' knowledge of the programs and resources that are available, and to support referrals to programs and workshops that enhance newcomer parents' understanding of, and engagement with, the school system.

On March 5, an advisory committee made up of various community partners will meet to review a draft of the inventory and provide feedback and recommendations on the document.

### Resiliency Now: A Capacity Building and Networking Forum

Over the last few years the LIP projects and the newcomer-serving sector have experienced significant changes and have built resiliency to adapt to these changes. The TWLIP is bringing together stakeholders from different sectors and communities within the region to dialogue, share and discuss how they have managed to become resilient, and to share new approaches to building and sustaining capacity within the newcomer serving sector, despite the changes.

The session will create a space for learning about best practices related to organizational change and resiliency, provide a space to network and make new connections, and highlight the achievements and challenges of the work of the TWLIP.

For more project updates, please visit <http://torontowestlip.ca/project-updates/>



Toronto West LIP Website: [www.torontowestlip.ca](http://www.torontowestlip.ca)



## Promoting a community event? WE CAN HELP!

**Three Easy Steps** to post it on the **TWLIP Website**

### Step 1



Go to  
[www.torontowestlip.ca](http://www.torontowestlip.ca)

### Step 2



Click on the  
**"Post an Event"**  
at the left side of the main page.

### Step 3

Fill in the event details  
and click


**Submit Event »**

You will be notified when  
your event is approved  
and posted on the  
website!

## RESOURCES

- Toronto **North** LIP Website: <http://www.torontonorthlip.ca/>
- Toronto **South** LIP Website: <http://www.torontolip.com/>
- Toronto **East** LIP Website: <http://scarboroughlip.com/>
- Materials of Vision 2020 National Settlement Conference are now available online at <http://vision.systemsinteractive.ca/>

## Upcoming TWLIP Events and Meetings



March 2014						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29



Nov 19, 2013 TWLIP Regional Council Meeting

- Mar 07 09:30~12:00 TWLIP All Member Meeting
- Mar 12 10:00~12:00 Civic Engagement Group Meeting
- Mar 19 09:00~03:00 Resiliency Now: A Capacity Building and Networking Event

For locations and meeting details, please contact the TWLIP staff team.

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**Local Immigration Partnership**  
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