



## STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

### Volunteer Youth Summit

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| <b>Date:</b>             | February 11, 2008                        |
| <b>To:</b>               | Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged |
| <b>From:</b>             | General Manager, Homes for the Aged      |
| <b>Ward:</b>             | All                                      |
| <b>Reference Number:</b> |  |

### SUMMARY

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Youth are an important part of the volunteer team within Toronto Homes for the Aged. At present, one in five of our active volunteers are under the age of 18 years. Community involvement is a high school requirement and volunteering with Toronto Homes for the Aged is a rewarding way to earn community service hours. We encourage young people to give their time and talents.

On Saturday, February 2, 2008, a Youth Summit was held at Metro Hall with fourteen (14) youth in attendance. Six (6) Coordinators of Volunteer Services and the Manager of Fundraising and Volunteer Programs also attended.

#### Financial Impact

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

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### ISSUE/BACKGROUND

The meeting was an opportunity for youth volunteers to get together with their peers, to share ideas and to develop program and activity ideas specific to them and their service to residents in the homes. The Agenda included an ice-breaker activity, a presentation on the Youth Council concept, both large and break-out group sessions dealing with Programs and Fundraising, a question-and-answer time, followed by a pizza lunch.

### COMMENTS

Representatives from the seven (7) homes in attendance provided very positive feedback and insight around activities of interest, fundraising, mentorship, recognition, resident

involvement, peer recruitment and the social aspect of volunteering. Input received during the Youth Summit will assist and direct divisional work underway and complements the Mayor's initiatives to expand opportunities for Toronto's youth.

Each of the volunteer participants completed a written evaluation at the end of the Youth Summit. A selection of these comments highlights the enthusiasm, commitment and leadership in the room:

"Good experience to meet others and will build towards expanding the volunteers we have."

"Although the discussion topic may not be directly related to you, listening to the discussion can be beneficial."

"Now I have some new ideas for friendly visits with residents and how to bring more smiles to their faces."

"I know more about the Toronto Challenge."

"I learned about fundraising."

Homes moving forward for development of Youth Councils in 2008 are Bendale Acres, Cummer Lodge, Kipling Acres, Seven Oaks and True Davidson Acres.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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