

# TORONTO STRONG NEIGHBOURHOODS STRATEGY 2020 IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE







# contents



- 3** TSNS 2020:  
Local Impact for city-wide change
- 5** TSNS 2020 Roadmap:  
Our journey
- 7** TSNS 2020:  
Theory of change & Urban HEART@Toronto
- 9** TSNS 2020 Fact Sheet:  
Key Activities & Implementation
- 11** TSNS 2020 Snapshot:  
Activating change
- 13** Resident Advisory Committee:  
Activating people
- 15** District Structure & Planning Tables:  
Investing in neighbourhoods
- 17** Local Planning Table Profiles:  
Working together
- 33** Thanks to all our  
Partner Networks

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# TORONTO STRONG NEIGHBOURHOODS STRATEGY 2020: LOCAL IMPACT FOR CITY-WIDE CHANGE

## TSNS 2020:

Advances equitable economic, social, health, environmental and participation outcomes in all neighbourhoods across Toronto, with a focus on 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs). By partnering with residents, businesses and agencies, TSNS 2020 strengthens neighbourhood wellbeing and delivers local impact for citywide change.

## TSNS Mission:

To achieve equitable opportunities across all Toronto neighbourhoods by...

- ❑ Activating people and organizations,
- ❑ Activating resources,
- ❑ Activating neighbourhood friendly policies

## TSNS Vision:

“No matter what neighbourhood Torontonians call home, there are equitable opportunities for wellbeing.”



## In 2014 Toronto City Council:

- ❑ Approved the Urban HEART tool as a method of calculation for Neighbourhood Equity Score and Neighbourhood Equity Benchmark
- ❑ Designated 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs)
- ❑ Established a fund to support Emerging Neighbourhoods that received investments through the first Strong Neighbourhood strategy, but were not identified for TSNS 2020
- ❑ As part of the 2014 Operating and Capital Budget process, Council also approved \$12M over 5 years to invest in Community Capital infrastructure in the NIAs



# TSNS 2020 ROADMAP: OUR JOURNEY

## SPRING 2014

City Council approves TSNS2020.

## WINTER 2015

Mornelle Court approved as the 1st  
**Partnership Opportunities Legacy Fund**  
with an investment of  
**\$300,000**

## SPRING 2015

**TSNS Conferences** held, 200 local stakeholders contribute ideas and principles to the development of the TSNS Action Plan

**Participatory Budget Pilot** begins with an investment of \$150,000 in 3 areas of the City; Ward33, Oakridge and Rustic NIAs

## FALL 2015

**Poverty Reduction Funded over 70**  
Local projects across 31 NIAs initiated and engaged 9,500 residents

## SUMMER 2015

**Resident Advisory Table**  
developed to advise and monitor the implementation of TSNS. Table recruits one resident from each of the 31 NIAs

## WINTER 2016

**TSNS Action Plan** completed and shared with community stakeholders across 31 NIAs

## SPRING 2016

**15 Neighbourhood Planning Tables** and Action Plans initiated and in development across the 31 NIAs, engaging over 1,400 stakeholders

## FALL 2016

**Neighbourhood Conferences**  
Over 250 community residents and stakeholders engaged in 4 District Neighbourhood Conferences

## 2017

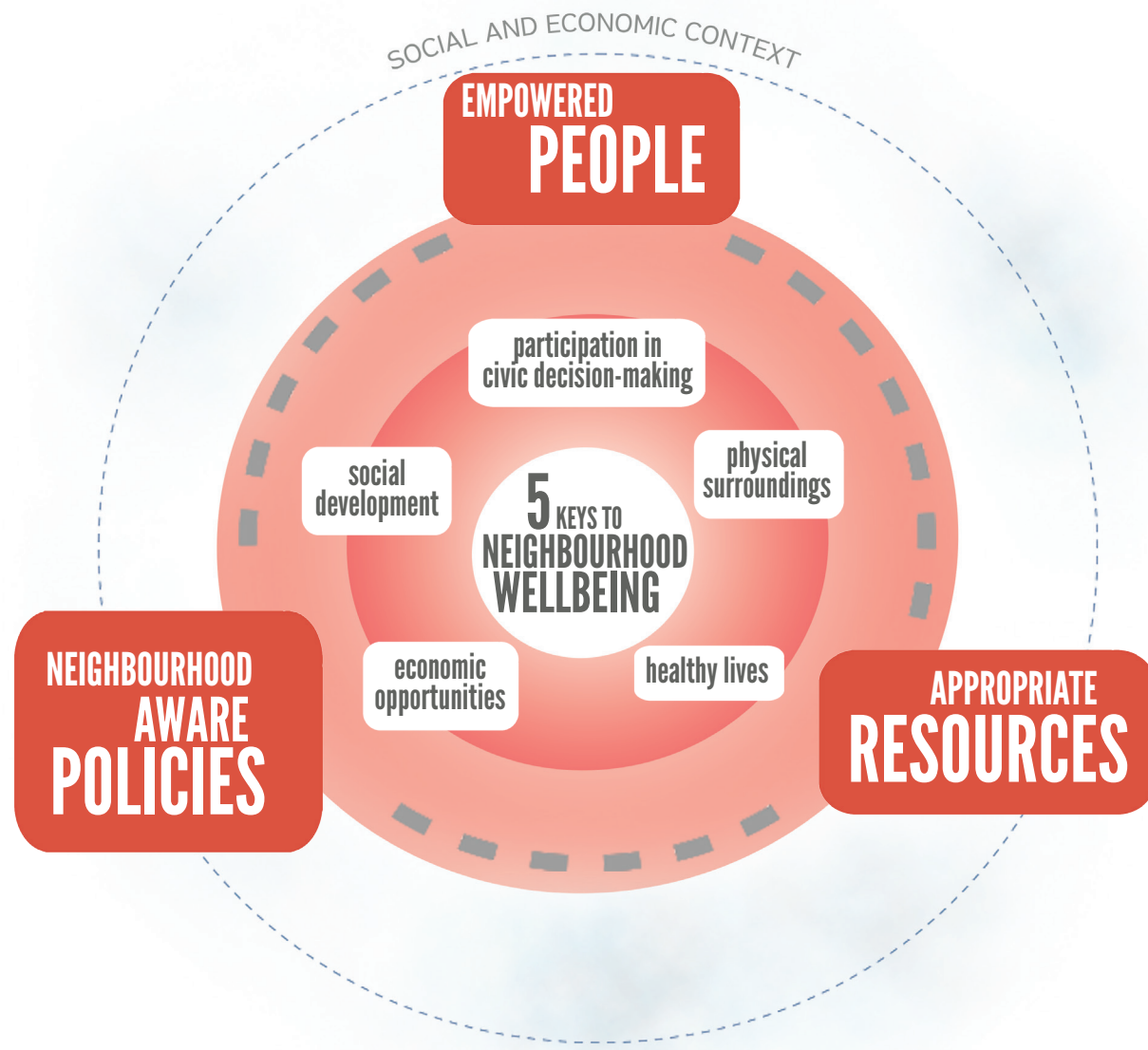
**2017 Upcoming TSNS 2020 activities include:** Local Champions Pilot, 2017 Resident Advisory, 2017 POL 2 Launch and more.



# THEORY OF CHANGE

The TSNS theory of change starts with the understanding that neighbourhoods are complex social and spatial containers where people live and work and that neighbourhood well-being comprises 5 distinct but related dimensions – these are the domains defined by the Urban HEART tool, developed by The United Way. Of course, neighbourhoods exist within a broader social economic environment. The effects of this social and economic context are distributed differently across neighbourhoods in Toronto, and is what produces the place-based inequities that TSNS is intended to address.

TSNS 2020 builds on a theory of change presented by Action for Neighbourhood Change in 2007. Within this broader environment of socioeconomic forces, neighbourhoods are also embedded in institutional and civil society systems that are made up of; empowered people, and communities and organizations; financial and infrastructural resources; and rules, regulations, and policies. Our theory of change holds that it is necessary to activate this surrounding system of people, resources, and policies to be explicitly focused on neighbourhoods, to create a supportive sub-climate for neighbourhood well-being.



# WHAT MAKES A NEIGHBOURHOOD STRONG?

## Neighbourhood planning themes by Urban HEART Domain:



### physical surroundings

community service hub development; green space and arts and cultural space development; access to more recreational spaces



### economic opportunities

advocacy for community benefits agreements including job opportunities from transit development; employability skills including job training such as food sector skills development; and financial literacy programs



### healthy lives

access to healthy food; food handling and skills development; and nutrition and wellness activities



### social development

resident leadership and local network development; youth engagement; and education and literacy programs



### participation in civic decision-making

civic engagement; resident group development; youth leadership and advocacy



# KEY ACTIVITIES FOR TSNS 2020

## Partnership Opportunities Legacy Fund (POL 2)

The Partnership Opportunities Legacy Fund 2 (“POL 2”) funds capital projects and improvements developed by local community-based partnerships. Through creative and opportunistic partnerships, this fund will leave a lasting legacy by providing sustainable and tangible changes to the Neighbourhood Improvement Areas that would otherwise not be possible.

## Funders Table

The funders table was developed in collaboration with the United Way of Toronto and York Region with the goal of ensuring that federal, provincial, and local funding priorities were informed by a neighbourhood perspective. Since 2015, 13 funding organizations have participated in the Table.

## Resident Advisory Committee

Building on the work of our 2015/16 interim advisory, in 2017 a new committee will be recruited representing 31 NIAs and Emerging Neighbourhoods.

## Participatory Budgeting Pilot

Participatory Budgeting Pilot (PB) involves community residents proposing and voting on projects to improve their Neighbourhood. PB continues in 3 areas of the City including the Rustic and Oakridge NIAs. Residents in each neighbourhood will have an opportunity to vote on capital projects up to \$250k in value.

## Local Champions Pilot

This is a post-secondary certification/credit training pilot program for residents from NIAs to build resident leadership, involvement and decision-making while advancing the goals of TSNS 2020 and the Toronto Poverty Reduction Strategy.

## District Neighbourhood Conferences “Summits”

In fall 2016 four district wide events were held to promote engagement of residents and other stakeholders involved in neighbourhood planning, TSNS 2020 activities, and local initiatives. Over 250 residents, community partners and stakeholders attended the summit events.

## Community Hub Development

Community hubs provide increased access to services and community space for residents. TSNS 2020 is presently supporting working with the United Way of Toronto and York Region, City Divisions, other levels of government and community organizations to invest in community hub development at locations across the city including 1652 Keele St., Thorncliffe Park, Dawes Road, and Ward 3 and 4.

# TSNS 2020 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

## resident engagement

Resident engagement is the most important activity area for the implementation of TSNS 2020. The participation, voice and decision-making of residents to create local actions ensure the strategy will lead to equitable outcomes for Neighbourhood Improvement Areas.

## targeted investments

TSNS 2020 targets resources and investments to the 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas. Investments like new playgrounds, programs, events or enhanced services have an immediate impact on the quality of life of local residents.

## partnership & network development

TSNS 2020 supports network and partnership development across multiple sectors and multiple levels of government, to leverage resources, promote collective impact and link local and global community concerns. Whether we work together in Neighbourhood Action Partnerships, networks or coalitions the end result is positive change for local communities.

## continuous service improvements

TSNS implementation focus on neighbourhoods involves the improvement of services for NIAs. By including the neighbourhood perspective in City programming and planning the strategy aims to improve the wellbeing of communities.

## monitoring & evaluation

Evaluation is an important component of effective program planning and service delivery. TSNS 2020 will create monitors at the local and citywide level to ensure accountability and to demonstrate the value of program investments.



# RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT

**24,000** RESIDENTS ENGAGED

since 2015 engaged through local actions

# LOCAL CHAMPIONS PILOT

Certification Program for Residents of NIAs and Emerging Neighbourhoods

# TARGETED INVESTMENTS

**\$600,000**

Invested over 2 years that engaged residents and stakeholders through the **EMERGING NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND**

**9,500** RESIDENTS ENGAGED and 74 projects initiated through **POVERTY REDUCTION**

**24** RESIDENTS

Recruited from 31 NIAs advising TSNS 2020 implementation through the **RESIDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**400** COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS

Engaged in 6 Community Conferences

**\$3.1 MILLION**

invested and 11 local capital projects funded through **PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES LEGACY FUND**

## TSNS 2020 SNAPSHOT

**21** CITY DIVISIONS

engaged in TSNS 2020 Implementation

**TSNS 2020 ACTION PLAN DOCUMENT**

Developed through Resident Input to guide process

**15** NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLES

Initiated across 31 NIAs

**13** FUNDERS ENGAGED

Funds identified for investment in NIAs through the **FUNDERS TABLE**

# CONTINUOUS SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

**4** DIRECTOR CHAMPIONS

To lead 4 District Staff Teams working together to improve access to service

**1,700** PARTNER ENGAGED STAKEHOLDERS

Engaged at 15 local network, Neighbourhood Action Partnerships

# PARTNERSHIP AND NETWORKS



# RESIDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Resident Advisory Committee (RAC) works with city staff throughout the implementation of TSNS. The RAC consists of residents who live in the NIAs and was established in the summer of 2015. An interim RAC has met bi monthly to advise staff on local planning issues, ensure accountability, and advise on the structure of the RAC.

## THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RAC

JOSHUA BARNDT ANTONIUS CLARKE  
 LAURA HAMMOND MARGARET SAMMY  
 ELIANA TRINAISTIC FEROZA MOHAMMED  
 SHUKRI ABDULLAHI NAHID SHARIF  
 JOSEPH GENNARO MICHELLE MINOTT  
 MALARAVAN BALACHARAN JOY SIMONE SMITH-BROWN  
 FAZILATUN NESSA BABLI AAMIR SUKHERA  
 MANJURA REHMAN NICOLE TELESFORD  
 BUTTERFLY GOPAUL SARAH ALI  
 NATHAN STERN SUREYA IBRAHIM  
 LUISA GIACOMETTI MUSSARAT EJAZ  
 REHANA ROBIN

# MEET SOME OF OUR RESIDENT ADVISORY CHAMPIONS

## Fazilatun Nessa Babli

"I feel honoured and proud to have been an advisory member of TSNS 2020. Through this platform, I was able to exchange ideas about community building and contribute to a collective voice. I was able to learn about assessing needs, planning, designing and implementing processes to help bring positive changes to my NIA of West Hill/Kingston Galloway Orton Park."



## Feroza Mohammed

"My experience on the advisory is impacted by networking with diverse neighbourhoods, to learn and share information on strengthening local communities. Residents are invited to identify priorities, and inform how we can work collectively with the city and its partners to access supports in shaping and building an equitable city."



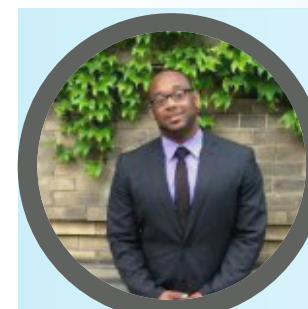
## Laura Hammond

"Being on the Resident Advisory Committee has been extremely inspiring. I truly enjoyed getting to meet other residents from across the GTA who share a like-minded passion for their community. It has been extremely helpful to learn about their initiatives and gain insight on how they worked through common challenges."



## Nathan Stern

"Being a part of the TSNS 2020 Resident Advisory Committee opened my eyes to the great work and learnings that could be taken from other NIAs. Through connecting with other community leaders across the city I was able to bring back information that was helpful for committees and groups that I supported."



## Sarah Ali

"Being on the Resident Advisory Committee has been extremely inspiring. I truly enjoyed getting to meet other residents from across the GTA who share a like-minded passion for their community. It has been extremely helpful to learn about their initiatives and gain insight on how they worked through common challenges."





# LOCAL ACTIONS

## TSNS 2020 DISTRICT STRUCTURE

We recognize that challenges and solutions to identified community issues may involve more than a single neighbourhood. We have created TSNS 2020 District Staff Teams to support planning for larger geographic regions of the City.

Currently there are 4 teams that support 4 TSNS 2020 Districts. These teams are composed of management staff from City agencies, boards, commissions and divisions. Each City partner contributes their knowledge, resources and approaches to service delivery with a willingness to work collaboratively to address issues identified at the local level. The District Teams are an important link between the local neighbourhood planning and central decision-making at City Hall.



# LOCAL PLANNING TABLES

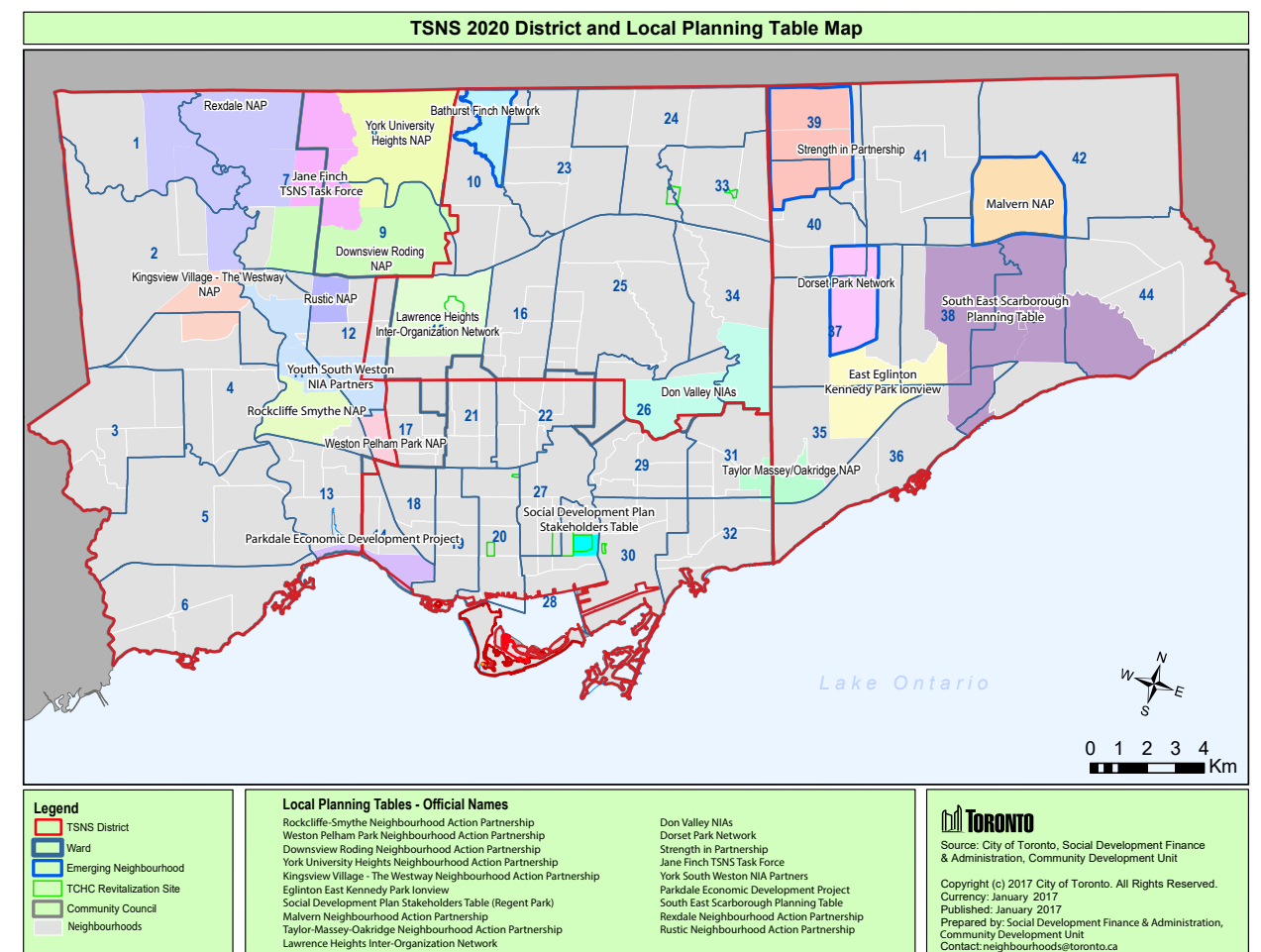
## WHAT A LOCAL PLANNING TABLE DOES

TSNS 2020 Neighbourhood Planning Table is a place-based planning approach that involves residents, community agencies, local businesses, City Councillors and City staff who work in the Neighbourhood Improvement Area meeting regularly to identify local priorities, plan solutions and create partnerships for a strong neighbourhood.

Currently over 1700 local stakeholders are engaged through local planning tables and community networks connected to the implementation of TSNS 2020.

To date 15 Local Planning Tables have been identified across 31 NIAs. Although they may be referred to as Neighbourhood Action Partnerships (NAPs), networks or coalitions, Neighbourhood Planning Tables are open to everyone in the neighbourhood who wishes to participate in priority setting, planning and taking local action for community change.

Each table is supported by a Community Development Officer from the City who assists the implementation of plans.





# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: EGLINTON EAST KENNEDY PARK IONVIEW

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#124 Kennedy Park  
#125 Birchmount Eglinton East (Ionview)  
#138 Eglinton East

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 35 - Michelle Hollard  
Ward 37 - Michael Thompson  
Ward 38 - Glenn De Baeremaeker

## Priority actions:

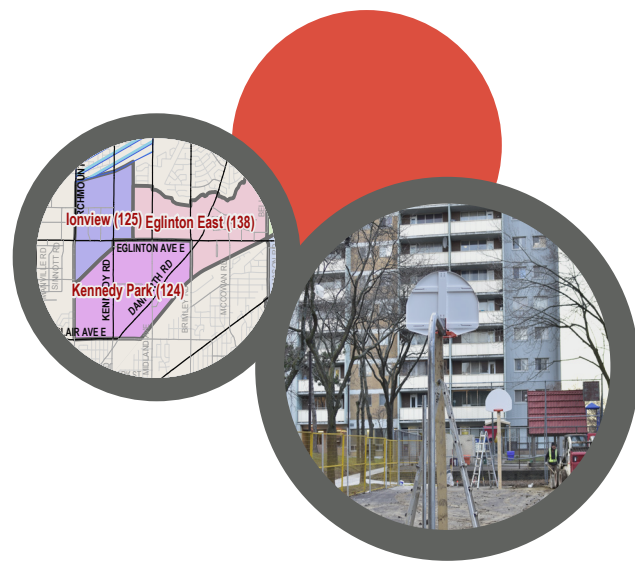
- ❑ Physical Surroundings: Targeted new investments of over 1.46 million dollars went towards space transformations including Community Hub and Multi-Sports Pad at 1021 Birchmount Rd., a revitalization of the Gilder Drive Outdoor Recreational and of Ionview Park, and the Allied Neighborhoods Community Teaching Kitchen.
- ❑ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: 4 community animators visited 20 apartments connecting with 500 residents in a 4 month period to promote and inform residents on local services the local planning table.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Delivered several trainings in healthy lives: Home Alone Course, Cooking for Kids, Social Media Workshops, Support for Community Gardens, First Aid Training.

## Community Development Officer:

Janvere Lyder  
647-216-2152 janvere.lyder@toronto.ca

## A Neighbourhood Story:

"This year has been an amazing and very positive one, for the Gilder community with the launch of the GUYDE Center (Gilder United Youth through Dedication and Education). The GUYDE Center is a youth center for the youth of Gilder. We launched a breakfast Club with the Toronto Children's' Breakfast club in September that is currently running during the weekdays"  
- Nadra Abdihakim and Annmarie Grey, Residents & Founders of GUYDE



## Community Quote:

"The residents of our neighbourhood, particularly the school children and seniors will benefit greatly from this wonderfully improved space. Breathing life into this under-utilized green space will have a positive impact on the social integration in this diverse community for years to come. Thank you!"  
- David Speicher, Ionview Park Revitalization

# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: SOUTH EAST SCARBOROUGH PLANNING TABLE

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#135 Mornelle Court (Morningside)  
#136 Kingston Galloway/Orton Park (West Hill)  
#137 Woburn  
#139 Scarborough Village

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 36 - Councillor Gary Crawford  
Ward 38 - Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker  
Ward 43 - Councillor Paul Ainslie  
Ward 38 - Councillor Ron Moeser

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Social Development: Delivered the Pathways to Education Program, through Youthlink. The ongoing program supports highschool age youth by: working with families on educational concerns; developing advocacy skills; financial support for travel needs and transition expenses such as post secondary application fees.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Implemented the Healthy Kids Community Challenge to over 70 children, parents, and service providers, promoting healthy eating, physical exercise, and creating healthy literacy for children.
- ❑ Physical Surroundings: Through a POL2 application, outdoor play spaces are revitalized at 4100 and 4110 Lawrence Avenue East by installing a splash pad, a skateboard park, and enhancing the older playground with a new surface.

## Community Development Officer:

Sherry Phillips  
416-892-3119 sherry.phillips@toronto.ca

## A Neighbourhood Story:

"It is important that the voices of Scarborough's young people are included in their community's dialogue; the arts have been instrumental in making this possible. Young people require platforms from which to share their creative endeavours with their community. Therefore, creating additional multi-purpose arts spaces ensures young people flourish creatively."  
- Denese Matthews, Community Service Partner



## Community Quote:

"Scarborough Village is home to people from different backgrounds and abilities. Residents support the community by organizing programs like breakfast clubs, summer camps, and community celebrations. We partner with organizations to improve our programs, advise on upgrading our community spaces, and outreach to others to offer our help."  
- Amandeep Gill, Resident



## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: DON VALLEY NIAs

### Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#44 Flemingdon Park  
#55 Thorncliffe Park  
#43 Victoria Village

### Councillors and Wards:

Ward 26 - Councillor Jon Burnside  
Ward 34 - Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong

### Priority actions:

- ❑ Physical Surroundings: The Flemingdon Park POL2 application was initiated by a number of residents, grass-roots groups and community initiatives coming together to coordinate the development of capital projects within the Flemingdon Park Neighbourhood. The project includes upgrades in the viewing area, storage facilities, a new P.A. system, and equipment for the Flemo Media Centre.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: 30 youth were supported to participate in Take Our Kids to Work Day an annual November event. The Youth from Marc Garneau CI received life skills and career planning workshops from members of the Youth Service Network.

### A Neighbourhood Story:

By raising awareness and creating a space for residents, partners, and agencies to work along side each other, Friends of Flemingdon (FOF) is advocating for a strong Neighbourhood Strategy for the Flemingdon Park Community. We at FOF have created a foundation which reflects our community and the lack of programming, resources, the shortage of recreational facilities, and challenges we face in our neighbourhood.  
- Friends of Flemingdon (FOF)

### Community Quote:

"As Community Leads in Flemingdon Park we felt the importance to show case the talent within an inner city community and by applying for Kraft Hockeyville 2016 contest. We were able to put Flemingdon Park on the map #flemoville.."  
- Muhammad Sadick, Aishah Sheri and Adil Patel, Friends of Angela James Arena & Residents



### Community Development Officer:

Rebecca Bassey  
416-895-9230 rebecca.bassey@toronto.ca

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: TAYLOR-MASSEY-OAKRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PARTNERSHIP

### A Neighbourhood Story:

Community partners came together to develop strategies to increase access to locally grown and affordable food. Three new community gardens were established in the neighbourhood because of this collaboration.



### Community Quote:

"This platform (Neighbourhood Action Partnership) will help those people involved to think about how to work in partnerships for the betterment of the community."  
- Tahmid Rouf, Resident, Resident Leader & Agency Staff

### Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#61 Taylor-Massey  
#121 Oakridge

### Councillors and Wards:

Ward 31 - Councillor Janet Davis  
Ward 35 - Councillor Michelle Holland

### Priority actions:

- ❑ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: Collaborated to promote and support resident participation in the Participatory Budgeting pilot project in Oakridge, through which \$250,000 was committed to neighbourhood upgrades that residents proposed and voted on. Funded projects included: a new performance stage, a mural on an underpass, a new walking/running path, and a playground upgrade.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Developed and delivered 8 workshops for youth in Taylor Massey and Oakridge to help increase their ability to manage and grow their money.
- ❑ Social Development: Collaboratively organized community information fairs to increase knowledge-sharing among service providers and residents and to engage more residents into the work of the Neighbourhood Action Partnership.

### Community Development Officer:

Sarosh Anwar  
416-206-1552 sarosh.anwar@toronto.ca



# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: PARKDALE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#85 Parkdale

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 14 - Councillor Gordon Perks

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Held participatory workshops on popular economics to build residents' capacity for participating in economic development planning in the neighbourhood.
- ❑ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: Held participatory workshops to come up with ways of measuring neighbourhood progress in a way that is meaningful to Parkdale community members.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Supported resident initiative to produce a video that promotes the idea of what defines a "community-serving" business.

## A Neighbourhood Story:

Community members came together this year to design a "Parkdale Flag" mural to represent a shared neighbourhood vision and express common values that align with the Parkdale Neighbourhood Plan. The Parkdale Flag is now installed as a mural on Queen Street West and the flag is produced by a grassroots initiative for wide distribution and display in the neighbourhood.

## Community Quote:

"What is at stake now is the future of Parkdale. Parkdale's diversity, affordability and inclusivity are increasingly at risk, and hinge on equitable outcomes of neighbourhood development and improvement. We know that change happens. But we also know that how change happens is not inevitable. Strategies and policy tools to guide neighbourhood change and build equitable local economies do exist. What is needed, then, is to explore how we can marshal those strategies, and work together to build a healthy, inclusive, and just neighbourhood. This is why this community planning initiative is vital and timely."  
- Kuni Kamizaki, Resident & Agency Partner



## Community Development Officer:

Sarosh Anwar  
416-206-1552 sarosh.anwar@toronto.ca

# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN STAKEHOLDERS TABLE

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#72 Regent Park

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 28 - Councillor Pam McConnell

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Social Development: Launched a new community newsletter with 325 new subscribers. Printed copies are regularly distributed to high traffic community spaces
- ❑ Physical Surroundings: Organized an information session for the community on existing and newly-built community spaces in Regent Park so people could learn about what spaces are available and how they can get access to them.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Two neighbourhood surveys were completed in the areas of Health and Employment/Entrepreneurship. 15 project ideas were collected through this process and funding opportunities will be explored for them.

## A Neighbourhood Story:

In 2016 the Regent Park Legacy Fund received support through the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy to launch the first round of community-run grants. The history of the Legacy Fund goes back to the 1980s when Regent Park fundraised to establish a community centre for youth. Tenants contributed two dollars per month for three years raising more than \$10,000 and securing contributions that now total more than \$600,000.



## Community Quote:

"Residents need a stronger, more influential voice in the social development planning throughout the next 10 years of the revitalization as this will increase their capacity to keep decision-makers accountable."  
- Diane MacLean, Resident, Resident Leader & Agency Staff

## Community Development Officer:

Sarosh Anwar  
416-206-1552 sarosh.anwar@toronto.ca



# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: RUSTIC NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PARTNERSHIP

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#28 Rustic

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 12 - Councillor Frank Di Giorgio

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Social Development: Held a series of discussions with residents, to find ways to reduce social isolation due to age, language or cultural factors and find solutions to bring the community together.
- ❑ Physical Surroundings: Funds from the City's Participatory Budget Pilot Project secured 4 new light posts in Rustic Park, which provides a safe space for the entire community to use the park longer all year round.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Supported Smart Serve employment training for 35 youth.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Supported over 200 children aged 4 to 13 attending workshops related to healthy eating, understanding food sources and the Falstaff Community Garden, and the Healthy Kids Community Challenge.

## Community Development Officer:

Rose-Ann Bailey  
647-888-2483 rose-ann.bailey@toronto.ca



## Community Quote:

"The community needs a comprehensive poverty reduction program that addresses such issues as health determinants, social isolation, healthy food availability and employability skills. The Rustic community has more than 25% of the population in low income. Rustic community is a diverse compilation of people who have come to this country to improve their situation in life due to economic or political factors and with the willpower of residents/tenants and community partners the area can be improved by taking the necessary action, one step at a time."  
– Luisa Giacometti, Resident & Chair of the Rustic Community Network NIA Table

## A Neighbourhood Story:

Over the last 2 years, our community residents have worked diligently together to understand the 2015 Participatory Budget process, and benefited from this opportunity by voting on two important initiatives: increased safety in Rustic Park with the installation of 4 new street lights and the soon to be built shelter for shade near the playground in Maple Leaf Park. In 2016 a concerted effort was made to increase youth participation in the Participatory Budget process and the results of this year's vote will be known shortly. All of these initiatives have already aided in bringing people in our community together while promoting common gathering spaces.

# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: YORK SOUTH WESTON NIA PARTNERS

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#110 Keelesdale-Eglinton  
#112 Beechborough Greenbrook West  
#113 Weston  
#115 Mount Dennis

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 11 - Councillor Frances Nunziata  
Ward 12 - Councillor Frank Di Giorgio

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Social Development: Conducted an environmental scan for the purpose of program planning with governmental, grassroots and nonprofit organizations.
- ❑ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: Resident Civic Engagement training to build advocacy capacity.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Created food friendly neighbourhood(s) by creating a network of local organizations involved in healthy living education, food access, area gardens and market programs.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Supported local Mental Health and Wellness initiatives (young women's yoga and Mental Health Information Session).

## Community Development Officer:

Rose-Ann Bailey  
647-888-2483 rose-ann.bailey@toronto.ca



## Community Quote:

"As a newcomer to Canada, I have learnt more about my new community, met more of my neighbours and shared more cultural traditions through these "Pop-up" food markets and community kitchens that I would ever be able to do on my own"  
– Beatriz Ortega, Resident

## A Neighbourhood Story:

York South Weston (trending #YSW) is using "Focus on Food" as one of our community engagement approaches. Our goal is to identify, align, communicate and celebrate all the unique and collaborative food efforts and assets in the very wide area of York South Weston. We understand that to reduce poverty, it has to include securing healthy food and involving residents, local businesses and agency led projects, programs and activities that collectively explore, strengthen and impact our aim of a "Food Friendly Neighbourhood".



# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: WESTON PELHAM PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PARTNERSHIP

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#91 Weston-Pelham Park

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 17 - Councillor Cesar Palacio

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: A group that reflects the diversity of the neighbourhood and plan local actions. This group developed a resident recruitment strategy. Resident engagement meetings were held in 2016, and future plans for 2017 currently under-development.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Create a map of all the Food Friendly places in the neighbourhood to increase awareness of food access.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Provide Food Service training (including Food Handling, Smart Serve, CPR, AED, First Aid, job search skills, life skills, etc.) to youth leading to employment opportunities.

## A Neighbourhood Story:

I love the way people are so welcoming when they see you at the Weston-Pelham Park community. The community dining at DPNCHC and The Stop are great places to dine and keep in touch with friends. I see people helping each other, whether it is to help carry groceries, help with a pram or mobility device, or on and off the bus. I love the pride that people display when doing their gardens - whether they are purely ornamental or for food. I was blown away by the vertical gardens installed on trees at Pelham Park - they are just amazing! We look forward to the businesses that have closed to soon re-open. I miss Charmaine's Place, which is what I would call a Compassionate Cafe. I would love to have another Compassionate Cafe in Weston-Pelham Park community soon!

- Tina Conlon, Community Minister, Davenport Perth Community Ministry



## Community Development Officer:

Rose-Ann Bailey

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# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: KINGSVIEW VILLAGE - THE WESTWAY NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PARTNERSHIP

## Community Quote:

"We have lived in the Kingsview Village – Westway Neighbourhood for almost 10 years. We love our neighbours and the diversity of cultures we see each and everyday. We want to try and create more neighbourhood events that will bring people together. We pass each other on the sidewalk, but neighbourhood events would help people to really get to know one another and creating a safer neighbourhood. We are optimistic about our future here."

- Jeff Canning, Resident & Community Leader

## A Neighbourhood Story:

Nestled just south of the 401 and north of The Westway the area is characterized by high-rises along Dixon Road but also includes a diverse group of resident leaders like the Etobicoke Community Council that are creating and delivering a wealth of activities for local families in the area. Two such initiatives are a soccer league and summer camps. Another example is the parent operated robotics programming run out of Don Bosco Catholic Secondary School which was created through a partnership between the Somali Parents Liaison, TDSB and TCDSB Secondary School.

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#6 Kingsview Village

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 2 - Councillor Michael Ford

Ward 4 - Councillor John Campbell

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: The Kingsview Village - The Westway (KVW) community are advocating for a hub/recreation centre that is accessible, inclusive, and provides opportunities and supports necessary for youth, seniors, families, and singles.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Created parenting workshops on the topics of healthy parenting for residents from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Offered employment skills workshop to 30 youth on areas of resume writing, interview skills, and job search skills.



## Community Development Officer:

Wayne Robinson

416-206-1553 wayne.robinson@toronto.ca



# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: ROCKCLIFFE - SMYTHE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PARTNERSHIP

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#111 Rockcliffe-Smythe

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 11 - Councillor Frances Nunziata

## Priority actions:

- ☐ Social Development: Develop service plan for the neighbourhood to increase access and investment in community services for local residents.
- ☐ Physical Space: Create a safety plan to address safety concerns identified by local residents.
- ☐ Computer literacy for Seniors
- ☐ Produce Resource Guide for Services in the Rockcliffe-Smythe neighbourhood.
- ☐ Hosted a School Opportunities Fair

## Community Development Officer:

Rose-Ann Bailey  
647-888-2483 roseann.bailey@toronto.ca

## A Neighbourhood Story:

Community residents, Ward Councillor, agency and city staff are working together to ensure that the newly proposed shelter to be located at 731 Runnymede has a positive impact on the community. A Community Liaison Committee has been developed to ensure that residents, local agencies and City Councillors advise City staff on the best ways to establish the shelter within the community. As a result of the proposed shelter City staff have been developing a York/Weston/Junction Strategy to improve economic development and access to City and social services and land use for the area.



# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: REXDALE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PARTNERSHIP

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#2 Mount Olive-Silverstone-Jamestown  
#3 Thistletown-Beaumont Height  
#4 Elms-Old Rexdale  
#21 Humber Summit  
#22 Humbermede

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 1 - Councillor Vincent Crisanti  
Ward 7 - Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti

## Priority actions:

- ☐ Economic Opportunities: Provided Food Handler Certification Courses to residents seeking employment in the food service industry.
- ☐ Economic Opportunities: Offered First Aid Certification courses to 40 youth to increase job opportunities in the recreation and community service sector.
- ☐ Economic Opportunities: Hosted a Service and Information Fair through a community wide partnership focusing on creating employment opportunities for youth.

## Community Development Officer:

Wayne Robinson  
416-206-1553 wayne.robinson@toronto.ca

## A Neighbourhood Story:

The North Etobicoke Resident Council (NERC) is a group of leaders/activists that unite to advocate on matters that affect the community. Together we protect the best interests of our community by finding solutions that will improve the quality of life for residents. The NERC strives to reduce poverty, address health inequalities and ensure safety by using a community development approach that is inclusive, strengths' based, and culturally competent.  
- North Etobicoke Resident Council

## Community Quote:

"When many come together to make a difference to the community that's, what I call true leadership"  
- Elvide Jacinthe, Resident and NERC Animator Coordinator



# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: DOWNSVIEW RADING NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PARTNERSHIP

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#26 Downsview Roding

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 7 – Giorgio Mammoliti

Ward 9 – Maria Augimeri

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Physical Space: Asset mapped existing programs for youth and established a Youth Space/Programming Issues Workgroup.
- ❑ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: Promoted youth engagement in the neighbourhood by holding 7 focus groups with youth at Downsview Secondary School, Madonna and Pierre Laporte Middle School and 3 community centres, surveying 100+ youth.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Provided 62 youth capacity building trainings (i.e. First Aid/CPR, Food Handling, HIGH Five) in order to enhance their employability.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Increased programming for youth and poverty reduction initiative. As a result, 3 programs were developed which impacted over 85 youth.

## Community Quote:

“We applied for a POL2 grant to revitalize Roding Park so residents of all ages can enjoy new features. It’s essential for neighbourhood safety and to bring people back into the park again!”

- Lisa Pitoccio, Resident

## A Neighbourhood Story:

In Winter 2016, the Downsview community welcomed over 800 Syrian refugees. The refugees stayed at the Toronto Plaza Hotel, where the community welcomed them by donating clothes, toys, and fresh halal meals for the families in order to help them integrate into their new life in Canada. Toronto Public Health provided a Mobile Dental Clinic for the Syrian refugees at the Toronto Plaza Hotel.



## Community Development Officer:

Rosemary Bell

416-889-1285 rosemary.bell@toronto.ca

# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: JANE FINCH TSNS TASK FORCE

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#24 Black Creek

#25 Glenfield Jane Heights

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 7 - Giorgio Mammoliti

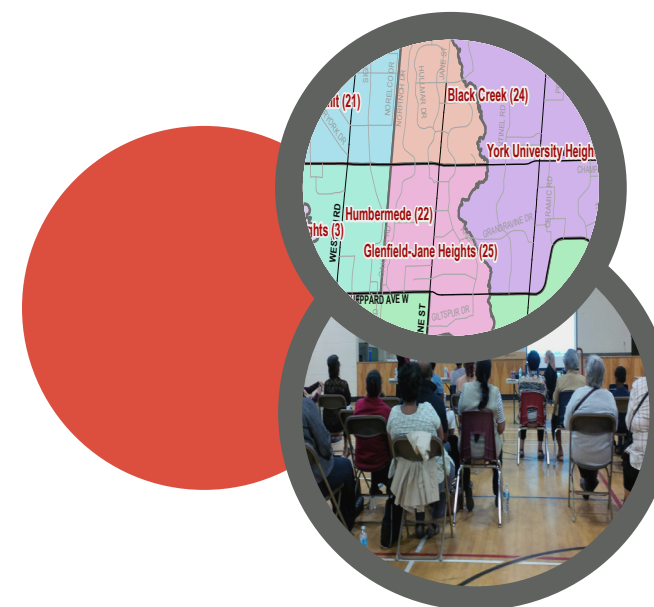
Ward 8 - Anthony Perruzza

## Priority actions:

- ❑ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: Received a catalyst grant from York University to research resident issues. 2 strategic planning sessions with stakeholders and 6 work groups are working to implement the report recommendations.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: Provided job training to 58 adult residents in First Aid, CPR, and job search skills.
- ❑ Healthy Lives: Implemented the Community Garden Network to connect local services and food sources. Provided materials, seeds, soil, tool sharing, workshops on: food literacy; small- and large-scale gardening, food preparation and preserving, and connections community services.
- ❑ Economic Opportunities: 80 highschool youth participated in 'High Five': First Aid, CPR, food handling employability training.

## A Neighbourhood Story:

Community Action Planning Group (CAPG), is a group of residents, workers, and supporters that aims to educate, engage, and mobilize local communities, in order to influence planning and development projects in the Jane-Finch area. This group has worked tirelessly for 5 years, holding regular workshops. Recently they are working with Metrolinx and TTC on incorporating commercial, residential, or community uses that would provide benefits to the Jane-Finch neighbourhood.



## Community Quote:

“It is our aim to ensure that all community residents know how to advocate for themselves regarding housing issues as well as be informed of the housing policy changes that impact them.”

- Nicola Holness, Housing Workgroup Chair

## Community Development Officer:

Rosemary Bell

416-889-1285 rosemary.bell@toronto.ca



# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TABLE: YORK UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PARTNERSHIP

## Neighbourhood Improvement Areas:

#27 York University Heights

## Councillors and Wards:

Ward 8 – Anthony Perruzza

## Priority actions:

- ☐ Healthy Lives: Raised mental health awareness and accommodation across public services in the community, by promoting an inclusive framework to reduce stigma.
- ☐ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: Implemented a monthly series of workshops with funders presenting on grant-writing and funding resources for local organizations.
- ☐ Participation in Civic Decision-Making: Convened community consultation meetings to strengthen connections between local organizations while identifying future capital building project possibilities.

## A Neighbourhood Story:

“The YUH NAP must understand and address the impact of the re-development of the Keele and Finch community and its effect on the people who are most vulnerable in the community.”

- Kola Iluyomade, Mental Health Worker

## Community Development Officer:

Rosemary Bell

416-889-1285 rosemary.bell@toronto.ca



## A Neighbourhood Story:

Employment sector service providers in York University Heights identified a need for more supports for residents experiencing mental health challenges. A connection was made to a newcomer service provider in the partnership who has a program for newcomer mental health professionals to get Canadian experience. This was a win-win situation for everybody.

# COMMUNITY HUB: 1652 KEELE STREET

## Community Hub Coordinator:

Melodie Anderson

416-392-2981 melodie.anderson@toronto.ca

## Priority actions:

- ☐ Building a vision; working with all stakeholders in the community to revitalize the Hub space to increase services and resident participation.
- ☐ Partnership development; bringing together organizations that provide services at the Hub to work collaboratively.



## The Community Hub Story:

The City depends on the community-based sector to achieve its service and strategic goals. Consequently, the City has a significant interest in providing a range of supports, including leasing City space at Below Market Rent(BMR), to community service organizations to ensure their viability.

A community hub is a central access point for a range of needed health, education and social services, along with cultural, recreational, and green spaces. Community hubs have many benefits to the community, including potential cost-savings, service alignments and integration, the ability to target priority populations, bringing services to residents, providing better customer service, and responding to changing community needs and to population growth.

Since 2005, community organizations including; For Youth Initiative, Social Planning Toronto, Community Action and Resource Centre, and the Woman Abuse Council of Toronto have worked together to create access to services, programs, and events at 1652 Keele St. In 2008 these organizations submitted a grant proposal to the Youth Challenge Fund resulting in approximately \$1.4 million in capital funds, along with contributing funding from the City's Partnership Opportunity Legacy fund. A new youth program space was created in the basement that is now part of For Youth Initiative space. Another new program space for Community Action Resource Centre was renovated on the top floor in 2015 with capital funding from Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Programs in the space have provided opportunities for youth, seniors, newcomers, parents with young children, and women, to receive supports, develop new skills, and enjoy social recreation activities. The founding partners of the Keele St. Hub and new partners are now supported by a Community Hub Coordinator from Social Development Finance and Administration division of The City of Toronto to ensure that 1652 Keele St. continues to develop into a fully accessible community hub space.

# THANKS TO ALL OUR PARTNERS

We engage, ally and connect to over 100 local networks and workgroups across NIAs and Emerging Neighbourhoods.

connect to over 100  
workgroups across  
neighbourhoods.

NEIGHBOURHOOD FAITH NETWORK  
ACTION PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY CONNECT  
SOMALI WOMEN NETWORK ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP  
DON-GOVERNING BODY PARKDALE ROUNDTABLE  
NEWCOMERS SERVICE PROVIDERS NETWORK SENIOR SERVICE York Youth Coalition Morningside Healthy Families  
Mornelle Service Providers Network GILDER DRIVE  
DIXON SAFETY COMMITTEE  
DOWNTOWN EAST COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION INTEGRATED LOCAL LABOUR PROJECT  
CHILD AND FAMILY NETWORK Friends of Angela Davis Arena IN IONVIEW PARK  
COMMUNITY CRISIS Don Mont-Kitchen Project MARKET PROJECT SCHOOL COMMUNITY NETWORK  
RESPONSE NETWORK York South Weston Employment Training Table FLEMINGDON THORNCLIFFE COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAM  
THORNCLIFFE PARK YOUTH NORTH ETOBICOKE RESIDENT COUNCIL FLEMINGDON THORNCLIFFE  
LUMSDEN ACTION WOMENS COMMITTEE SERVICE NETWORK VICTORIA VILLAGE INTER AGENCY NETWORK FRONTLINE YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK  
GREENHILLS COMMUNITY NORTH END PARTNERSHIP REGENT PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION  
NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUTH ALLIANCE COLLABORATIVE ASSOCIATION MOUNT DENNIS COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES  
1652 GOWER PLACE ASSOCIATION Neighbourhood Youth Alliance LEGACY FUND  
KEELE STREET PARK ADVISORY TAYLOR MASSEY WESTON HUB Integrated Labour and Employment Network  
NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK CRESCENT-TOWN  
TEESDALE SERVICE PROVIDERS NETWORK SERVICES COUNCIL  
PARKDALE SERVICES NETWORK PARKDALE LAND USE WESTON VILLAGE  
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC PLANNING ROUNDTABLE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FRIENDS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
OAKRIDGE PARK STAKEHOLDERS TABLE



