

What is a Community Development Plan?

A Community Development Plan is a community-centred process that enhances typical land use planning by engaging diverse local residents, community groups, organizations, and other partners to identify principles, priorities and subsequent actions that can advance equity and build stronger communities.

A Community Development Plan is built on resident and community assets. It recognizes that neighbourhoods have community leaders with capacity, local resident networks, non-profit organizations and institutional partners that have filled in the structural gaps to services and supports Confronting Anti-Black Racism, and Partnerships & Resourcing. These principles are embedded in the eight (8) action areas of the plan listed below:

- Access to Space and Mobility
- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Climate Justice & Community Resilience
- Community Safety and Wellbeing
- Food Sovereignty and Justice
- Gentrification and Black Displacement
- Inclusive Economic Opportunities
- Inclusive Entrepreneurial Opportunities

Questions

for decades.

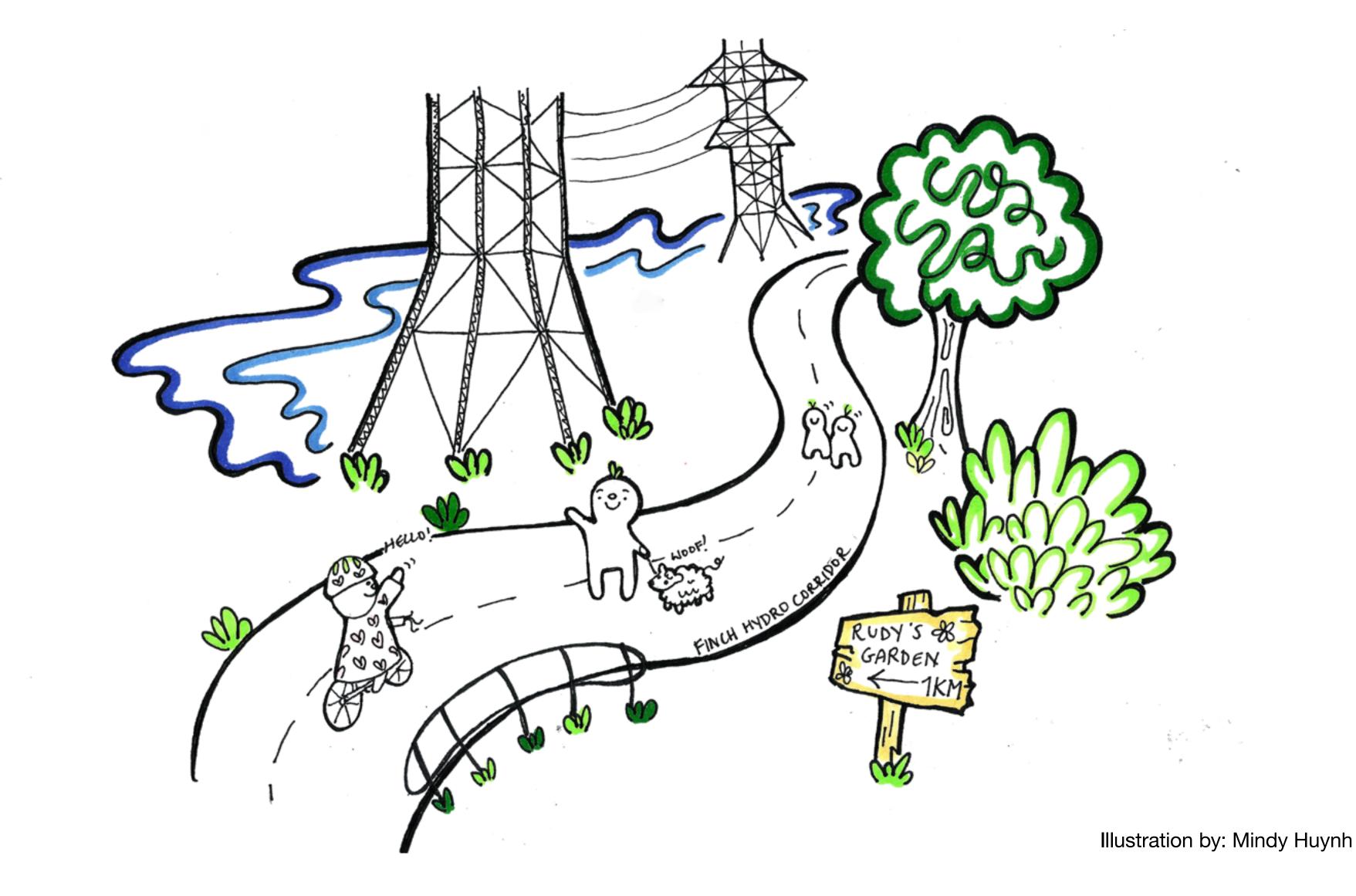
The Community Development Plan will accompany the Jane Finch Secondary Plan, creating an opportunity to use social and economic investment tools to address historically-rooted inequities and build on the wealth of community assets and resilience to sustain Jane Finch communities.

The Jane Finch Community Development Plan is guided by three (3) core principles: Truth and Reconciliation, What would make the Jane Finch Community Development Plan impactful and relevant for you?

What lessons should we learn from past plans aimed at supporting the neighbourhood?









economic and cultural development within defined

Community Development Plan Implementation

Timeline:

The Jane Finch Community Development Plan actions will be implemented over a 10-year period with evaluation and updates happening every five (5) years.

Draft actions are proposed to be implemented in different phases:

- Vision Statement: The Community Development Plan will feature a vision under each focus area that aims to illustrate how the City envisions the collective impact of the proposed actions. The vision isn't meant to be just words. It is meant to help us move towards some highlevel and measurable long-term outcomes that we hope to achieve through the advancement of the actions under each area. This is the long-term vision associated with each action area.
- Short-Term Actions: These are actions that are proposed to be implemented over the five years after the Community Development is adopted by Toronto City Council. The City of Toronto will work with community partners to implement Short-Term Actions. The City of Toronto will seek funding and other partnerships to deliver these actions, as appropriate.

neighbourhoods or geographic boundaries. However, the Community Development Plan recognizes and aims to build on longstanding community development work and advocacy led by residents and community-based organizations. In order to realize the various long-term vision statements of the plan, many stakeholders will be engaged and encouraged to commit to community development goals and actions. This includes other orders of government and public sector agencies and institutions; community-based non-profit organizations and funders; and local businesses, social enterprises and landowners. The Community Development Plan will be guided through its full implementation phases by residents and an ongoing partnership between the City and community on a Community Partnership Circle (see Resources, Partnerships, Engagement and Monitoring actions).

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- A monitoring and evaluation process will be developed in collaboration with residents, City of Toronto, funders and other community partners.
- Residents will play an active ongoing leadership role in the monitoring of actions.
- A community report will be developed for every 5-year term of the plan.
- **Mid-Term Actions:** These are actions that are proposed to be implemented over the next 5-10 years after the Community Development Plan is adopted by City Council. These are actions that still require some engagement of partners and guidance from community members.

Who is involved in the implementation of the plan?

A Community Development Plan is adopted by Toronto City Council - alongside a parallel Land Use Plan - and considers tools that the City has to support social,

Required Resources:

- The City will work with community partners to identify the resources required to implement Short-Term actions.
- The City is seeking to establish a Jane and Finch Resourcing Table to support the implementation of advancement of the Community Development Plan through coordinated and strategically focused resourcing with multiple partners.
- Some of the proposed actions also call for public and private-sector commitments to Community Benefits including employment and training opportunities through redevelopment projects.







CDP Principles

The Community Development Plan is guided by three core principles:

Indigenous Reconciliation: Engagement with Indigenous communities is an essential step towards reconciliation and honouring Indigenous sovereignty. There is great potential for the Jane Finch area to support Indigenous communities, restore Indigenous identity within the landscape and in public spaces, connect people to arts and culture; and build community resources and programs in the future.

Confronting-Anti-Black Racism: Engagement with Afro-Caribbean and Black Communities is an important step towards promoting racial justice systemic change that addresses the impacts of structural anti-Black racism on Jane Finch. The Community Development Plan is intended to support transformative approaches to safety and wellbeing, address gentrification and Black displacement, support Black arts and promote food sovereignty for Black communities in Jane Finch. **Partnership & Resourcing:** The Community Development Plan creates an opportunity to work with Jane Finch residents to ensure that the plan is implemented in a way that is truly impactful for residents and aligns with their own visions for the neighbourhood. The Community Development Plan also creates the opportunity to invite diverse funding /resource partners to align resources with the vision and focus of the plan.

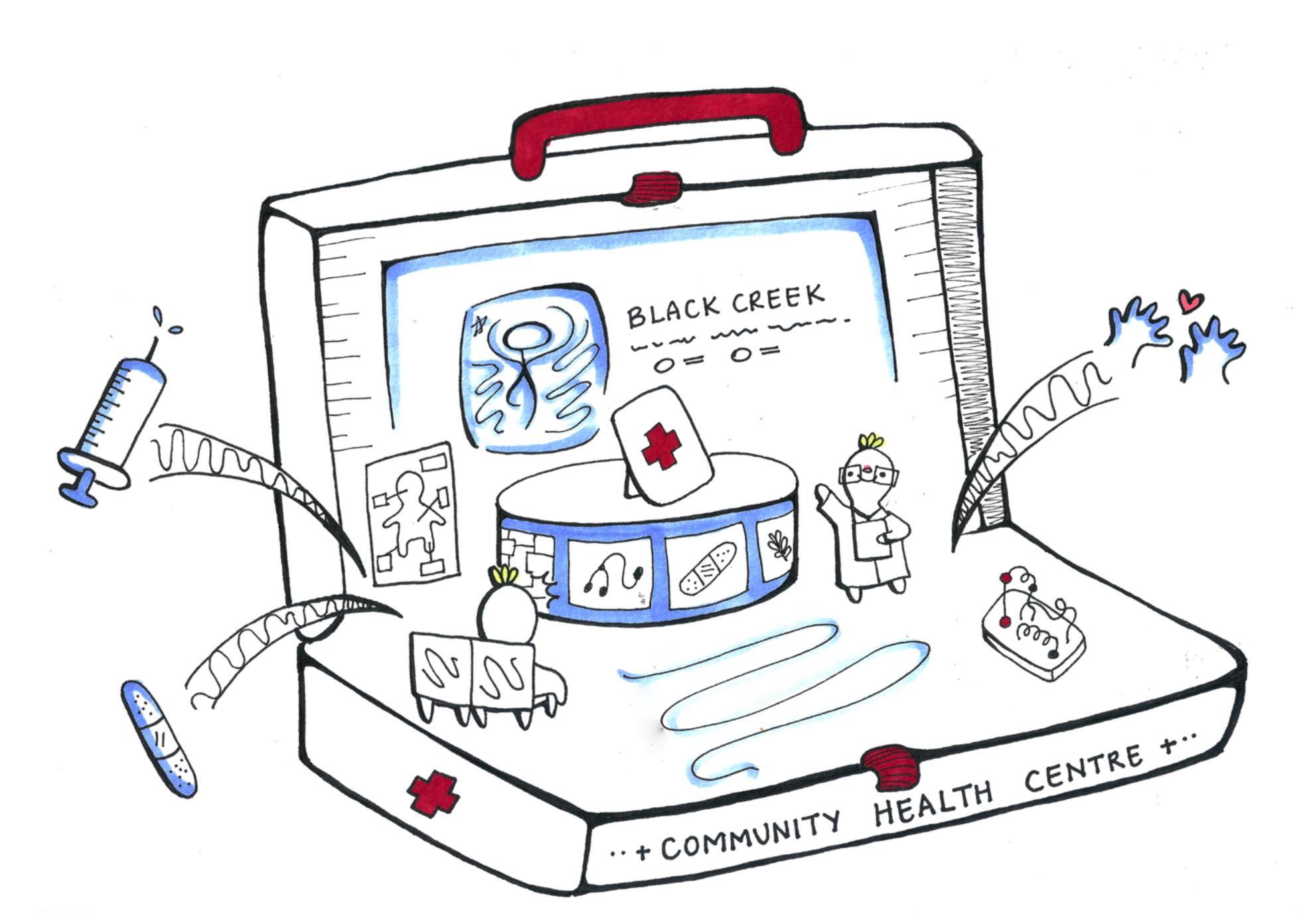
Questions

What do these principles mean for you and for the Jane Finch community?

What should we consider as we work to advance these principles through the Jane and Finch Community Development Plan?







How to read and engage with the action boards?

DOTMOCRACY GUIDELINES FOR STICKER DOTS: MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

- 1. **Careful Consideration:** Take a moment to carefully review and assess all proposed actions.
- 2. **Choose Wisely:** Place your dot stickers next to the Community Development Plan actions you support and resonate with.
- 3. **Colour Code Your Opinion:** Provided are three different colours of dots for your convenience:

- **Green:** Use this colour to express your approval or support.
- **Red:** Indicate your disapproval or concerns with this colour.
- **Yellow Post-it Notes:** Leave your feedback.

4. Feel free to share additional comments or feedback on a post-it note.

Your participation is essential in shaping the future of our community. Make your dots count!





Inclusive Employment Opportunities

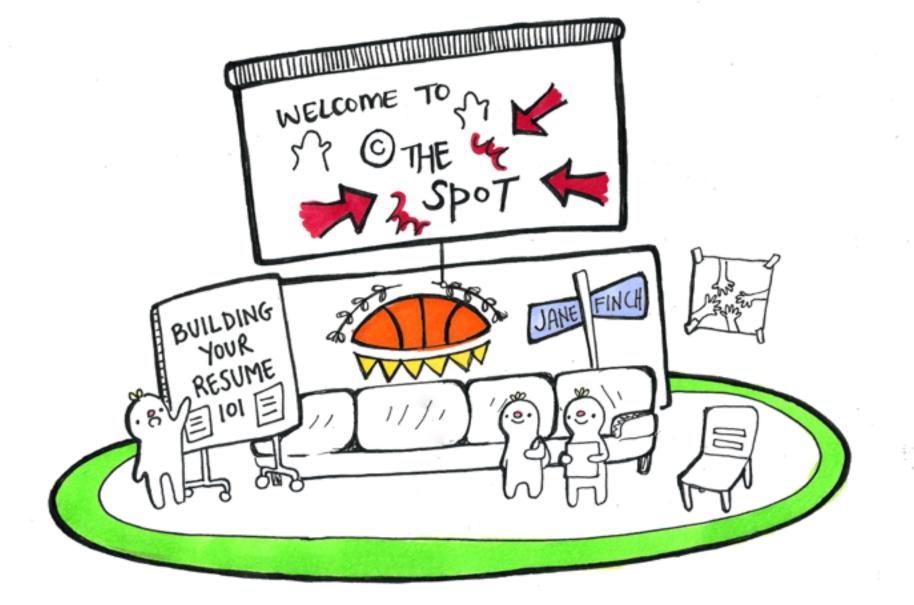


Illustration by: Mindy Huynh

The Community Development Plan aims to advance a vision for inclusive employment opportunities in Jane Finch through key actions. The vision is one that we hope to align with your vision for the community. What does this vision mean to you?

Other supports for job seekers:

- Publicize and facilitate intake to City-supported education/ training programs (eg. Production Assistant training program, etc.)
- Establish Yorkgate Toronto Employment & Social Services (TESS) Access and Resource Centre (ARC) mandate and tie to other Jane Finch Initiative goals (eg. make space available for employer and training program information sessions).
- Explore City support for collective impact employment initiatives.
- See also employment related actions on Arts, Culture and Heritage board and Food Justice and Sovereignty board.

ACTIONS: MID-TERM (5 - 10 YEARS)

Explore ongoing planning, collaboration and partnership initiatives:

- Support TCHC community economic development plans as part of Firgrove redevelopment.
- Establish additional workforce intermediary model(s) in JF and strengthen local workforce development network.
- Deepen connections between Yorkgate Toronto
 Employment & Social Services (TESS) centre and other
 Employment Ontario agencies to maintain functions (job fairs etc.) that have been delivered in the past.

The Jane Finch Initiative is a community-driven project founded on three core principles: Indigenous Reconciliation, Equity for Black and Other Deserving Groups, and Resourceful Partnerships and Engagement. These principles guide eight action areas, one of which is Inclusive Employment Opportunities. The long-term vision for this action area was informed by extensive community engagement.

VISION:

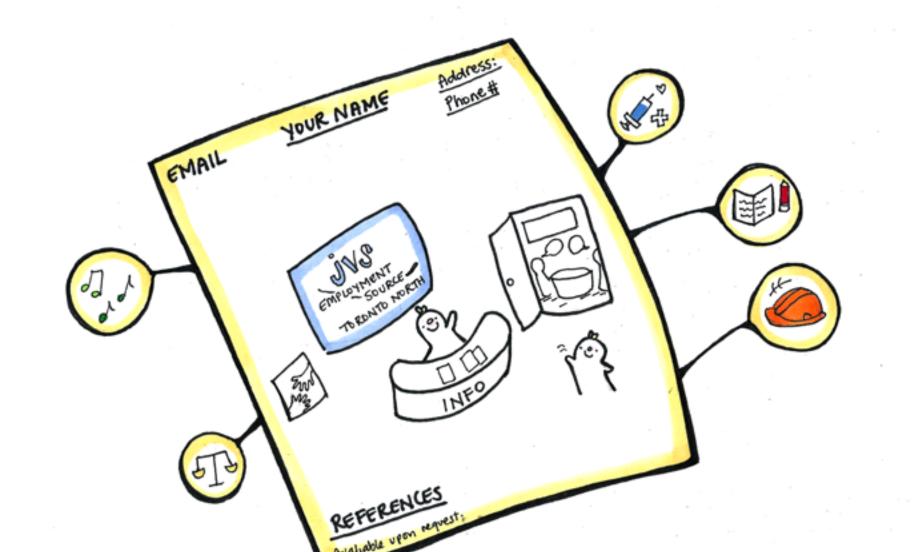
• A Jane Finch community where residents have improved economic outcomes via stable and well-paid job opportunities, including with local employers, and are supported to further develop qualifications and access job openings.

ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YEARS)

Opportunities for local hiring:

- Assess opportunities for equity-based community benefits plans in development projects in the Jane Finch Initiative study area. This includes both City-led community benefits initiatives and private sector-led projects.
- To achieve inclusive employment opportunities through community benefits plans, leverage the City's Community Benefits Toolkit, which includes Workforce Intermediary model, templates and other resources. Share materials to support voluntary commitments to Community Benefits employment and training by public and private sector employers (including developers, anchor institutions, members of BIAs etc.).

- Establish connections with school board and local high schools to support co-op placements, Specialist High Skills Major programs, etc.
- Support employment-focussed social enterprises to respond to opportunities through the City's Social Procurement Program and other strategic procurement.
- Support the formation of new employment-focussed social enterprises and social entrepreneurs.
- Continue to seek workforce development commitments in City-led and private sector-led projects, through equitybased community benefits plans.
- See also employment related actions on Arts, Culture and Heritage board and Food Justice and Sovereignty board.



- Prepare resources to help achieve/exceed local employment requirement as part of any nearby Imagination, Manufacturing, Innovation and Technology (IMIT) applications.
- Seek commitments related to employment/training opportunities for local residents with TTC and Metrolinx including at the Finch West LRT Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF).
- Publicize and support York U community collaboration and commitments to local hiring.

Questions

Are these actions drafted correctly?

We want to hear from you about the language we are using. We also want to know how we might ensure that this action is strong and has the right focus.

How do we ensure that the actions make the right impact? Ultimately, we aim to make a real impact. If we want this action to have real impact, what do we need to know?





Illustration by: Mindy Huynh



Inclusive

Entrepreneurship Opportunities

ACTIONS: MID-TERM (5 - 10 YEARS)

Explore ongoing planning, collaboration, and

The Community Development Plan aims to advance a vision for inclusive entrepreneurship opportunities in Jane Finch through key actions. The vision is one that we hope to align with your vision for the community. What does this vision mean to you?

The Jane Finch Initiative is a community-driven project founded on three core principles: Indigenous Reconciliation, Equity for Black and Other Deserving Groups, and Resourceful Partnerships and Engagement. These principles guide eight action areas, one of which is inclusive entrepreneurship opportunities. The long-term vision for this action area was informed by extensive community engagement.

VISION:

• A Jane Finch community where residents are supported to start and grow businesses within and beyond the community and have access to appropriate and affordable space; and that, in turn, businesses located within the Jane Finch community provide key goods and services for residents.

ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YEARS)

partnership initiatives:

- Further develop connections between entrepreneur clients in Jane and Finch and City- supported programs like the Black Innovation Program at DMZ and Black Entrepreneurship Alliance.
- Develop collaborative outreach to healthcare facilities, MSF, Humber, York, TTC, TCHC etc. to evaluate current and possible future commitments to social/local procurement.
- Partner with business associations to support legacy/ diverse businesses (eg. Main Street Recovery and Rebuild Initiative in Little Jamaica).
- Collaborate with partner organizations (e.g. United Way Inclusive Local Economic Opportunity) to explore possibility of joint venture enterprises and market accelerator programs.
- See also entrepreneurship related actions on Arts, Culture and Heritage board and Food Justice and Sovereignty board.

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City of Toronto entrepreneurship supports:

- Deliver and publicize City of Toronto Entrepreneurship Services forums and resources in Jane and Finch.
- Provide additional Entrepreneurship Services programming and advisory services (from York Woods library).
- Outreach to local resident candidates to attend City's Small Business Forum as delegates.
- Outreach to local candidates to connect to incubator spaces/programs (eg. Toronto Fashion Incubator, North York Food Hall etc.)
- Run promotion drive for certified diverse supplier lists.
- See also entrepreneurship related actions on Arts, Culture and Heritage board and Food Justice and Sovereignty board.









Food Justice and Sovereignty

The Community Development Plan aims to advance a vision for inclusive entrepreneurship opportunities in Jane Finch through key actions. The vision is one that we hope to align with your vision for the community. What does this vision mean to you?

Establish Food Sovereignty Community of Practice

- Expand partnerships and initiatives to address food sovereignty, including community composting, free meal programs, and community gardening.
- Increase food access for students and seniors through community support and partnerships and strengthen collaboration with local businesses to establish healthy meal programs at cost.

The City of Toronto's Jane Finch Initiative is a communitydriven project founded on three core principles: Indigenous Reconciliation, Equity for Black and Other Deserving Groups, and Resourceful Partnerships and Engagement. These principles guide eight action areas, one of which is food sovereignty and justice. This action area's long-term vision, informed by extensive community engagement, is to cultivate food justice and sovereignty in Jane Finch. Through community-led initiatives and innovative land ownership approaches, we aim to establish a replicable model for inclusive food systems transformation, empowering communities across Toronto.

VISION:

• A Jane Finch community where community members and partners own and lead food systems transformation that creates equitable access to all with a particular focus on Indigenous, Black, and Equity Deserving Groups.

ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YRS)

Align with City strategies and community actions, projects, and partnerships to enhance food justice for equity-deserving groups. • Prioritize community space for food-related endeavors (refrigerated/storage space, kitchens, distribution needs).

Establish Community Gardens Collective

 Collaborate with local organizations, agencies, tower property owners and schools to establish and promote community gardens and composting of food scraps for use in these gardens.

Support Locally led Food Justice Programs

 Educational programs and workshops on food preservation techniques, teaching community members how to store and utilize produce efficiently.

ACTIONS: MID-TERM (5 – 10 YEARS)

Renew and improve resourcing of City, Community and Private Sector Food partnerships and Resources

- Explore and identify locations for community kitchens and gardens, leveraging investments from new developments.
- Engage Hydro One to identify priorities sites for community gardens within the Hydro Corridor
- Work with City Planning to support the retention of existing supermarkets through phasing of development.
- Align local actions with the City of Toronto's Reconciliation Action Plan to improve access to traditional foods and medicines.
- Conduct a jurisdictional scan for models and implementation steps to establish community-based food co-ops, activation of lands, both public and private, for Black-led community food sovereignty initiatives and food justice initiatives led by equity-deserving groups.
- Build community capacity and experience to ensure the long term sustainability of current and future community garden spaces through Parks, Forestry and Recreation's 'Community Gardens Program.

• Collaborate with the Black Creek Community Farm for community-led food sovereignty initiatives.

Questions

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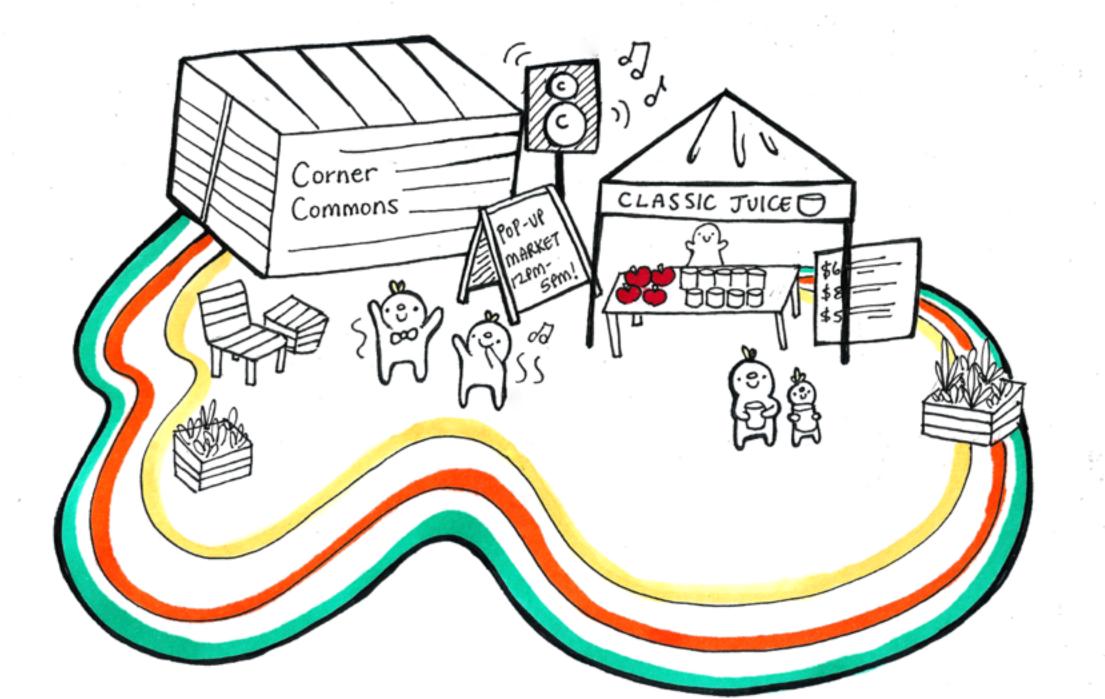
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Community Safety & Wellbeing

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led safety and well-being (eg TO Wards Peace, Toronto Community Crisis Service Pilot, Community Healing Program, Enhanced Restorative Justice Program, Youth Violence Prevention Program).

- Collaborate with the City of Toronto Community Safety and Well-being Unit and local community organizations, grassroots groups and other partners to ensure consistent safety and well-being initiatives are in place, focusing on education, resources and support.
- Strengthen partnerships with community stakeholders to

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VISION:

• A Jane Finch community in which residents, advocates, and local organizations are better supported to address the root causes of violence and insecurity through public health approaches to community and wellbeing that address their individual and collective quality of life.

ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YEARS)

Create Community-Wide Mental Health Awareness Campaigns

prioritize education on topics such as conflict resolution, violence prevention and mental health awareness.

Identify and invest in community development approaches to youth safety and wellbeing:

- Review and map ongoing programs offered for children and youth to determine programming area gaps.
- Engage young people through after-school programs.
- Include a review of City-owned Jane Finch recreation facilities in Parks, Forestry and Recreation's Facilities Master Plan
- Increase programming for children and families living with a disability.

ACTIONS: MID-TERM (5 – 10 YEARS)

Improve the mobility pathways throughout the community.

- Improve pedestrian crossings at specific locations identified Mobility and Transit Implementation Strategy.
- Improve cycling network safety at specific locations identified in the Mobility and Transit Implementation Strategy.
- Work with Parks, Forestry and Recreation and Transportation Services to improve pedestrian-scale lighting in public spaces.

- Create community engagement initiatives to increase understanding and remove the stigma of mental health issues.
- Advocate for affordable and accessible mental health services by collaborating with local mental health service providers.
- Foster collaborations between community organizations, schools and mental health services to create a holistic approach to addressing mental health concerns.
- Continue the ongoing conversations about violence and safety by hosting regular community dialogues, workshops and educational events.

Expanding Community Safety Networks/Partnerships

• Align and leverage City strategies and community initiatives that promote holistic approaches to community• Continue to implement the Black Creek Trail Wayfinding Project.

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Arts, Culture, and Heritage

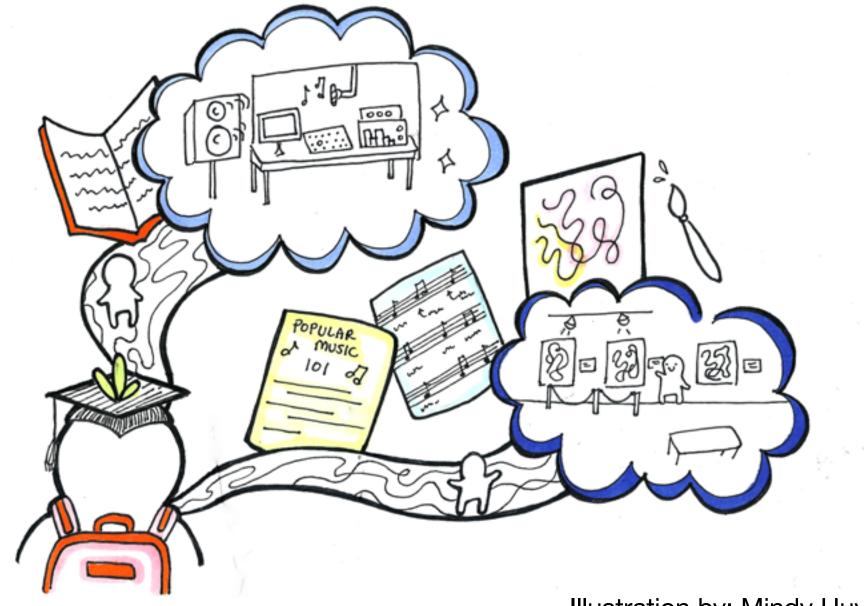


Illustration by: Mindy Huynh

The Community Development Plan aims to advance a vision for arts, culture, and heritage in Jane Finch through key actions. The vision is one that we hope to align with your vision for the community. What does this vision mean to you?

Foster sustainable local arts and culture organizations and programming for Indigenous, Black and equity-deserving community members of all ages.

- Consider the role of museums, galleries and other cultural spaces to advance cultural development in Jane/Finch
- Investigate a pilot of a satellite office for an existing Local Arts Service Organization (LASO), staffed by local community.

Work to advance the City's ten-year Toronto Public Art Strategy and create opportunities for local artists to lead public art projects in the community and activate local spaces with festivals.

- Explore opportunities, funding and space for local festivals.
- Preserve and document existing murals in the community.
- Connect local equity-deserving artists to StreetARToronto and investigate potential for local workshops and mentorships to support emerging artists.

Connect local artists and creatives with resources and professional development opportunities to advance careers in the arts and creative industries.

 Connect local Indigenous, Black and equity-deserving artists and creatives to mentorship and employment opportunities through programs like ArtworksTO, the Production

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VISION:

 Jane Finch is home to an engaged and passionate artistic community that includes Indigenous, Black and equitydeserving visual artists, musicians, performers and event organizers that range from grassroots to the more established. The community is alive with art, including murals, public art and festivals that highlight and celebrate local artists and creatives. Artists and organizations have access to local space to practice their art form, create, exhibit and operate organizations. Funding is available to support projects and operating expenses for organizations.

ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YEARS)

Increase access to arts and culture funding opportunities for Jane Finch based Indigenous, Black and equitydeserving artists.

• The City's Arts & Culture Services will deliver the Cultural Hotspot program in Jane Finch for 2024 and 2025, with opportunities for local Indigenous, Black and equitydeserving artists to apply for project funding.

- Assistant Training Program and Cultural Hotspot
- Identify ongoing resources, partnership and mentorship commitments to advance local arts and culture opportunities and programming.

Support the development and creation of local art spaces and connect arts organizations to existing resources.

- Advance an implementation strategy for the proposed Jane Finch Community Hub and Centre for the Arts.
- Broker relationships with local spaces to provide access for arts organizations.

ACTIONS: MID-TERM (5 – 10 YEARS)

- Work with arts funders like the Toronto Arts Council to accelerate access to operating and project funds for organizations led by and serving Indigenous, Black and equity-deserving communities
- Build on existing work by the City and arts and culture organizations to strengthen links between community-based training options, and post-secondary education institutions
- Identify ongoing resources, partnership and mentorship commitments to connect local equity-deserving artists and creatives to career development opportunities in creative industries
- Continue to support the development of an implementation strategy for the proposed Jane Finch Community Hub and
- Work with funders, including the Toronto Arts Council, to review funding application processes, identify barriers and work to simplify, making processes more accessible for local artists/arts organizations.
- Collaborate with the Toronto Arts Council and other funders to host local information sessions and workshops and to provide enhanced support for applicants.
- Work to provide local artists from Indigenous, Black and equity-deserving groups paid opportunities to be part of City grants adjudication panels.

Centre for the Arts

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Gentrification and Displacement

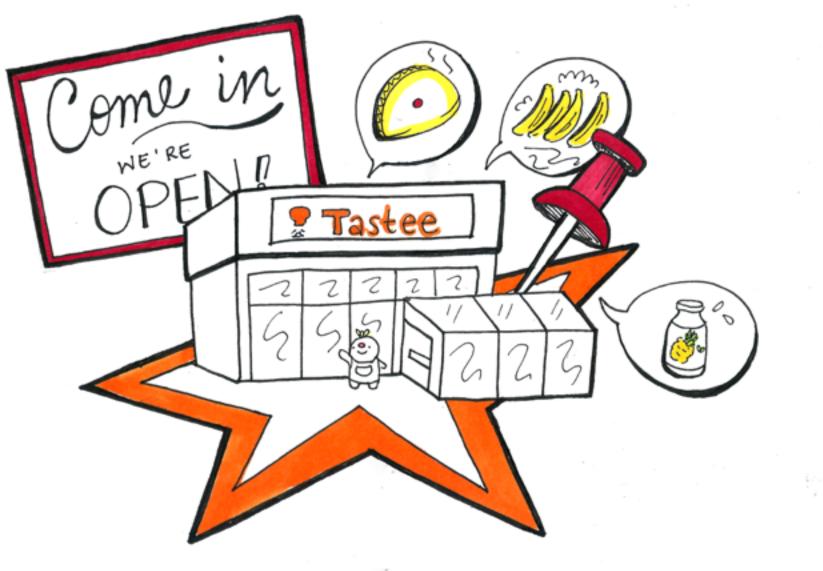


Illustration by: Mindy Huynh

The Community Development Plans aims to advance a vision for gentrification and displacement in Jane Finch through key actions. The vision is one that we hope to align with your vision for the community. What does this vision mean to you?

The Jane Finch Initiative is a community-driven project founded on three core principles: Indigenous Reconciliation, Equity for Black and Other Deserving Groups, and Resourceful Partnerships and Engagement. These principles guide eight action areas, one of which is Gentrification and Black Displacement. New investments in Jane Finch must benefit and enhance the lives of Indigenous, Black, and equitydeserving residents that have called Jane Finch home.

Increase supports for community place-making projects that centre Indigenous, Black, and equity-deserving residents:

- Develop an actionable model that increases resident participation in and influence over capital investments.
- Support community partnerships to document and celebrate the placemaking efforts of Indigenous, Black and other cultural identities to build community uniqueness.
- Develop partnerships with academic institutions and community partners to develop academic research and data platforms that track and evaluate neighbourhood change.
- Partner with artists and diverse professionals to document neighbourhood change dynamics via diverse mediums (eg artistic maps and short films).

Prioritize policy development that enhances City of Toronto cross-divisional collaboration focused on gentrification and anti-displacement:

• Work with the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit and participating City partners to advance the Growing in Place Framework through new policy development and practice.

Maintain the cultural integrity and diverse identities of community spaces:

 Work in collaboration with City partners and across divisions to identify cultural landmarks, promote the establishment of community hubs and develop strategies to encourage the preservation of local tangible and intangible cultural identity and community heritage in new developments.

Jane Finch is shaped by a history of residents, organizations, and community actors advocating for responsible and just investment and neighbourhood growth and change. To enhance residents' ability to Grow in Place, the City of Toronto recognizes the need to advance policy development that aims to combat gentrification and Black displacement recognizing that the policies developed will benefit all of Jane and Finch. Through focused and coordinated policy action across divisions, the City of Toronto aims to ensure that residents disproportionately vulnerable to displacement can grow and thrive in Jane Finch over the long-term.

VISION:

• A Jane Finch community where all community members, families, groups and local businesses are rooted and strong and can Grow in Place.

ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YEARS)

Create Principles for Developing Land in Jane Finch:

- Landowners should present to the Community Partnership Circle (Resident Leads) during the pre-application stage to discuss plans and receive input.
- Consideration of community assets on land slated for redevelopment (gathering spaces, murals, historical or cultural significance etc.)
- Landowners should make themselves available for community input

ACTIONS: MID-TERM (5 – 10 YEARS)

Residential Displacement Mitigation

- Increase clarity and transparency around how the developer applicants are addressing residential displacement in their planning rationale.
- Review Official Plan rental replacement policy applies, setting out an implementation plan. Expectations may include providing clarity and transparency around residential displacement, compensation, timelines, plans.

Update Affordable Housing Targets:

- Partner with developers and housing organizations to allocate a percentage of affordable housing and ensure that new developments integrate with the existing community. Incorporate cultural elements, community gathering spaces, and design features that promote social interaction and cohesion.
- Identify opportunities to prioritize access to existing and new affordable housing for individuals and families of Black, Indigenous, and equity-deserving groups, prioritizing people living with a disability in Jane Finch area.

Collaborate with funding partners and community partners to advance and invest in community-led land and housing ownership:

- Explore feasibility of establishing community land trusts and cooperative ownership models.
- City and community partners will collaborate to provide improved supports for affordable housing for Indigenous and Black residents and equity-deserving communities in Jane Finch.

Commercial Displacement Mitigation – Reduce

- Clarity and transparency around how the applicant is addressing commercial displacement in their planning rationale.
- and questions during the application and construction phases.
- In their applications, developers are encouraged to address community expectations which may include:
- · significant efforts toward providing affordable housing.
- efforts to diversify the mix of unit types and sizes (larger, familyoriented units with more bedrooms)
- · retaining and improving existing housing
- · public realm improvements
- · access to community space
- · consideration of conditions during construction

Promote Economic Development:

- Clarity and transparency around how the application contributes to local economic development.
- Promote local hiring and local workforce development opportunities.
- Inclusion of entrepreneurial incubator space

- Expectations may include replacement of existing number of storefronts; right of return for existing commercial tenants, future lease rates, phasing plans.
- Preserve, enhance, formalize community-led gathering spaces like Corner Commons.

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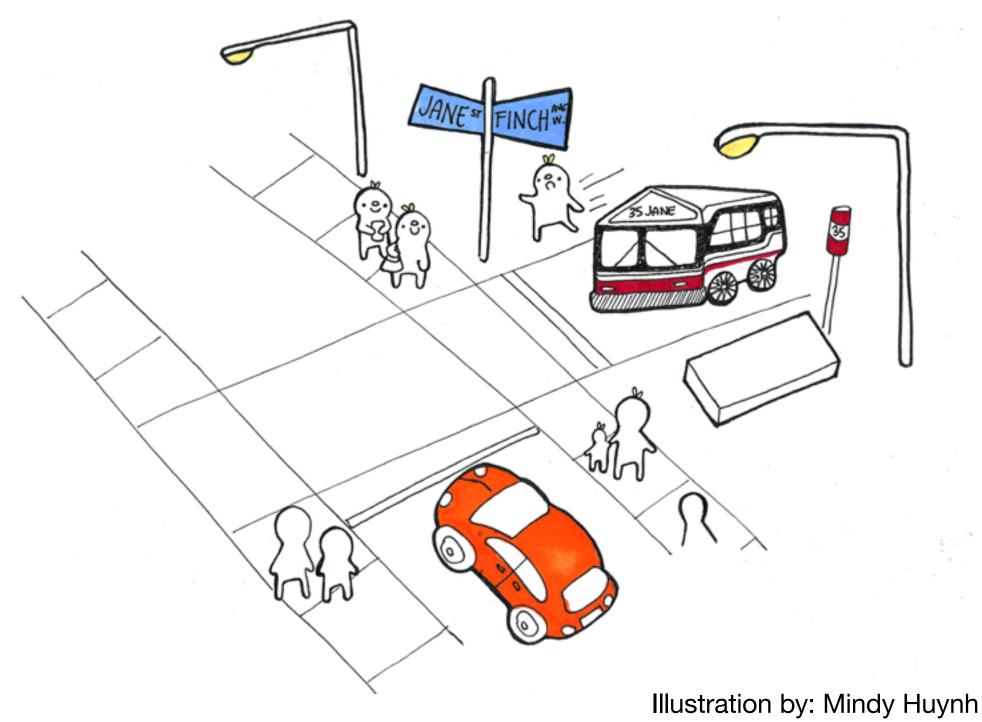
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Access to Space and Mobility



The Community Development Plan promotes aims to advance a vision for access to space in Jane Finch through key actions. The vision is one that we hope to align with your vision for Jane and Finch. What does this vision mean to you?

The City of Toronto's Jane Finch Initiative is a community-driven project

- Increase the scope and diversity of community-owned and run spaces in the area to ensure their accessibility for groups including but not restricted to children and youth with disability, seniors, and residents with mental health challenges.
- Identify actions and partnerships that enhance the accessibility infrastructure in City-run and owned spaces.

Create Community Initiatives to address "Digital Divide":

- Explore opportunities for collaboration between the City, or City entities, and the private sector to digitally connect underserved areas in Jane Finch to enhance the City-wide high-speed broadband network.
- Support digital literacy, develop online platforms and social media channels dedicated to fostering community engagement and sharing of information.
- City to work with community partners to subsidize internet access and provide free internet in City-owned buildings and create digital space to ensure equitable access to the internet and technology.
- Engage housing providers to identify opportunities for improved access to affordable high-speed internet and easily accessible technical programming at and around housing.
- Enhance high speed internet in indoor and outdoor spaces.
- Work with community partners to expand technological programming.

Implement Incubator Spaces Initiative:

- Explore access to affordable spaces for small non-profits, Indigenous, Black and other equity-deserving groups.
- Support local grassroots groups by improving access to meeting spaces and lowering permitting barriers.

Align with current community capital and service investment initiatives including:

founded on three core principles: Indigenous Reconciliation, Equity for Black and Other Deserving Groups, and Resourceful Partnerships and Engagement. These principles guide eight action areas, one of which is Access to Space. Community spaces provide a critical site for residents, community leaders, community groups and not-for-profits providing needed supports to the Jane Finch community. Community spaces foster community-building, promote stronger relationships between residents and help create a strong sense of place. At the same time, Indigenous, Black and equity-deserving groups, newcomers, +2SLGBTQI, and seniors experience all public spaces as safe, welcoming, and accessible. Jane Finch residents have a long and documented history of advocating for improved indoor and outdoor public space. Community spaces that are informal are shaped by intentional holistic planning and design principles that advance truth, reconciliation, racial justice, and equity. New and increased investments in the area create a significant opportunity to explore the ways that indoor and outdoor community spaces can be made accessible and equitable.

VISION:

• A Jane Finch community where all community members have access to barrier free spaces for social, recreational, family, community, employment and business-oriented activities.

ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YEARS)

Enhance City Service Partnerships to support service and capital investments:

- Work with Parks Forestry and Recreation to increase community awareness and barrier-free access to recreational spaces including enhanced youth spaces, indoor and outdoor program spaces, parks, etc.
- Work with Toronto Public Library to increase awareness and barrier-free access to the updated York Woods library.
- Increase community awareness of existing and new Toronto Children's Services spaces to promote access to programs and services.

- Work with City divisions and partners to explore opportunities for providing affordable and quality non-profit licensed childcare in ways that will impact the well-being and economic outlook of low income Indigenous, Black and equity-deserving households.
- Work with Children's Services division to identify opportunities to prioritize access to non-profit licensed childcare spaces for Black, Indigenous and equity-deserving groups.
- The development of the Jane Finch Hub and Centre for the Arts and the Community Music Schools of Toronto.
- Outdoor space, such as public squares and parks, support community festivals and other social recreational activities.

ACTIONS: MID-TERM (5 – 10 YEARS)

Identify City strategies and community and private sector partnerships that leverage the following:

- Monitor the implementation of the Community Service Facilities strategy, which identifies the community service facilities slated for improvement and/ or new facilities.
- Identify and implement a Universal Basic Mobility pilot.
- Provide safe space and access to Indigenous, Black, racialized and newcomer +2SLGBTQI community groups and not for profits.
- Apply an 'all ages' lens to new community facilities, park design, and public realm improvements.
- Collaborate with the Toronto Parking Authority to implement BikeShare expansion throughout the study area in consultation with the Jane Finch community.
- Engage residents, Indigenous organizations and City Agencies, Board, Commissions and Divisions and other institutional partners to identify opportunities to design and build Indigenous Place Keeping and Ceremonial Spaces.
- Increase community awareness of Social Development Finance and Administration policies and initiatives that focus on access to space including Community Space Tenancy Policy and Recipe for Community initiative.
- Increase community awareness of arts and culture initiatives supported by Economic Development Culture.
- Increase community awareness of the Solid Waste Management Strategy and its Community Reduce-Reuse Program, that focus on waste reduction, sharing, repairing, and reuse (i.e., bike repair, urban harvest, community composting).
- Work with the City's Technology Services Division to explore further opportunities for internet accessibility in public spaces and to expand access to affordable home internet options through the proposed City of Toronto Household Broadband Subsidy.

Create a Space Access Inventory for Jane Finch Communities:

• Identify safe, accessible, and welcoming indoor and outdoor community-led gathering spaces (i.e., Corner Commons), by promoting accessibility in public realm and parks.

- Engage PFR to partner to continue to support community engagement on new parks planning studies and capital projects.
- Identify actions to make improvements to the waiting experience for surface transit in conjunction with RapidTO (art-making, planting shade trees, seating, community notice boards, etc.)



Are these actions drafted correctly?

We want to hear from you about the language we are using. We also want to know how we might ensure that this action is strong and has the right focus.

How do we ensure that the actions make the right impact?

Ultimately, we aim to make a real impact. If we want this action to have real impact, what do we need to know?





Climate Justice & Community Resilience



Illustration by: Mindy Huynh

The Community Development Plan aims to advance a vision for climate justice and action in Jane Finch through key actions. The vision is one that we hope to align with your vision for the community. What does this vision mean to you?

The Jane Finch Initiative is a community-driven project founded on three core principles: Indigenous Reconciliation, Equity for Black and Other Deserving Groups, and Resourceful Partnerships and Engagement. These principles guide eight action areas, one of which Climate Justice and Action is one. The Community Development Plan will align with, support, and magnify advocates' efforts to realize place-based climate justice in Jane Finch.

Align and Partner with Community Resilience Initiatives:

- Promote existing city strategies and initiatives to facilitate environmental stewardship like PollinateTO.
- Support greater engagement of residents to participate in Climate Action Fund investments.
- Identify and pursue partnerships with City and other institutions that support long-term investments in community resilience.
- Work with Toronto Emergency Management to access training opportunities for Jane Finch residents.
- Explore Resilience Hub, Resilience Networks and other investments focused on community resilience with City and community partners.

Collaborate with City, Community, and Academic Partners to develop climate justice focused data tools:

- Work with City partners to support place-based climate risk assessments with a focus on Jane Finch and a commitment to centering Indigenous and Black lived experience.
- Develop partnerships with academic institutions to promote research that helps residents and community actors better understand and plan for the impacts of climate change on Jane Finch.
- Collaborate with private, public, and funding partners to

The Community Development Plan is guided by a vision of climate justice and centres Indigenous, Black, and equitydeserving residents as both the leaders and beneficiaries of climate justice efforts.

VISION:

- A Jane Finch community that recognizes and incorporates the lived/living experiences of Indigenous, Black and other equity-deserving communities to support community resilience.
- A Jane Finch community that is strong and adapts to the immediate impacts of extreme weather and hazards.
- A Jane Finch community where residents, families, local organizations and institutions, labour force members (workers), and local businesses directly benefit from investments into climate mitigation and climate resilience.

explore longer term increased investments in Jane Finch focused equity driven climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.

ACTIONS: MID-TERM (5 – 10 YEARS)

- Preserve and enhance green spaces that the community values – for ecological health as well as mental health.
- Work with City Planning and developers to encourage design that allows for use of lobbies/indoor amenity space as resilience hubs.
- Work with the City's Urban Forestry to implement the Parks and Public Realm Strategy which speaks to reducing heat island effect by growing the tree canopy.



ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YEARS) Support community led climate adaptation and resilience efforts:

- Develop relationships with Indigenous rightsholders and organizations to centre Indigenous visions for holistic environmental protections and climate justice.
- Work with funding partners to expand support for neighbourhood climate justice efforts led by Black led, Black Serving, Black Focused (B3) organizations.
- Provide increased support to existing resilience networks and clusters.
- Invest in climate action education for local resident/ community-led groups and non-profit organizations.

Questions

Are these actions drafted correctly?

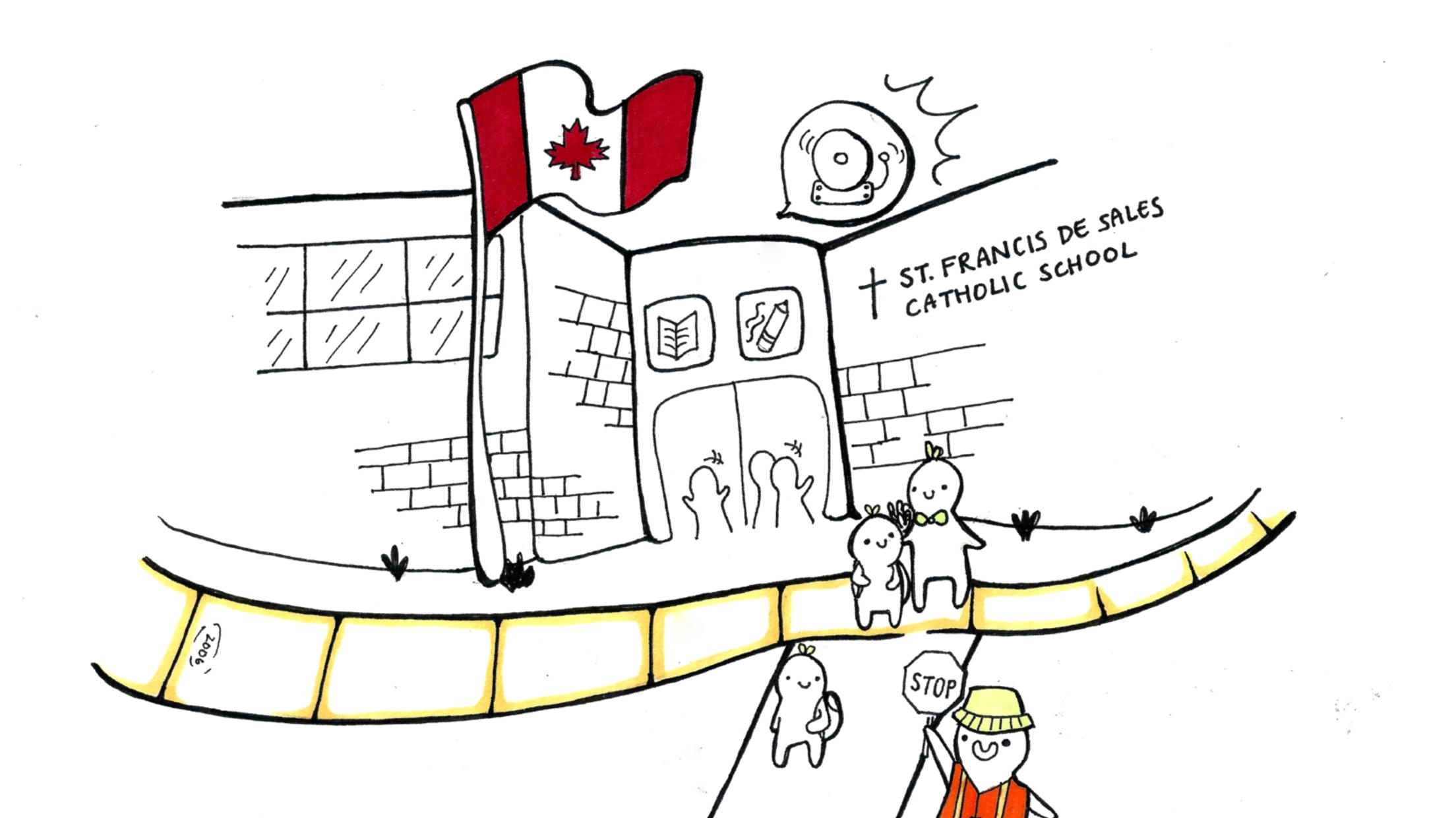
We want to hear from you about the language we are using. We also want to know how we might ensure that this action is strong and has the right focus.

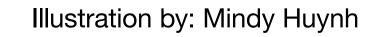
How do we ensure that the actions make the right impact? Ultimately, we aim to make a real impact. If we want this action to have real impact, what do we need to know?





Illustration by: Mindy Huynh





Implementation

(Resources, Partnerships, Engagement and Monitoring)

ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM (0 - 5 YEARS)

Develop an Evaluation Matrix for Community Actions and Funding to:

 Establish an evaluation matrix and shared monitoring plan for social development investments and inclusive economic development actions.

Develop Resource Strategy to:

- Explore and identify ongoing and in-kind resources to support the implementation of Community Development Plan actions.
- Consider the creation of a standing community funders table.

- Explore and identify the creation of the following partnership groups to align with the Jane Finch Initiative Community Partnership Circle
- Jane Finch Initiative Resident Ambassadors as a transition from the Jane Finch Initiative Community Advisory Committee
- · Local Business Table
- Jane Finch Community Development Plan Youth Leader Table
- · Jane Finch City Institutional Table
- · Jane Finch Resource Table
- · Other groups to be identified
- Engage the existing groups to participate in the Jane Finch Initiative Community Partnership Circle and/or subgroups.
- · Leadership from grassroots resident led groups
- Non-profit Leads participating on the Community Coordination Plan Cluster
- Local business leads

Implement Partnership Structure to:

- Identify and implement a resident-centred process to create and implement a Jane Finch Initiative Community Partnership Circle.
- Identify and implement a Community Partnership Circle to support monitoring/evaluation of Community Development Plan actions.
- Leverage City policy and strategies to foster increased collaboration between residents, resident-led groups, community organizations and private developers leading development in the area.
- Ensure that resident-led groups supporting people with disabilities are centred in Community Development Plan partnership governance models and future phases of the community engagement process.

- · Economic Roundtable
- · Artists Collective
- · Youth Leads representing a diversity of youth groups
- · Tenant Association Leaders
- $\cdot\,$ TCHC Tenant Leads
- · Other groups to be identified

Invest in Youth to:

- Prioritize youth action and leadership development and improve communication and outreach to all demographics.
- Develop a participation and capacity development strategy for Jane Finch youth.



