

May 27, 2005

Dear Colleague,

The Intergovernmental Committee on Economic and Labour Force Development in Toronto (ICE) and the Strong Neighbourhoods Task Force invite you to participate in a forum on **Government and Neighbourhoods: Finding New Ways to Work Together**. This event is a follow-up session to last spring's forum on *Urban Development Agreements: Lessons from the West* co-sponsored by ICE and United Way of Greater Toronto. The purpose of this year's forum is to provide neighbourhood perspectives on how governments and communities can work together better to improve neighbourhoods, particularly on economic and labour force development issues.

The forum will take place on **Thursday, June 23, 2005** from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the **Scarborough Civic Centre** in the council chamber.

The format of the session will include two speakers and a facilitated panel discussion:

- **Neil Bradford** from the University of Western Ontario has written extensively on place-based strategies with examples from Canada, the U.S., and the U.K. He will talk about how governments and the voluntary sector have to adjust so that they can work together effectively at the neighbourhood level.
- **Caryl Arundel** from Caryl Arundel and Associates has recently completed a study of three Toronto neighbourhoods for the Strong Neighbourhoods Task Force. She will focus on the importance of understanding how residents feel about their neighbourhoods for implementing neighbourhood strategies.
- **A facilitated panel discussion** will include a presentation on neighbourhood investment plans and perspectives of the panellists.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided at the forum. A detailed agenda with speakers and panellists will be emailed to you next week. There is no cost to participate in this forum. Please RSVP by email no later than June 10, 2005 to: Susan Tran at United Way of Greater Toronto, (e-mail address: tran@uwgt.org, fax number: 416 777-0962). If you have questions or comments about the forum, please feel free to contact me at 416 348-9935 or eslack@esci.ca.

I look forward to seeing you at the forum.

Sincerely,

Enid Slack
Chair, ICE Committee