Research Presentation Series

Community Hubs: Early Learnings on Social and Economic Development

Friday, October 7, 2011, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Registration at 8:30)
AccessPoint Crescent Town Community Hub, 3079 Danforth Avenue (at Victoria Park)

Dear Colleague,

The Intergovernmental Committee for Economic and Labour Force Development in Toronto (ICE) is delighted to invite you to a panel discussion on community hubs in Toronto. Community hubs offer a promising model for coordinated social service delivery, particularly in underserved neighbourhoods. From an economic development perspective, hubs can potentially provide labour force training, live/work space, or small business incubation.

Last year, ICE commissioned *WoodGreen Community Services* to write a report on community hubs in Toronto, which provides a current snapshot and suggests some next steps as hubs continue to develop across the city. It can be found at http://icecommittee.org/Research.htm. **Diane Dyson** (Manager of Planning and Research at WoodGreen Community Services) will present the findings of this report, followed by a panel discussion with individual hub representatives including:

- Safia Ahmed, Executive Director, Rexdale Community Health Centre
- Mario Calla, Executive Director, COSTI Immigrant Services, responsible for four new immigrant Welcome Centres in York Region
- Anne Gloger, Director, East Scarborough Storefront
- Femi James, Coordinator, The S.P.O.T. Youth Hub
- Tim Jones, President and CEO, Artscape
- Glen Newby, President and CEO, The Common Roof

This event will include a summary of the research report and a discussion of the experience of individual hubs with different models of governance, funding, and programming. Opportunities for questions and networking will allow participants to compare experiences, identify common challenges, and discuss best practices.

There is no cost to participate in this forum. Coffee and snacks will be provided in the morning and lunch will be served following the panel discussion at 12:00 noon.

I look forward to seeing you on Friday, October 7. **Seating capacity is limited. Please RSVP to** <u>info@icecommittee.org</u> at your earliest convenience and by no later than September 29, 2011. Feel free to call me directly at 416-348-9935 if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely, Enid Slack, Chair ICE Committee