

**Neighbourhood Action: What Works Locally
ICE Network Meeting, Friday, May 26, 2006
St. Lawrence Hall, Toronto**

Speakers' Biographies

Derek Ballantyne was named Chief Executive Officer of the new Toronto Community Housing Corporation in 2001. Derek previously served as Chief Executive Officer of the Toronto Housing Company, from 1999-2001. Prior to that, he was General Manager, City Living, City of Ottawa Non-profit Housing.

Derek was a long-time volunteer and Board Chair of a community-based non-profit housing corporation in Ottawa; a founding Board member of the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association, and Chair, Raising the Roof, a national charitable organization dedicated to finding solutions to homelessness.

He currently sits on the Board of the Ontario's Social Housing Services Corporation, and has worked on provincial housing working groups and committees in the design and implementation of social housing programs. He has a background in the public and private sectors, and has worked as an independent consultant in project management and delivery.

Tracy Cato is the proud single parent of three children; Tika 21, Jonah, 12 and Dane, 10 years of age. She has lived in the North Etobicoke neighbourhood since 1995.

Her commitment to change began in 2000 when she founded a community summer camp program followed by the "It's In Me Education and Training Programs." Since then she has been pivotal in developing the "Jamestown Working Together Coalition", a partnerships with 29 local non profit agencies and schools.

Sue Corke joined the City of Toronto as a Deputy City Manager in May 2005. For 24 years prior to this, Sue was a member of the Ontario Public Service, joining as a housing policy analyst in 1981 and leaving as Deputy Minister of Consumer and Business Services in 2005. During those 24 years, Sue gradually increased her scope and understanding of public policy and service delivery through such positions as Director, Housing Advocacy Task Force; Director, Strategic Alliance (MCCR - Teranet); Director, Provincial Facilitator's Office (MMAH); Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy & Consumer Protection Services (MCBS); culminating in her leadership role as Deputy Minister (MCBS).

Of particular interest recently has been her work with Ontario's Wine and Microbrewery Strategies; Consumer Protection Reform; Delegated Administrative Authorities; and Service Ontario. Since joining the City, she set up the Affordable Housing Office; gained

approval for 3-1-1; and sponsored an inter-divisional work program on coordinating services for vulnerable neighbourhoods.

Sue has lived in Canada for over 30 years, completing her B.A in Economics and Sociology and an M.Sc. in urban and regional planning at the University of Toronto. She has a special interest in dispute resolution and conflict management.

Mary Crescenzi joined the Federal Public Service in October 1989. Over a 16-year career with the Public Service, Mary has held positions as Director General of Service Delivery for the Toronto/York/Mississauga Sector in Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), Director of the Human Resources Centre of Canada (HRCC) in Oshawa, Director of the HRCC in Toronto Centre, Director of Technology and Innovation and The Leadership Network, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat. Currently, Mary is the Director General of the Citizen and Community Services Branch (CCSB) for the Ontario region in Human Resources and Social Development (HRSD). In this role, Mary leads the CCSB team in implementing service strategies that respond to the needs of citizens and communities; introducing new and sustaining service offerings; strengthening and expanding Service Canada presence in the region through outreach and in-person services; ensuring citizen satisfaction; and facilitating opportunities for transformative change.

From September 1997 to June 2001, Mary was an instructor at the University of Toronto teaching undergraduate students. Some of her other career highlights include receiving the Award of Excellence in 1999, the GTECH bronze award and having held the position of President for the Human Resources Professional Association of Durham.

Debra Dineen has been a resident of the Regent Park community for 17 years, and has been actively working on the redevelopment of Regent Park since 1995. As the chair of the Regent Park Neighbourhood Initiative, Debra continues working with residents of the community to ensure access to services. She also works to explore economic opportunities for all residents as the community transforms, and how the existing community can truly integrate with the new community as it develops.

Allie Lehmann is a Manager of Sexual Health Promotion in the Public Health Department. The Sexual Health Program focuses mainly on youth with very innovative programming related to high risk youth. Her background includes nursing and organizational development.

Allie has a Master's in Adult Education. She thrives on education, facilitation and training and doesn't get to do enough of this in her management role. She is attached to the Flemingdon Park / Victoria Village Neighbourhood Action Team. She is also involved in the City of Toronto partnership with Botswana, Africa on increasing municipal capacity related to HIV/AIDS. One of her volunteer activities is with survivors of mental illness who advocate for supportive housing.

Donna Quan has worked for twenty-two years in the field of education with a wide range of classroom, school leadership and system and external level leadership (schools to Ministry to central portfolios in the Toronto District School Board). Her work has ranged from establishing a non-profit child care centre to teaching in a wide range of communities (from living on a Native reserve in Manitoba to Jane and Finch).

She led as Principal in high priority neighbourhoods, and has been the Superintendent of Education in two Family of Schools, with oversight for 25 schools each time, and with both Family of Schools in high priority neighbourhoods (Jane and Finch and Malvern). Donna has worked at the Ministry of Education's Information Management Branch with lead responsibility for coordinating a province-wide "roll out" of the Ontario School Information System, an internet-based tool for comprehensive collection of student and board data for the purposes of evidence-informed decision making by the Ministry of Education.

Donna's current role is System Superintendent, Alternative Schools, Alternative Programs, Inner City and Safe Schools. This role involves supporting at-risk youth and the oversight of programs to support students requiring short and long-term intervention programs, as well as efforts to address the learning, social and community needs of inner city schools (109 within priority areas). This role involves extensive partnership work with organizations and agencies. Donna is working with the City of Toronto's Children Services Team and she is on the Interdivision Committee for Priority Neighbourhoods.

Neethan Shanmugarajah is a representative of the Malvern Community Coalition. Still in his twenties, Neethan has long been an innovator and advocate for youth and the Malvern community and is the former Executive Director of the CanTYD (Canadian Tamil Youth Development) youth organization. His successes include: developing the Image Campaign to combat negative media stereotyping of Malvern, initiating the Malvern Youth Cabinet to provide a powerful youth advocacy voice for youth in Malvern, and starting the Law and Order Team which involves youth interested in law-related professions in public education and working towards building better relationships with the police.

As his important role in Malvern grows, Neethan will use his Vital People grant to sharpen his management skills by taking courses towards the Certificate in Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Management offered by Ryerson University.

Peter Sloly has been a police officer with the Toronto Police Service for 18 years. As Staff Superintendent, Peter is presently in charge of the following units: Employment, Training & Education, Staff Planning, Community Mobilization, and Human Rights & Employment Equity. Peter has also been the Unit Commander of the 55 Division, 53 Division and the Corporate Communications Unit and he has held senior management positions at 31 Division, 52 Division, and the Duty Operations Unit. He has acquired an extensive variety of professional experiences over the course of his policing career including: uniform patrol, youth bureau, major crime, community response, foot patrol, training, public order management and UN peacekeeping.

In August 2001, Peter participated in a United Nations Peacekeeping Mission when he served in the war-torn region of Kosovo. During the peacekeeping assignment in the Balkans, Peter was promoted to a Command Staff rank and was placed in charge of coordinating all operational policies and strategic planning for the UN Civilian Police Service (the UN Police Service had 10,000 members consisting of local Kosovars and police officers from 53 different contributing nations). Peter was also selected to be the Canadian Contingent Commander for the UN mission.

The following is a list of some of the major projects and committees that Peter has participated in: Policing & Diversity Training, the Toronto Police Service Race Relations Committee, the Black Community Police Consultative Committee, the Training Advisory Committee, the Urban Alliance Seminar on Police Use Of Deadly Force, City of Toronto Youth Conference, City of Toronto Community Safety Plan, European Union Conference on Police Ethics, National Black Police Association International Conference, the Toronto City Summit Alliance and the National Security Strategy Seminar.

Peter is a member of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, the International Association of Chief's of Police, the Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers, the Jamaican Canadian Association, the Black Business Professionals Association and the Board of Directors for the Harry Jerome Awards. Peter has provided training and consultation on diversity and race relations issues to Police Services, community agencies and politicians from across Canada and the world. Peter is also involved in numerous youth mentoring, community outreach, recruiting and career counseling initiatives. He has received the following awards:

- The Bob Marley Day Award (2004);
- Toronto Residents in Partnership Black History Month Award (2003);
- United Nations Peacekeeping Medal & Canadian Peacekeeping Medal (2002);
- Eglinton Community Initiative Award for Community Service (2001); and
- Order of the Lake Ontario Medal for Charitable Fundraising (2000).

Peter has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from McMaster University and a Masters in Business Administration from York University's Schulich School of Business. Peter was born in Kingston, Jamaica and immigrated to Canada in 1976 – he is proud of his Jamaican heritage and his Canadian citizenship. Prior to his policing career, Peter Sloly was a professional soccer player with the Toronto Blizzard and he was a member of the Canadian National Soccer Team.