

TORONTO
NEIGHBOURHOOD
CENTRES

2021 Annual Report

Toronto Neighbourhood Centres is an association of non-profit multi-service organizations dedicated to strengthening local neighbourhoods and enabling diverse communities to work together to promote justice and a healthy life for all.

We share a vision of a Toronto that:

- **Provides** healthy and caring communities for all of its residents, especially those who are most vulnerable.
- **Celebrates** diversity, welcomes and supports people from across the globe.
- **Enables** all individuals in all sectors of society to participate fully in the processes that shape their communities.
-

**A sector-serving anchor
organization funded by**



United Way
Greater Toronto

TNC Values and the Neighbourhood Centre Model

TNC members believe that well-being is a social achievement and not exclusively an individual one, and that every community needs a range of supports to flourish, including:

- government policies and programs that ensure equality of opportunity, income security, affordable housing, childcare, employment equity and human rights
- well-funded public education, healthcare and social services
- opportunities for civic engagement, celebration, expression, mutual support and democratic participation
- thriving local and regional economies
- sustainable relationships with the environment

As one part of this fabric, TNC promotes the model of universal access multi-service Neighbourhood Centres, complementing strong public services and organizations supporting specific communities and sectors.

Neighbourhood Centres are dedicated to empowering neighbours to work together to meet local challenges and create shared approaches to building community. They provide a crucial focus and support for community development, and address the needs of their area by integrating services, capacity building and social reform.

Inspired by the tradition of innovation within the Settlement House movement, today's neighbourhood centres take many forms as they generate local solutions to global challenges. Together and separately, TNC members seek to catalyze change by:

- Developing relationships of trust and mutuality among people from different backgrounds and experience, as individuals, families and groups
- Bridging between those who are affected by decisions and those who make them
- Providing open and safer spaces for people to meet, organize, celebrate and participate actively in community life
- Building on people's potential and gifts rather than focusing on their problems
- Releasing the potential of communities as places of creativity and enterprise
- Strengthening the voice of people normally left out or ignored
- Cherishing our independence in order to remain flexible and responsive to opportunity
- Pioneering innovative approaches and solutions to neighbourhood issues
- Investing and reinvesting in community assets to build local sustainability

TNC members contribute to a world in which the "international community" is shaped by people working together from their local communities, a power and legitimacy from the base of society.

TNC Strategies

To advance its vision the TNC:

- Identifies and speaks out on common issues and concerns in our communities as an association and in cooperation with other community groups;
- Promotes the model of universal access multi-service Neighbourhood Centres as a core component of healthy communities (complementing strong public services and a well-supported network of organizations and services targeted to diverse communities and sectors);
- Encourages the development of Neighbourhood Centres in underserved communities across Toronto;
- Links Neighbourhood Centres across Toronto, serving as a medium for the exchange of information and ideas, and sharing organizational resources and capacities;
- Sponsors inter-agency projects with member agencies and other organizations;
- Promotes best practices for community-based social service, health and recreation activities.

TNC is a registered charitable organization and a member of the Canadian Association of Neighbourhood Services (CANS) and the International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres (IFS).



Toronto Neighbourhood Centres

TNC 2020-2021 Highlights

Anchoring Anti-Oppression Relationships in Our Work

The events of this remarkable time underscored the urgency for pursuing our anti-oppression work and making it foundational to all of our activities. Building upon our **2020 TNC Relationships, Belonging & Anti-Oppression Charter**, and an associated **TNC Anti-Oppression Practice Guide and Tools**, TNC members came together weekly over the last year to support **TNC Anti-Oppression Organizational and System Change meetings** - sharing strategies, challenges, hard questions, and grounded experiences in moving anti-oppression work forward in our organizations and sector.

In the Spring of 2021 we mounted an in depth **TNC Workshop Series on Dismantling White Supremacy – Reclaiming Our Humanity**. Forty-eight staff from across sixteen TNC member agencies participated, including 14 peer facilitators who were trained in using a Listening Circle format, adapted from the International Institute for Restorative Justice (IIRP).

Additionally, TNC worked with two senior level Disability Justice activists to design and deliver a **3-part Disability Justice training series for HR staff** at member agencies. The training series focused on exploring what conversations need to happen at agencies to influence organizational culture shift and work-shopping current policies that need to be updated and/or revised.

This work was amplified this year through a new one-year full-time fellowship, TNC's Director of Networks and Relationships. This position has enabled us to respond to **TNC's 2019 BIPOC Recommendations**, expanding our capacity to weave anti-racism and anti-oppression actions into our work-plans and leadership structures, and **amplifying our policy and program development efforts to support resident-led community safety alternatives to traditional policing.**

In partnership with over 20 community organizations and grassroots groups, TNC assembled the groundbreaking **Rethinking Community Safety** report, which details the many creative community responses that could be scaled up to provide practical alternatives to policing as an over-used first response to community members in distress. TNC is now supporting community conversations, and encouraging resident planning work that can lead to new community safety and accountability structures.

TNC Highlights 2020-2021 Continued

Enhancing Inter-Agency Solidarity, Innovation & Action

Through the convening and continued support for our **TNC inter-agency affinity groups**, TNC has activated a broad effort to connect more and more staff from across our member-agencies in ways that amplify our shared insights and capacity for collective actions. Building upon our affinity groups foundation, TNC continued to mount a range of **shared TNC training opportunities** - including workshops to continue our learning about indigenous cultures and our treaty obligations, identifying and addressing micro-aggressions in the workplace, using civic engagement tools effectively, and in depth experiential training for agency staff in 2SLGBTQIA+ inclusion - **Earning the Rainbow**.

TNC's Civic Engagement, and Community Development affinity groups completed our two-year Maytree-supported initiative **Community Voices for System Change**. Through this work TNC member agencies have advanced their formal commitments to, and capacity for leading local engagement work that places the voices of community members and program participants at the centre of contributing to the policy and system changes that affect their lives. A highlight of this work in 2020 included the development of new relationships with organizing and grassroots groups, as part of our **Agencies as Allies workshop series**.

Building More Equitable & Inclusive Economies

In 2021 despite challenges presented by the pandemic related to CRA rules and volunteer losses, our five Toronto Neighbourhood Centres Tax Programs supported by United Way of Greater Toronto helped 2,142 participants to receive \$5.7 million in tax rebates and entitlements - or about \$2,600 per household. The influx of these funds are critical to both family economic wellbeing, and local economic vitality.

Over 2020-21 we have encountered moments of great urgency, and of new opportunities to take some of our economic structures that are fueling racialized inequality and growing poverty, and instead place them on a firmer footing of public and community ownership (e.g. in the case of housing), more robust access (in the case of affordable and accessible child care) and service provision that places the ethics of care and decent work at the centre of their staffing models, instead of defaulting the dominant calculus of private profit.

Though member agencies' active advancement of some of these strategies was hampered by the intense tumult and program innovation efforts needed to navigate day to day covid-19 realities, TNC, in partnership with the **Toronto Nonprofit Network**, continued to champion not-for-profit organizations engagement in land development, as a **strategy for addressing the crisis of housing affordability**, and to counter the continued erosion of **affordable community program space**.



Toronto Neighbourhood Centres

TNC Membership

Toronto Neighbourhood Centres always seeks to expand its membership and we look forward to linking with organizations and other associations to strengthen our capacity for mutual support. There are important benefits and real value that comes with an organization's choice to join with and participate in the Toronto Neighbourhood Centres association. Active and engaged members can expect the following:

- Opportunities to gather and share useful information on issues that impact, or will impact their community members, clients, agencies and staff,
- A peer network of colleagues whom are accessible and willing to provide advice, support and strategic suggestions on challenging issues,
- New leadership and developmental opportunities for staff and volunteers both within the association and on joint external projects or task forces,
- Access to the resources, especially capacities and skills, of the other member organizations,
- The ability to bring forward ideas and participate in collective efforts to more effectively advocate on issues affecting Neighbourhood Centres,
- The ability to initiate, participate and deliver on strategies or programs that may be city-wide,
- The opportunity to learn about and share promising practices and program successes,
- The opportunity to become involved in an organization framed by the principles of resource sharing, collective advocacy, and community development.

Membership in TNC is open to any organization that:

- Shares the vision of TNC,
- Operates in the City of Toronto,
- Is a non-profit agency governed by a volunteer Board of Directors,
- Is neighbourhood based i.e. provides focused activities in one or several local geographic neighbourhoods defined at a scale smaller than the entire City of Toronto,
- Is multi-service i.e. is directly responsible for providing programs relating to more than one issue area, such as health, education, social services, settlement services, housing, recreation, employment, training or community development.
- Practices a place-based approach to community development, as articulated in the "TNC Values and Neighbourhood Centre Model" statement

For more information on becoming a TNC member please e-mail our Executive Director Rob Howarth at robinhowarth@gmail.com

TNC 2020/21 Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2021 (Audited)

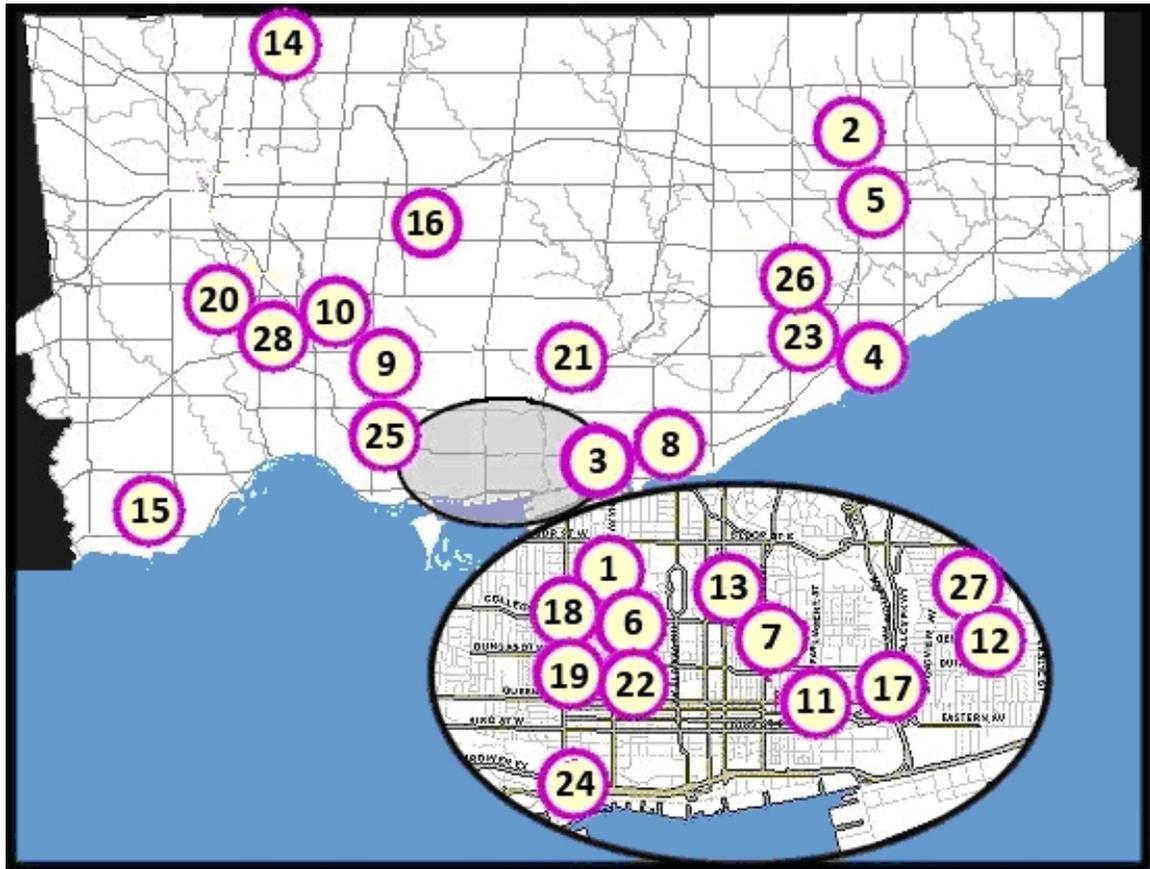
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	March 31 2021	March 31 2020
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents	483,909	419,245
Prepaid Expenses	8,573	44,408
Note receivable	6,554	6,489
Accounts receivable	<u>47</u>	<u>159</u>
Total Assets	499,083	470,301
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Accounts Payable	65,302	50,408
Deferred Revenue	<u>161,552</u>	<u>238,015</u>
Total Liabilities	226,854	288,423
<u>Net Assets</u>		
Unrestricted	<u>272,229</u>	<u>181,878</u>
Total Liabilities and Surplus	499,083	470,301

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

	2021	2020
<u>Revenue</u>		
United Way	359,740	376,316
Lawson Foundation	132,500	90,000
Metcalf Foundation	115,000	27,588
Atkinson Foundation	112,500	154,834
Membership Fees	71,365	68,720
Suncor Energy Foundation	50,000	-
Maytree Foundation	38,513	36,942
Toronto Foundation	20,000	-
Catherine Donnelly Foundation	5,000	5,000
Interest	1,932	5,435
Catherine Donnelly Foundation	5,000	-
Donations	20	15,914
Social Planning Toronto	-	10,000
Other Income	-	4,954
<u>Total Revenue</u>	<u>906,570</u>	<u>795,703</u>
<u>Program Costs</u>		
United Way	367,048	367,048
Lawson Foundation	132,500	90,000
Atkinson Foundation (Decent Work)	112,500	154,834
Metcalf Foundation	76,500	27,588
Suncor Energy Foundation	50,000	-
Maytree Foundation	38,513	36,942
Toronto Foundation	20,000	-
Program Delivery Fees	13,691	15,464
Catherine Donnelly Foundation	5,000	5,000
Conference and workshop expenses	1,845	13,863
Other	161	11,915
Social Planning Toronto	-	10,000
<u>Administrative</u>		
Coordination Fees	10,131	10,345
Office expenses	5,750	2,522
<u>Donations</u>	-	<u>15,914</u>
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>816,219</u>	<u>761,435</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	90,351	34,268
Accumulated Surplus, beginning of year	181,878	147,610
Accumulated surplus, end of year	<u>272,229</u>	<u>181,878</u>

Detailed Audited Statements Are Available Upon Request



TNC Member Agencies - 2021

- Access Alliance Multicultural Community Health Centre (1)
- Agincourt Community Services Association (2)
- Applegrove Community Complex (3)
- Birchmount Bluffs Neighbourhood Centre (4)
- Catholic Cross Cultural Services (5)
- Cecil Street Community Centre (6)
- Neighbourhood Group
 - Central Neighbourhood House (7)
 - Neighbourhood LINK (8)
 - St. Stephen's Community House (18)
- Christie-Ossington Neighbourhood Centre (9)
- Davenport-Perth Neighbourhood Community Health Centre (10)
- Dixon Hall (11)
- Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre (12)
- The 519 Church Street Community Centre (13)
- Jane Finch Community and Family Centre (14)
- Lakeshore Area Multi-Service Project - LAMP (15)
- North York Community House (16)
- Ralph Thornton Community Centre (17)
- Scadding Court Community Centre (19)
- Syme-Woolner Neighbourhood and Family Centre (20)
- The Neighbourhood Organization (21)
- University Settlement (22)
- Warden Woods Community Centre (23)
- Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre (24)
- West Neighbourhood House (25)
- West Scarborough Neighbourhood and Community Centre (26)
- WoodGreen Community Services (27)
- Working Women Community Centre (28)