



TORONTO
NEIGHBOURHOOD
CENTRES

2024 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 under-served 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 2023-2024 Highlights

(visit neighbourhoodcentres.ca to learn more)

Anchoring Anti-Oppression Relationships in Our Work

Centering Disability Justice Frameworks and Intersectionality (Maytree supported)

We are working to better centre our strategies and work around disability justice, from HR to Community Engagement to Programs/Services, and also build our capacity to inform and advocate for policy alongside community partners in the disability justice movement. This initiative established a Disability Justice Affinity Group that has generated a Learning Journey for the network, that lays the groundwork we need to support cultural shifts within our organizations, for staff as well as community members, to strengthen our capacity to be effective allies. **TNC's Disability Justice initiative** engages staff at all levels through experiential learning opportunities that address pathways to generating more accessible spaces and work environments.

Indigenous Relationship Audit Tool - Member Agency Planning and Commitments (Maytree supported)

TNC is supporting member agencies to build skills, capacity, knowledge, attitudes, and values regarding their relationships and work with Indigenous communities and peoples. In 2024 this work generated a robust process for agency assessment and planning - guided by Indigenous teachings and evaluative questions and metrics (the **Relationship Assessment and Audit Tool**). A number of TNC member agencies are now supporting each other through a community of practice to move this work forward in a sustained fashion.

Embedding the Practice - The TNC "Kinship Dojo" (Atkinson and Maytree Supported)

In Summer and Fall 2024 we have been privileged to work with a core group of skilled facilitators, and TNC member agency staff, joining together to explore the ways in which we can more intentionally support group relationship-building and practices that advance our disability justice and anti-oppression values in concrete ways. Guided by our **TNC Intersectionality Affinity Group** (weaving insights from many of our other affinity group initiatives, and the training and learning/unlearning that staff have engaged in over the past seven years) our set of pilot sessions will position us well to establish space(s) of shared practice, and mutual accountability, as an ongoing resource for staff of TNC member agencies to participate in moving our anti-oppression values forward over the coming years.

TNC Highlights 2023-2024 Continued

BIPOC Leadership Energies (BLE)

TNC's BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour) Leadership Energies (BLE) continues to offer a space for networking, celebrating and supporting professional development and advancements for racialized colleagues within our network. In 2024 this work has taken the shape of seasonal events that center collective care and nurture relationships to re-envision our work. These events and workshops build upon the BIPOC Leadership Energies' vision outlined in an inspiring 2023 report, [A River Journey into BIPOC Leadership Energies](#), which outlines goals, structure, resources and implementation steps to build and sustain multi-year, inter-organizational coaching networks for BIPOC staff.

Racial Justice & Decent Work - New Pathways (Atkinson supported)

TNC, in partnership with Ontario Nonprofit Network, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres and CEE- Centre for Entrepreneurship of Youth Black Professionals, completed a participatory process that has re-shaped our Decent Work Charter into a series of eight **Decent Work Pathways**, which gather numerous resources to help nonprofit organization advance decent work and equity for Black, Indigenous, and/or racialized people in our sector. This resource is available at <https://theonnc.ca/decent-work-pathways/>. Our work in 2024 has focused on seeing how we might more actively practice some of its wisdom through our "Kinship Dojo".

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 civic engagement and collective actions. Building upon our affinity groups foundation, TNC also continues to mount a range of **shared TNC training opportunities** that strengthen TNC member's capacity for organizational change and collective advocacy, embedding disability justice principles, an anti-oppression foundation, and liberatory aspirations in our work with community.

- **Civic engagement efforts** have broadened to include demystifying the policy arena to build confidence and capacity of staff and community members to co-create and advocate on policy - along with broadening TNC contingents so we can collectively attend rallies and advocacy efforts alongside community partners and members.
- The **Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Listening Circles Project** (supported by the Catherine Donnelly Foundation) brings together staff and community members to embed the Listening Circle practice as a learning and facilitation strategy within community practices, programs, and organization.

TNC continued its active support and engagement with the **Toronto Nonprofit Network**, the **Ontario Nonprofit Network**, **Social Planning Toronto**, and the **City of Toronto/United Way/U of T - Social Purpose Real Estate (SPRE)**. These multi-partner collaborations strengthen our sector's capacity for co-planning, advocacy and problem-solving at a system level. Specific focus areas included the next phase of the **City of Toronto's Poverty Reduction Plan; advocating for more rights-based responses to support people experiencing homelessness** and; **promoting the need for Toronto to develop a spatial justice strategy** to address the displacement of nonprofit community programs and organizations in our communities.



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 Co-Executive Directors Sree Nallamotheu, sree@neighbourhoodcentres.ca or Rob Howarth, rob@neighbourhoodcentres.ca

TNC 2023/24 Financial Statements

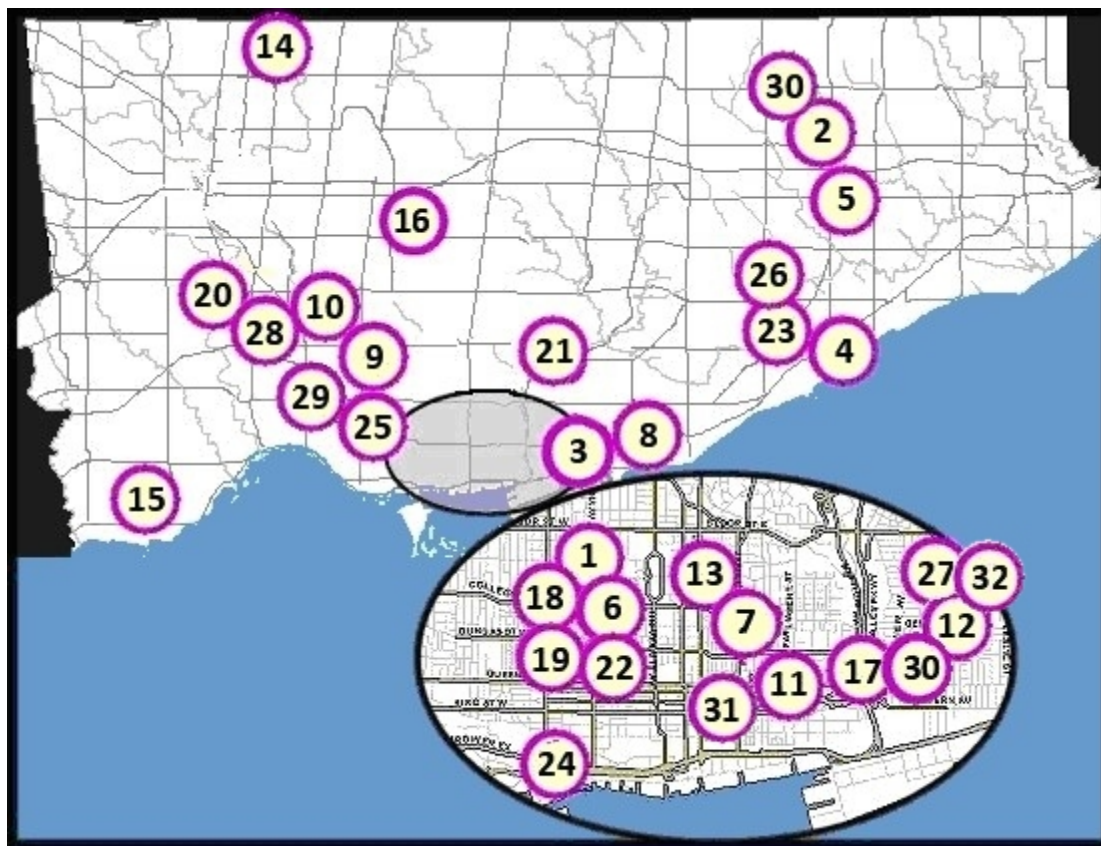
Year Ended March 31, 2024 (Audited) STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	March 31 2024	March 31 2023
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	621,972	497,312
Prepaid Expenses	27,440	45,489
Note receivable	6,752	6,619
Accounts receivable	<u>1,576</u>	<u>2,351</u>
Total Assets	657,740	533,771
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	75,599	54,297
Deferred Revenue	<u>231,093</u>	<u>211,968</u>
Total Liabilities	306,692	266,265
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	<u>351,048</u>	<u>267,506</u>
Total Liabilities and Surplus	657,740	533,771

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

	2024	2023
Revenue		
United Way	329,025	329,025
Atkinson Foundation	199,122	221,250
Lawson Foundation	120,000	120,000
Suncor Energy Foundation	101,500	103,500
Membership Fees	87,440	79,445
Maytree Foundation	66,903	66,083
Metcalf Foundation	53,500	80,000
Lyle S. Hallman Foundation	50,000	-
Echo Foundation	40,000	25,000
Aqueduct Foundation	34,688	25,000
Private Giving Foundation	25,000	-
Interest	22,103	9,580
Other Income	17,480	13,336
Catherine Donnelly Foundation	10,200	5,000
George Brown College	5,000	-
Toronto Foundation	-	25,000
Trillium Foundation	-	15,941
Donations	-	7,430
Total Revenue	<u>1,161,961</u>	<u>1,125,590</u>
Program Costs		
United Way	320,041	321,783
Atkinson Foundation (Decent Work)	199,122	221,250
Lawson Foundation	120,000	120,000
Suncor Energy Foundation	101,500	103,500
Maytree Foundation	66,903	66,083
Metcalf Foundation	53,500	80,000
Lyle S. Hallman Foundation	50,000	-
Echo Foundation	40,000	25,000
Aqueduct Foundation	34,688	25,000
Other	32,714	2,455
Private Giving Foundation	25,000	-
Program Delivery Fees	11,400	-
Catherine Donnelly Foundation	10,200	5,000
Toronto Foundation	-	25,000
Trillium Foundation	-	15,941
Conference and workshop expenses	-	10,913
Administrative		
Coordination Fees	5,906	4,904
Office expenses	3,925	1,631
Other	3,520	978
Total Expenses	<u>1,029,438</u>	<u>950,021</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	83,542	96,152
Accumulated Surplus, beginning of year	267,506	171,354
Accumulated surplus, end of year	<u>351,048</u>	<u>267,506</u>

Detailed Audited Statements Are Available Upon Request



TNC Member Agencies - 2024

- Access Alliance Multicultural Community Health Centre (1)
- Agincourt Community Services Association (2)
- Applegrove Community Complex (3)
- Birchmount Bluffs Neighbourhood Centre (4)
- Catholic CrossCultural Services (5)
- Cecil Street Community Centre (6)
- Christie-Ossington Neighbourhood Centre (9)
- Culturelink Settlement and Community Services (29)
- Davenport-Perth Neighbourhood Community Health Centre (10)
- Dixon Hall (11)
- Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre (12)
- Fontbonne Ministries (30)
- Jane Finch Community and Family Centre (14)
- Lakeshore Area Multi-Service Project - LAMP (15)
- Malvern Family Resource Centre (30)
- North York Community House (16)
- Oak Park Neighbourhood Centre (Oakville)
- Operation Springboard (31)
- Ralph Thornton Community Centre (17)
- Scadding Court Community Centre (19)
- Syme-Woolner Neighbourhood and Family Centre (20)
- The 519 Church Street Community Centre (13)
- The Neighbourhood Group Community Services
 - Central Neighbourhood House (7)
 - Neighbourhood LINK (8)
 - St. Stephen's Community House (18)
- TNO - The Neighbourhood Organization (21)
- Red Door Shelter (32)
- 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)