



August 10, 2010

To: Member organizations and programs of the Toronto HIV/AIDS Network (THN), the former Toronto HIV/AIDS Community Planning Initiative (TCPI) and Partners

As Co-Chairs of the Toronto HIV/AIDS Network, we are writing to reflect on the progress we have made together on the strategic plan for HIV/AIDS services developed through the Toronto HIV/AIDS Community Planning Initiative (TCPI). This regional consultative process conducted during 2005-2007, was initiated and sponsored by the provincial AIDS Bureau, with guidance from the Ontario Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS (OACHA). The TCPI Plan recognizes that, in order to address diverse HIV/AIDS related needs and service gaps, Toronto requires a broad-based ongoing HIV/AIDS planning and coordination function. The Toronto HIV/AIDS Network emerged from this planning process with active participation of over 40 agencies, services and programs.

The Toronto HIV/AIDS Network includes AIDS Service Organizations, HIV-related programs, people living with HIV/AIDS (PHAs), community members, and broader organizations that have an impact upon the lives of people living with and at risk of HIV/AIDS.

**Mission** - The Toronto HIV/AIDS Network (THN) facilitates HIV/AIDS planning, collaboration and innovation to improve access to programs and services for people from diverse communities living with, affected by and at risk of HIV/AIDS.

Since the Spring of 2008 the network's organizational development has included:

- At least 2 large Members' meetings a year to exchange information, develop network governance, annually elect a Steering Committee, identify emerging issues, share information from other related networks, and participate in educational opportunities.
- Development of a Governance Framework including a Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee.
- The name change from Toronto Community Planning Initiative to Toronto HIV/AIDS Network to reflect the transition to an ongoing network engaged in action as well as planning.
- Revised Objectives to reflect the network
- Creation of a Mission and a logo

Most importantly, THN engages organization representatives and individuals to build upon each other's strengths to achieve our shared mission, objectives, vision and priorities. The process to create a strategic plan for HIV services in Toronto helped facilitate a culture of collaboration that expanded the use of multi-agency partnerships and continues to impact upon community programming. There is a supporting structure through THN to encourage and help facilitate coordination, collaboration, integration and innovation. Progress is being made on the priorities identified in the Plan and emerging issues are identified and integrated into our work.

200 Gerrard Street East, 2nd Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M5A 2E6  
TEL: 416-506-8606 ext. 114  
FAX: 416-506-1404

[www.torontohivaidnetwork.org](http://www.torontohivaidnetwork.org)

Priorities are being acted upon through the following Working Groups (WG) and Projects:

- Toronto Accreditation and Coordination (of PHA Capacity Building) Working Group
- Employment, Occupation and Income Security Working Group
- Housing Working Group
- Information and Access Working Group
- PHA Learning Partnership web portal project
- HIV/AIDS core skills Volunteer Training project
- Toronto Opening Doors annual forum

Short updates are attached on the activities above and:

- A two page Description of the THN
- The THN Governance Framework
- The original Toronto Community Planning Initiative Final Report

All of THN documents, news, information from the Working Groups and Projects, and helpful Links will be featured on our new web-site (click in and check it out later in August):

[www.torontohivaidnetwork.org](http://www.torontohivaidnetwork.org)

We appreciate the leadership and in-kind contributions of all the participating individuals and organizations and the support of our funder, the AIDS Bureau, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). We anticipate more creative discussions and efforts working together to make a difference in our communities.

Please connect with Joan Anderson, the THN Project Manager or Michael Morgan, Peer Coordinator (416-506-8606 ext 114) with any questions or for further information.

Sincerely,

Murray Jose,  
THN Co-Chair  
Executive Director  
Toronto People With AIDS Foundation

Keith Hambly,  
THN Co-Chair  
Executive Director  
Fife House Foundation