

# COMMUNITY SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF TORONTO

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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**Issue # 39, June 2006**

### INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the thirty ninth edition of the electronic newsletter from the Community Social Planning Council of Toronto. At the beginning of each month, this e-bulletin provides news on the activities of the CSPC-T and our partners, as well as access to new research and policy products and networks, in print and web-based forms. We hope it is useful. We value and welcome your feedback at the email address below.

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<http://www.socialplanningtoronto.org/CSPC-T%20Newsletters/Newsletter%202006.htm>

**Please note the deadline to submit information for the next e-Newsletter is  
June 28, 2006.**

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## **1. NEWS FROM THE COUNCIL**

### **CSPC-T Welcomes New Board Members**

Over 100 members and supporters attended the May 16 Annual General Meeting of the Community Social Planning Council, held at the Ontario Bar Association meeting centre.

In addition to a lively panel discussion on “Social Planning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” featuring Amanuel Melles (Director, Organizational Capacity Building, United Way of Greater Toronto), Tom Walkom (Political Columnist, Toronto Star), and Armine Yalnizyan (CSPC-T Director of Research), the membership elected seven members to the 15-member Board of Directors. They are:

#### **Yasmin Bhatia**

Yasmin has over 20 years professional experience in financial management, accounting, auditing, mediation and management. Since 1985, Yasmin has been with the Government of Canada’s Revenue Agency, where she is currently a Large Files Case Tax Auditor. Yasmin also has over 25 years of volunteer experience both in her workplace and with the not-for-profit sector. She is a former board member of the Aga Khan Social Welfare Board, Visible Minorities representative on the Canada Revenue Agency’s Women’s Committee. She also worked as an ESL teacher in a village in Northern Pakistan.

#### **Vera Dodic**

Vera is currently the Coordinator, Emergency Planning at the Toronto Public Health. Vera has extensive experience working in the non-profit sector, including working as Director, Programs for the Canadian Red Cross, Toronto Region. She recently completed a Non-Profit Management Certificate Program through Schulich School of Business.

#### **Ali-Bashi Farah**

Ali-Bashi is currently working as a Program Coordinator at the Somali Community Centre of Etobicoke. Ali-Bashi has a B.A. in Sociology and worked with Midaynta as part of their Crime Prevention and Youth support team. He’s currently a member of The Somali Youth. Ali-Bashi was recently featured in NOW magazine’s Black History Month February issue as one of six young people making tremendous contributions in the city of Toronto.

#### **Andrew Lalonde**

Andrew is a Program Manager with BMO Financial Group responsible for overseeing Change Management across Personal and Commercial Product Operations. In his 10 plus years with BMO he has held positions in Call Centre Management, Marketing, Communications and Change Management. Andrew sits on the Board of ALDER – Adult Learning Disabilities Employment Resources and has been Chair of its Fundraising and Event Planning committee since September 2005. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from McMaster University and an MBA degree from York University.

**Mary Elspeth Milosh**

Mary El Milosh worked as a teacher, consultant, and administrator with the Toronto Board of Education, before her retirement from her position as Vice-Principal of Ryerson Community School in the Kensington community in 2004. Mary El is the mother of two children, and lives in North York. She is currently on the Board of Directors of “Friends of Community Schools.” Mary El also played an important role as an Advisory Committee member and volunteer with the “Kildbuilders” research project conducted by the CSPC-T in collaboration with Aisling Discoveries.

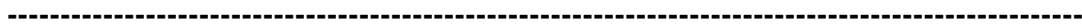
**Linda Torney**

Linda is the immediate past president of the Toronto and York Region Labour Council, a position she held for 13 years. During her term as president, she co-chaired the Metro Days of Action in 1996, the largest mass based demonstration ever held in Canada. As president of the Labour Council, she also served as president of Labour Community Services and the Metro Labour Education Centre, two projects of the Labour Council. She was a recipient of a civic award of merit from the City of Toronto in 1994, and is one of the YWCA’s women of distinction for the year 2002. Linda is a member of the CSPC-T Executive Committee and Chair of the Governance Committee. Linda is returning to the Board for a third term.

**Nicole Wall**

Before finishing her Labour Studies with honours degree at York University in 2005 Nicole attended Howard University in Washington, D. C. She currently works as the Partnerships Coordinator for the Toronto Training Board and has an extensive history working with youth from a variety of cultural backgrounds across the GTA. Her past work experience includes: campaign organizer at the University of Toronto, Special Projects person at the Canadian Labour Congress, Life Skills Counsellor for the Association of Community Living and Project Coordinator for the Ontario Health Coalition. In Nicole’s spare time you can find her working with a dynamic group of inspiring young people called Justice for Migrant Workers (J4MW) as the treasurer. Nicole is returning to the Board for a second term.

The Council is delighted to welcome these new and returning members to our Board of Directors.



**CSPC-T Hosts Successful International Conference**

Almost 150 registrants from across Canada, the United States, and beyond attended the first North American meeting of Social Planning Councils, hosted by the CSPC-T from May 4-7. The conference theme, “Community Planning and Diversity” was reflected in both the registrants, but also in the issues addressed, which ranged from the social and economic divide laid bare by the impact of Hurricane Katrina in the United States, to the challenges faced by social planning organizations in Toronto in addressing the diverse issues and needs of our communities. This successful collaboration between the (American) National Association of Planning Councils, the Social Planning Network of Ontario, and the CSPC-T provided an opportunity to explore potential partnerships across

Canada (in collaboration with the Canadian Council on Social Development), and for future cross-border initiatives.

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**Summer Student Job Posting**

**French Language Community Assistant**

The Community Social Planning Council of Toronto (CSPC-T) is looking for a full-time summer student to provide research assistance for a national survey of food banks in Canada. This position is funded through the Summer Career Placement program. **The successful applicant must be fluent in French, under the age of 30 and returning to full-time studies in September.**

**Submission deadline: Monday, June 5 at 5 PM**

For more details on the job posting, visit the CSPC-T's website at:

<http://www.socialplanningtoronto.org/Events%20&%20Opportunities/Opportunities/SCP%20Job%20Posting%2006.htm>

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**2. UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC)**

**Living the Dream with Mike Lipkin**

This is a full-day workshop designed to support immigrants in the challenge of trying to find employment in their chosen profession.

Date & Time: Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00 – 3:30 pm

Location: Holiday Inn on King Street, downtown Toronto

Guest speakers will include Canada's Citizenship and Immigration Minister, The Honourable Monte Solberg, Ontario's Citizenship and Immigration Minister, The Honourable Mike Colle, and the Mayor of Toronto, David Miller.

Living the Dream will be facilitated by world-renowned motivational speaker Mike Lipkin.

To register and for further information go to:

<http://www.triec.ca/initiatives/livingthedream.htm>, or contact Ivy Shao at 416.944.2627 x 274 or [ishao@triec.ca](mailto:ishao@triec.ca) for more information.

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**Toronto Public Health**

**Pandemic Flu Influenza Information Sessions**

As the lead agency for pandemic influenza preparedness for the City of Toronto the

Toronto Public Health is hosting information sessions for a number of sectors on pandemic influenza preparedness for community agencies.

Community agencies play an important role in the lives of many residents and vulnerable populations. The purpose of these sessions is to provide up-to-date information on the City's pandemic influenza plan and help you prepare to manage any potential impact a pandemic could have on your clients and services

Dates, Time & Location

June 1 Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. West 7-9pm

June 6 Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. West 2-4pm

June 8 Scarborough Civic Centre, 150 Borough Dr. 2-4pm

June 20 Etobicoke Civic Centre, 399 The West Mall 2-4pm

June 29 North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge St. 2-4pm

To register, please phone Access Toronto at 416-338-0338, (TTY 416-338-0889). Please indicate if you require any special accommodation. General information on pandemic influenza planning will be available at the sessions, and posted at: [www.toronto.ca/health](http://www.toronto.ca/health)

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**Jamestown Community Youth Photograph Project  
Through Our Eyes**

This past winter youth have been engaged in learning photographic techniques and capturing the spirit of their community. Join us to recognize and celebrate the achievements of these youth.

Date & Time: Monday, June 5, 6:00 pm

Location: Elmbank Community Centre, 10 Rampart Road (East off Martingrove Rd, North of John Garland Blvd)

For further information, kindly contact Jenny Katz at: 416-925-9250 xt. 286 or email: [jkatz@turningpoint.ca](mailto:jkatz@turningpoint.ca)

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**Count Us In! Working Group  
Community Forum**

Are you a healthcare provider, community worker, social services provider, policymaker or community member, come hear the findings from a participatory community research project on homeless women and inclusion in Downtown East Toronto.

Date & Time: Wednesday, June 7, 9:30 – 11:00 am

Location: Parliament Library, 269 Gerrard St. East (just west of Parliament)  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Community Room

For further information, kindly contact Catherine Turl at: 416-338-7867

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**Women's Call to Action Coalition**

**Call to ACTION to END WOMEN'S POVERTY**

A Woman Stuck In Poverty.....Is A Woman Stuck In Abuse  
Raise the Rates NOW: End Violence Against Women & Children

Join with other women on to demand that the government:

- Implement a 40% increase in the social assistance rates
- End the clawback of the National Child Tax Credit
- Re-instate the Special Diet allowance

Date & Time: June 7, 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Location: Outside Minister Madeleine Meilleur's office at the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Hepburn Block, 80 Grosvenor St., Toronto

For further information contact:

Cindy at: [cindy@nellies.org](mailto:cindy@nellies.org) and Karen at: [klhcan2002@yahoo.com](mailto:klhcan2002@yahoo.com)

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**West Scarborough Neighbourhood Community Centre  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala-Dinner Dance**

The West Scarborough Neighbourhood is calling all former employees, volunteers, participants to their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Gala-Dinner Dance.

Date & Time: Saturday, June 10, from 7:00 pm

Tickets: \$25/person

Buffet dinner, cash bar, live entertainment & silent auction

Kindly R.S.V.P. to: 416-755-9215

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**Nellies Shelter & Programs for Women  
Annual Fund-raising Event**

Nellie's cordially invites you to their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual fundraiser, Jazz it Up 2006.

Date & Time: Saturday, June 10, from 7:00 pm

Location: Harbourfront Centre, Brigantine Theatre, 235 Queens Quay W

Featured artist: Jackie Richardson

Ticket cost: \$57 and can be purchased from:  
Harbourfront Box Office at: 416-973-4000  
Nellie's at: 416-461-8903

For further information contact Cindy Cowan at: 416- 461-9849 or E-mail:  
[cindy@nellies.org](mailto:cindy@nellies.org)

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**National Migrant Justice Gathering: Building Solidarity, Taking Action  
Migrant Voices for Migrant Justice**

Join us for an evening for dialogue and solidarity, with personal stories about the struggles and dreams of:

Live-in Caregivers  
Seasonal Agricultural Workers  
Undocumented workers

Moderated by Susan McClelland, Amnesty International Canadian Media Award 2005 Recipient

Date & Time; Saturday, June 10, 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
Location: Ryerson University, Jorgenson Hall LIB-72, (350 Victoria Street)

For further information contact Tanya Chute Molina at: 416-463-5312 x 252 or email:  
[tchute@kairoscanada.org](mailto:tchute@kairoscanada.org)

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**The Macaulay Child Development Centre  
Annual General Meeting**

The Macaulay Child Development Centre invites you to their Open House and Annual General Meeting at which they will be dedicating Chris' Corner (in memory of Christine DeGennaro).

Date & Time: Monday, June 12, 5:00 -7:00 pm  
Location: 2010 Eglinton Ave. West, Suite 400 (between Dufferin & Caledonia)

RSVP by June 5<sup>th</sup> to 416-789-7441

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**Helping Other People Everywhere (H.O.P.E)  
18<sup>th</sup> Annual Volleyball Tournament**

Join us for some fun in the sun and raise funds for Toronto charities.

Date: Saturday, June 17th  
Location: Olympic Island (at Centre Island) Toronto

Entry fee for a team of 6-10 players is \$225. Raise \$1,500 in pledges as a team and H.O.P.E. will refund your entry fee.

Team registration deadline is June 7<sup>th</sup>

To sign up your team and for further information log on to: [www.volleyball.com](http://www.volleyball.com)

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**Braeburn Neighbourhood Place  
Community Festival**

Come out for a day filled with fun, games food and music for people of all ages. All activities are free

Date & Time: Saturday, June 24, starting at 12:00 – 6:00 pm

Community organizations are invited and encouraged to participate by setting up information booths about the services they offer.

Artists are also being recruited to perform at this event.

For further information about this event, to reserve your booth or to register as a performer please R.S.V.P to Rayon Brown via email or fax by Friday June 16, 2006 no later than 5:00pm at: [rbrown@braeburn.net](mailto:rbrown@braeburn.net), 416 745-3113 (Office), 416 558-1838 (Cell), 416 745-9108 (Fax)

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**Centre for Health Promotion, University of Toronto  
Ontario Health Promotion Summer School 2006**

The Centre for Health Promotion at the University of Toronto announces Ontario Health Promotion Summer School 2006 with introductory courses (“preschool”) in Health Promotion. This year’s theme is “Creating Supportive Physical and Social Environments”. Summer School includes a wide range of lectures, applied workshops, networking opportunities and recreational and cultural events to engage community workers, health practitioners, students and academics, policy-makers and managers.

Date: Monday, June 26 – Thursday, June 29 2006,

Preschool: Sunday, June 25, 2006 (optional)

Location: BMO Institute for Learning (courses and accommodation)

For more information contact: Lisa at (416) 469-4632, or e-mail: [hpss@rogers.com](mailto:hpss@rogers.com) or Website: [www.utoronto.ca/chp/hpss](http://www.utoronto.ca/chp/hpss)

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**Bereaved Families of Ontario – Toronto  
Conference on Grief and Loss Within the Black Community**

This conference is entitled “Reclaiming Our Past to Heal Our Present.”

Date & Time: Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 – 4:30 pm

Location: North York Civic Centre, Council Chambers, 5100 Yonge Street

Featuring Allan Bernard, Centre for Caribbean Thought, University of the West Indies (Mona)

Registration is a must. Last day to register is Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

For registration and other information, please contact Janina Joseph-Walker at: 416- 440-0290 Ext 24 or email [info@bfotoronto.ca](mailto:info@bfotoronto.ca)

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**City of Toronto**

**Nominations for Community Service Volunteer Awards**

Mayor David Miller has declared April 23-29 as Volunteer Week, and the City of Toronto wants to hear your volunteer story. Fill out a nomination form and tell the City about the special volunteer you know. The stories may be about continuous years of service, outstanding performance, exceptional volunteer work or a group of volunteers who in the past year worked on a project that benefited the community.

Each year, through the Community Service Volunteer Awards, the City of Toronto celebrates people who invest in their communities, inspire others through their volunteer work and by contributing to the improvement of communities, prove that they are an invaluable resource in supporting the vibrancy and strength of Toronto.

Nomination forms, information about eligibility and criteria for the 2006 Community Service Volunteer Awards are available on the City's website at: [www.toronto.ca/volunteer\\_awards](http://www.toronto.ca/volunteer_awards)

Nomination forms will be available at libraries and civic and community centres throughout the city in limited quantities in early May.

**The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, June 30, 2006**

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### 3. NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

#### **Scarborough Civic Action Network Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The Scarborough CAN invites you to their first AGM at which they will be celebrating their successes and formalizing their plans and organizational framework.

Guest Speaker: Grace-Edward Galabuzi, Ryerson University

Date & Time: Tuesday, June 13, Noon - 2:00 pm

Location: Mid-Scarborough Community Centre, 2467 Eglinton Ave. E (East side of Kennedy subway)

RSVP by Thursday, June 8th, to Jasmine Nouredin at: 416-531-4478 or [jasmine@publicinterest.ca](mailto:jasmine@publicinterest.ca)

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#### **Healthy Housing - Call for Participants**

Positive Spaces, Healthy Places, is a community-based comprehensive research study aimed at improving the overall health and well-being of people living with AIDS/HIV (PHA's) across Ontario.

By participating in the HIV, housing and health study, you will be helping to shape the way PHA's live.

Participation is completely confidential. An honorarium will be provided.

To participate in the study call 1-866-301-2548 (Toronto: 416-642-0181)  
To find out more about this study visit: [www.healthyhousing.ca](http://www.healthyhousing.ca)

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#### **Canadian Urban Institute Urban Leadership Awards (ULA) Recipients**

Recipients of the Canadian Urban Institute's Urban Leadership Awards (ULA) will be honoured at the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual ULA luncheon on June 5, 2006, at the Fairmont Royal York

Recipients:

Jane Jacobs Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient: Michael Harcourt, former BC Premier and Vancouver Mayor and spinal cord injury survivor.

Leadership Award Recipients: Benny Farm Task Force (Montreal); Dr. Peter Simon, Royal Conservatory of Music; Robert Sirman, Canada's National Ballet; Steven Peck, Green Roofs for Healthy Cities; 10,000 Trees Project (Waterloo); Michael "Pinball" Clemons and the Toronto Argonauts; PACT Youth Crime Reduction Program; Jamal Clarke, Friends in Trouble Youth Initiative; Subria Lapps (Ajax).

Local Heroes: “Mr. Woodstock” Edwin Bennett; internationally renowned Diane Dupuy; architect Joe Lobko; GTA Faith Alliance’s Reverend Don Meredith; International Village BIA’s Mary M. Pocius (Hamilton); youth crime prevention crusader Staff Inspector James Sneep of the Toronto Police Service’s Community Mobilization Unit.

To purchase tickets go to: [www.canurb.com/awards](http://www.canurb.com/awards) or call 416-365-0816 x236

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**International Development and Relief Foundation (IDRF)**

**Help for Indonesian Earthquake Victims**

More than 5,000 people were killed and thousands injured when a powerful earthquake struck the Indonesian island of Java on Saturday, May 27, 2006. The IDRF is raising funds to help the victims of this calamity. Your donations will be used to help to provide immediately required relief aid such as water, food, hygiene kits, water purification supplies, blankets, tents, and emergency health care.

To make a donation please contact IDRF at 416- 497-0818 or toll-free at 1-866-497-4373. Alternatively, you can [donate online by clicking here](#). Please enter "Indonesia Earthquake" in the COMMENTS box.

All Donations to IDRF are Tax Creditable

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**4. CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS**

**Access Alliance Multicultural Community Health Centre and Ryerson University  
Research Report Presentation**

You are invited to attend the breakfast presentation of the research report entitled “Examining Systemic and Individual Barriers Experienced by Visible Minority Social Workers in Mainstream Social Service Agencies: A Community Project.”

Date & Time: Tuesday, June 13th, 8:30 - 11:00 am

Location: Ryerson University, Room 309, Metro Hall, 55 John Street

Please RSVP to Dorene Weston at 416.406.3806 or [westond@idirect.com](mailto:westond@idirect.com) by June 7 and indicate any dietary restrictions.

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**The Canadian Council for Refugees  
International Refugee Rights Conference**

The Canadian Council for Refugees, in collaboration with the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration and hosted by the Centre for Refugee Studies, is holding an international rights conference as their spring consultation. The Conference goal is to leave the event having agreed on strategies to ensure that organizations work together more effectively across borders to protect the rights of refugees. Organizations that are supportive of these issues are also welcome to attend.

Date & Time: June 17th-19th, 9:00 – 4:00 pm

Location: The Centre for Refugee Studies, Suite 321, York Lanes, York University

For more information, visit:

<http://actew.aa.metastrategies.com/actew/actew/eventdetails.shtml?x=49429>

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**Art for Real Change Festival (ARCFest) 2006**

**Call For Submissions**

ARCFest is a Social Justice Arts Festival that will be held from October 23rd-29th in multiple venues in the Queen West Art and Design District and Parkdale neighbourhoods in Toronto. As a multi-disciplinary festival, ARCFest features art events, panel discussions, speakers, and workshops addressing local social justice issues.

We are looking for provocative, radical, inspiring, empowering, innovative and/or enlightening works from across the artistic media (i.e., film, poetry, performing arts, music, visual arts and anything else you consider art). Proposals must address local social justice/ activist/human rights issues.

We encourage projects that are co-created or co-produced by an artist together with an organization involved in social justice pursuits (though this is not a requirement)

ARCFest is committed to supporting equity and embraces submissions from diverse communities.

Send your submissions to: Face in The Crowd Collective, PO BOX 128. Station E, Toronto, ON, M6H 4E1

ATTN: ARCFest Submissions Committee  
(submissions will not be accepted by email)

Submission deadline is: Monday, June 12th, 2006

For more information: email [info@arcfest.org](mailto:info@arcfest.org) or visit our website [www.arcfest.org](http://www.arcfest.org)

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**Images of Toronto's Vital Signs**

**Call for Submission**

The Toronto Community Foundation (TCF) in partnership with CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival is seeking images that portray quality of life in Toronto. The selected

images will be featured in the 2006 edition of *Toronto's Vital Signs*®, TCF's annual fall report on quality of life in Toronto. The release of *Vital Signs*® receives wide media and public attention, and is distributed to thousands of local philanthropists, private sector decision-makers and public policy makers.

Submission deadline is: Friday, June 30, 2006 (late submissions cannot be accepted). Further information, criteria and submission procedures can be obtained by visiting [www.tcf.ca](http://www.tcf.ca) and [www.contactphoto.com](http://www.contactphoto.com)

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## 5. INFORMATION RESOURCES

### 5.1 New Reports and Publications

#### **The Task Force on Modernizing Income Security for Working-Age Adults Time for a fair Deal**

The Toronto City Summit Alliance (TCSA) and St. Christopher House (St. Chris) released their report "Time for a Fair Deal" calling for fundamental reform of Canada's income security programs for working-age adults.

Declaring the current system in need of a thorough overhaul, The Task Force on Modernizing Income Security for Working-Age Adults (MISWAA) identified three key issues plaguing low-income Canadians:

- Many working people cannot earn enough to make ends meet even when working full-time for a full year – at least 30% of low-wage workers fall into this group
- Employment Insurance (EI) no longer covers the majority of the temporarily unemployed – in Ontario only 27% receive EI benefits, and only 22% receive EI benefits in Toronto
- Existing social assistance programs are punitive, make it difficult to escape poverty, and create a "welfare trap" for many

The Task Force's recommendations are aimed at the federal government, the provincial government, municipal governments, and other parts of civil society that all must be part of the solution.

The full MISSWA report is available on the web at [www.torontoalliance.ca](http://www.torontoalliance.ca)

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#### **The Atkinson Charitable Foundation A House Half-Built**

Written by Roy Romanow, a former Premier, Commissioner on the Future of Health Care in Canada, and a Canadian icon, this is the featured article in this month edition of *The Walrus* magazine. According to Romanow, the quickening erosion of our nation's legacy and values places us at a pivotal moment in Canada's history. If Canada is to

remain progressive, united, and strong enough to meet tomorrow's challenges, we must join together and stand up for our legacy as a nation based on fairness, opportunity, respect and balance between the individual and community, between nation and enterprise.

For online and pdf versions of the article go to:

<http://www.walrusmagazine.com/article.pl?sid=06/05/16/0247214>

[http://www.atkinsonfoundation.ca/files/Walrus\\_RJR\\_pack\\_light.pdf](http://www.atkinsonfoundation.ca/files/Walrus_RJR_pack_light.pdf)

To access the Walrus magazine, visit: <http://www.walrusmagazine.ca/>

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### **Hotel Workers Rising**

#### **Creating Luxury, Enduring Pain: How Hotel Work is Hurting Housekeepers**

This new study couples new research with the stories of hotel housekeepers to paint a dramatic picture of the work of a hotel housekeeper. Findings show that behind the luxury and comfort that housekeepers provide for hotel guests is a pattern of persistent pain and injury.

The report utilizes the first comprehensive analysis of employer records of worker injuries, including records of the major five hotel companies. The analysis covers seven years (1999-2005) and 87 hotel properties with approximately 40,000 hotel employees. The report finds that not only are housekeepers injured more frequently than other hotel and service workers, but this problem is only getting worse as hotel companies implement room changes including heavier beds and linens and room amenities like coffee makers and more pillows.

The report can be downloaded at:

[http://www.hotelworkersrising.org/pdf/Injury\\_Paper.pdf](http://www.hotelworkersrising.org/pdf/Injury_Paper.pdf)

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### **Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD)**

#### **The Progress of Canada's Children and Youth**

The Progress of Canada's Children and Youth 2006 is the seventh edition of this longstanding CCSD information product. This magazine-style publication provides information on different factors that influence the health and well-being of Canadian children and youth.

*Progress* now has its own website with sections covering everything from demographics to economic security to health.

To download individual chapters and a wealth of statistical information, visit:

<http://www.ccsd.ca/pccy/2006/>

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## **Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA)**

### **Tax Cuts and the Fiscal Imbalance**

This study warns that solving the alleged “fiscal imbalance” runs the risk of becoming a downsizing exercise for the federal government. Different definitions of the term “fiscal imbalance,” in a context of federal-provincial fights over cash and partisan politics, have muddied the waters of the debate.

According to the study, “The term ‘fiscal imbalance’ is a loaded one.” “It is a pejorative term that implies that balance must be restored. But a careful look at Canadian history and other federations worldwide suggests that Canada does not have deep structural problems that need to be fixed.”

To date, the issue has revolved around provinces seeking more money from Ottawa. The report warns that, in its current incarnation, more radical decentralization measures could be put on the table due to pressure from influential lobby groups, like the Canadian Council of Chief Executives.

“Missing from the story is tax cuts and tax competition,” Lee adds. “Provincial governments undercut their fiscal positions through tax cuts over the past decade. The decentralization push hinges around deep federal tax cuts to pay for the elimination of federal transfers for health care, post-secondary education and social welfare.”

The full report is available from the CCPA web site: <http://www.policyalternatives.ca>

For more information contact Kerri-Anne Finn, CCPA Communications Officer, at 613-563-1341 x306.

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## **Caledon Institute of Social Policy**

### **More Than a Name Change: The Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB)**

The federal government’s new Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB) – formerly known as the Choice in Child Care Allowance – contains two serious flaws. First, the UCCB will be taxable in the hands of the lower-earner parent in the case of couples or the parent in one-parent families. As a result, different types of family with the same income will pay different amounts of federal and provincial/territorial income taxes on their \$1,200 annual payment and so will receive different after-tax benefits. Single-parent families typically will end up with the smallest after-tax benefits from the new program. Second, to help pay for the new scheme, the Canada Child Tax Benefit’s \$249 annual young child care supplement – used mainly by low- and modest-income families – will be axed. The resulting distribution of net benefits (i.e., after the loss of the young child supplement and income tax increases) will be irrational, confusing and unfair. No family will end up with \$1,200. The largest net benefit – \$971 – will go to upper-income one-earner couples, while those on welfare will get \$20 less. Working poor families will get less than those on welfare, so the Universal Child Care Benefit will raise the welfare wall. The paper compares the UCCB with Caledon’s proposal to deliver the \$1,200 through the Canada Child Tax Benefit, and finds the latter option superior on a range of criteria.

To read the complete report visit: <http://www.caledoninst.org/>

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**Canadian Policy Research Networks (CPRN)**  
**Connecting Young People, Policy and Active Citizenship**

This is a research report following on the CPRN's National Youth Dialogue and Summit Engaging Young Canadian last November. The event brought together 144 randomly chosen, representative young people, aged 18 to 25 to share their vision for Canada and to meet with 40 decision-makers from the public, private and non-profit sectors. In more than three days of discussion they laid out a road map for change and the role they and other social actors should play in achieving it.

According to this report, Canada's youth are ready to play a major role in the country's future, despite the evidence of their disengagement from voting and political parties. Changing the country's political practices to facilitate youth engagement will reap significant rewards.

Connecting Young People, Policy and Active Citizenship presents the policy implications of this youth vision for Canada. The vision is, above all, pan-Canadian. It stresses high quality common standards in public services like education and health, the workplace, and the environment, and equity of access and mobility across jurisdictions for all citizens. It is guided by the shared values of equity, accountability and transparency, long-term sustainability and prevention, and efficiency in the federation. It values diversity and insists upon both the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

Go to the CPRN's website for the full report: <http://www.cprn.org/en/doc.cfm?doc=1439>

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**Canadian Policy Research Networks (CPRN)**  
**Commercialism in Schools: Who's Calling the Shots**

A wide variety of private fundraising initiatives in Canada's public schools could threaten equitable, high quality, publicly accountable education for students across the country. This finding is from *Commercialism in Canadian Schools: Who's Calling the Shots?*, a report detailing and analyzing the results from a national survey of commercialism in Canada's public schools.

The report – the first of its kind – documents the nature and extent of commercial activities in elementary and secondary schools and the degree to which public funding is being replaced or supplemented by private funding sources, including school fundraising, advertising, partnerships and sponsorships, corporate-sponsored educational materials and user fees. Provincial/regional, language and grade level analysis ensures this is the most comprehensive and current picture of commercial activities taking place in our public schools.

To read the complete report visit:

[http://www.policyalternatives.ca/documents/National\\_Office\\_Pubs/2006/Commercialism\\_in\\_Canadian\\_Schools.pdf](http://www.policyalternatives.ca/documents/National_Office_Pubs/2006/Commercialism_in_Canadian_Schools.pdf)

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**The Daily, Statistics Canada**

**Study: Family Income and the Well-Being of Children**

The well-being of children appears to be almost always associated with the household income of their family, according to a study recently published jointly by Human Resources and Social Development Canada and the Research Data Centre program. The study found that regardless of the child's age or how household income is measured, higher income tends to be related to better physical, social/emotional, cognitive and behavioural well-being among children.

Using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, the study examined the relationships between various measures of household income and a broad range of physical, social/emotional, cognitive and behavioural characteristics of a child's well-being.

To read the full report, visit: <http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/060511/d060511c.htm>

The associated research paper, "Income and Outcomes of Children" can be accessed from: <http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/11F0019MIE/11F0019MIE2006281.pdf>

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**The Daily, Statistics Canada**

**Census Family Income, 2004**

For the second year in a row, couple families in Oshawa had the highest median total family income among all census metropolitan areas. The median is the point where half of the families' incomes are higher and half are lower. The median for couple families in Oshawa reached \$83,100 in 2004, up 1.6% over 2003, after adjusting for inflation. Oshawa remained slightly ahead of Ottawa–Gatineau, where couple families had a median total income of \$82,100, up 1.2% from the previous year.

To read the full report, visit: <http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/060525/d060525c.htm>

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**The Daily, Statistics Canada**

**Labour Force Survey, April 2006**

Employment rose by an estimated 22,000 in April. At the same time, the unemployment rate edged up to 6.4% (+0.1 percentage points), still hovering around a 30-year low. So far in 2006, employment is up 124,000 or 0.8%, double the pace of growth observed over the first four months of last year.

To read the full report, visit: <http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/060505/d060505a.htm>

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**The Daily, Statistics Canada  
Public Sector Employment 2002 to 2005 (revised) and first  
quarter 2006 (preliminary)**

Public sector employment (comprising federal, provincial and territorial, and local governments, and government business enterprises) reached nearly 3.0 million in 2005, its highest level in 11 years.

The vast majority of these people, about 2.7 million, worked in the government portion, the highest level since the peak in 1992. Government employment has been increasing steadily since hitting a low of just over 2.5 million in 1999.

(Preliminary data for the first three months of 2006 show average government employment hit a record first-quarter high of 2.8 million, up 2.3% from the first quarter of 2005).

To read the full report, visit: <http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/060529/d060529d.htm>

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**Perspectives on Labour and Income, Statistics Canada  
Unemployment Since 1971**

Between 1971 and 2005, Canada's labour force became more educated in line with the increased credentials of new entrants, while the aging of the workforce shifted the experience profile upwards. However, this was not reflected in unemployment rates, which were for the most part slightly higher in 2005 than in 1971. What factors are at play? The article looks at specific age-education combinations to yield a more nuanced long-term perspective on current labour market conditions.

HTML version

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/75-001-XIE/10506/art-2.htm>

PDF version

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/75-001-XIE/10506/art-2.pdf>

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**Perspectives on Labour and Income, Statistics Canada  
Retirement**

Over the past three decades, the age of retirement has changed dramatically. The median age was close to 65 in the late 1970s and early 1980s, but since the mid-1980s, it has declined considerably.

To read the full report visit: <http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/75-001-XIE/comm/04.pdf>

For the latest issue of Perspectives on Labour and Income, go to:  
<http://www.statcan.ca/bsolc/english/bsolc?catno=75-001-XWE>

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## 5.2 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

### **John Howard Society of Toronto**

The John Howard Society of Toronto provides support services to people in conflict with the law and adults at imminent risk of coming into conflict with the law, in order to facilitate positive change and achieve community reintegration.

For more information, visit: [www.johnhowardtor.on.ca](http://www.johnhowardtor.on.ca)

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### **CivicAccess: Citizens for Open Access to Civic Information and Data**

Citizens for Open Access to Civic Information and Data (aka: CivicAccess.ca) is a new online space for Canadian civic engagement. CivicAccess is being founded by librarians, civil servants, academics, lawyers, free and open-source advocates, geomatics professionals and community planners from across Canada.

The goals of this website are:

- to encourage all levels of governments to make civic data and information available to citizens without restrictions, at no cost, and in useable open formats.
- to encourage the development of citizen projects using civic data and information

For more information, visit their website at: <http://civicaccess.ca/>

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### **Black Woman and Child Magazine**

Black Woman and Child is a new magazine dedicated to serving the interests of Black women who are or have been pregnant, plan to become pregnant and/or have a child or children aged seven years and under.

For more information, visit: [www.blackwomenandchild.com](http://www.blackwomenandchild.com)

Or <http://nubeing.com/bwac/index.htm>

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### **Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation (CERA)**

CERA is a non-profit human rights organization that promotes human rights in housing. The Centre works to remove barriers that keep disadvantaged individuals and families from accessing and retaining the housing they need.

For more information, visit: <http://www.equalityrights.org/cera/>

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### **Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO)**

The Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO) works to better the housing situation of Ontario residents who have low incomes including tenants, co-op members and people

who are homeless. ACTO works with legal clinics, tenant associations and other groups and individuals concerned about housing issues.

For more information, visit: <http://www.acto.ca/english/home.php>

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### **Labour Education Centre (LEC)**

The mission of LEC is to build the capacity of unions to plan, develop and deliver training, adjustment, and labour education programs that transform the lives of individual members and build the strength, solidarity and equity of their unions.

For more information visit their website at: [www.laboureducation.org](http://www.laboureducation.org)

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### **The Canadian Research Institute on the Advancement of women (CRIA W)**

CRIAW is a research institute which provides tools to facilitate organizations taking action to advance social justice and equality for all women. CRIAW recognizes women's diverse experiences and perspectives; creates spaces for developing women's knowledge; bridges regional isolation; and provides communication links between/among researchers and organizations actively working to promote social justice and equality for all women.

For more information visit their website at: <http://www.criaw-icref.ca>

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### ***Spacing***

*Spacing* was launched in December 2003. It is a magazine about Toronto's public spaces and urban landscape. We cover any and every issue that concerns life in the city's public realm.

For more information, visit: <http://spacing.ca/about.htm>

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### **Hotel Workers Rising**

The UNITE HERE Hotel Workers Rising campaign represents an effort to empower thousands of hotel workers in hundreds of properties in cities across North America as they work to improve their jobs and secure better lives for themselves and their families.

For more information, visit: <http://www.hotelworkersrising.org/aboutcampaign.asp>

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### **CLEONet**

CLEONet is an online clearinghouse for community legal education in Ontario. CLEONet is a project of Community Legal Education Ontario. For organizations that produce, use, or need community legal education materials, CLEONet is a tool to find resources, share information, and work together online.

For more information, visit: <http://www.cleonet.ca/about>

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**The Canadian Harm Reduction Network (CHRN)**

The CHRN is the virtual meeting place for individual and organizations dedicated to reducing the social, health and economic harms associated with drugs and drug policies.

Visit the CHRN at: <http://www.canadianharmreduction.com/>

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**6. CONTACT US**

The CSPC-T office is located at 2 Carlton Street, Suite 1001, Toronto, Ontario M5B 1J3. Phone (416) 351-0095 Fax: (416) 351-0107. Contact us by e-mail at [cspc@cspc.toronto.on.ca](mailto:cspc@cspc.toronto.on.ca) or visit our website: [www.socialplanningtoronto.org](http://www.socialplanningtoronto.org).

Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, and we are wheelchair accessible. Our resource library is open by appointment. Please call the main line for further information.

We thank our colleagues involved in the ACTEW electronic newsletter, the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD), the Canadian Social Research Newsletter, the Daily, the Ontario Coalition for Social Justice Newsletter, the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ), the Canadian Policy Research Networks (CPRN), Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), Caledon Institute of Social Policy, Canadian Institute for Health Information, Toronto Training Board, City of Toronto, and the Atkinson E-Bulletin for some of the information in this bulletin.

The CSPC-T gratefully acknowledges the funding support of the United Way and the City of Toronto.