

Toronto Housing & Homelessness Services Planning Forum

FEBRUARY 9 2022



Land Acknowledgement



10:00 Introduction and Housekeeping

Forum Co-Chairs:

- Mark Aston, TAEH Chair and ED, Covenant House
- Ashleigh Dalton, Manager, Strategic Policy and Service Planning, SSHA

10:05 1 Welcome and Land Recognition

10:15 2 Toronto's Shelter System Flow Data – review of current [data dashboard](#)

- With Stephanie Malcher, Manager, Coordinated Access, Service Planning and Integrity, SSHA

10:35 3 SSHA Items and Updates

With Laural Raine, Director and Ashleigh Dalton, Manager - Strategic Policy and Service Planning, SSHA

11:00 4 Understanding the hospital discharge process for people experiencing homelessness

With Dr. Jesse Jenkinson (she/her), Postdoctoral Fellow at the MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions

11:30 5 TAEH Items and Updates

- City of Toronto and Ontario 2022 budget submissions

11:45 6 Emerging issues/priorities

- Forum Survey update
- Environmental scan with Forum attendees to identify emerging issues and priorities from the community to inform future agendas.

11:55 7 Other business/close - Review of any urgent next steps not already captured

Next meeting: March 9, 2022 @ 10am – 12pm

TORONTO SHELTER NETWORK

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

JOIN TSN FOR A MONTH OF VIRTUAL CELEBRATION AND DISCUSSION!

FEB 23 AT 1:00PM: ALL MEMBER MEETING SHAPING BLACK FUTURE: A FOCUS ON ABR AND HOW TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF BLACK SHELTER CLIENTS

22 FEB AT 1:00PM FRONTLINE SHELTER WORKER SUPPORT SESSIONS: WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH CHECK-INS

MARCH (TBD) FEBRUARY AND FOREVER: ABR DOES NOT STOP! A PANEL DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTING BLACK INITIATIVES!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION CONTACT: COORDINATOR.TSN@GMAIL.COM

The all member meeting will be taking place on **Wednesday February 23rd at 1pm**

- The session will focus on anti-black racism and how to better meeting the needs of black clients in the shelter system
- Members of the black community are invited to send TSN photos that showcase their contributions, talents, aspirations
- The significant contributions of black frontline staff as well as our peer champions will be highlighted

Tuesday February 22 at 1pm

- Frontline Shelter Worker Support Sessions: Wellness and Mental Health Check-ins

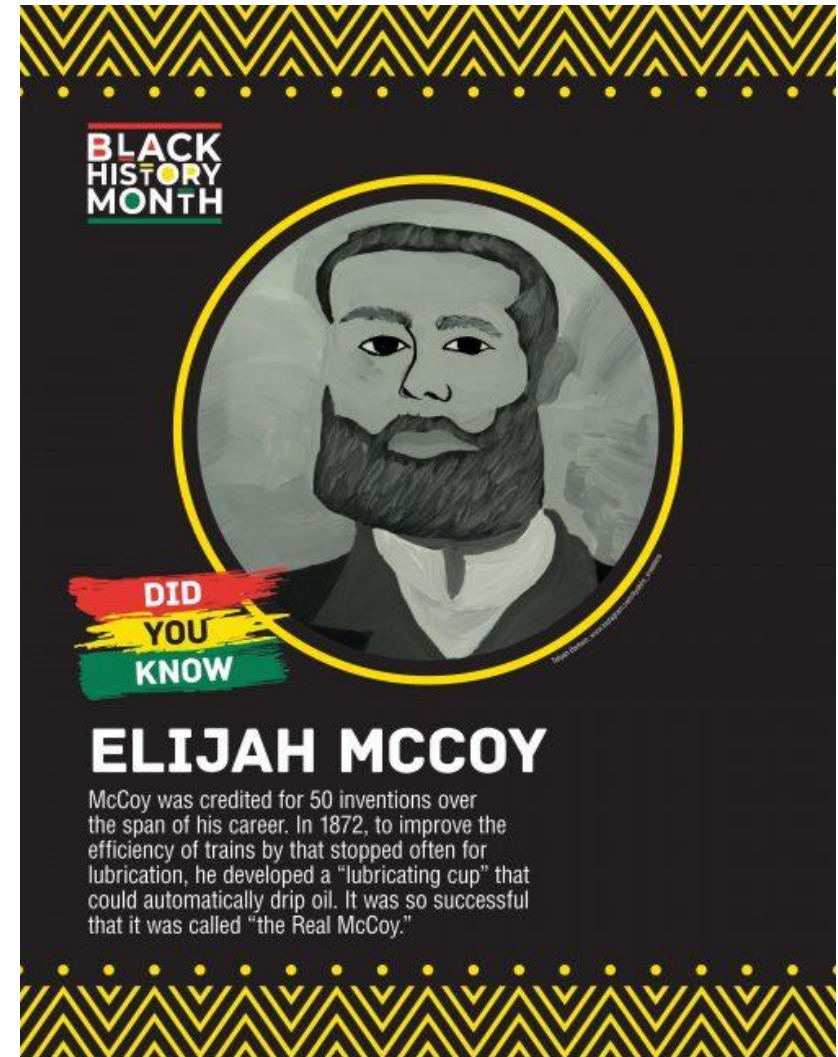
March (TBD)

- A Panel Discussion highlighting black initiatives

The City of Toronto

- Proclamation
- “**Did you know?**” poster series rinks, parks and golf courses.
 - The posters, painted by local youth artists, feature captivating illustrations of notable Black figures and their contributions.
- The City’s Community Centres with viewing screens will play **presentations highlighting Black Canadians who have made significant contributions across various sectors**, including sports, entertainment and politics.

Toronto Public Library has a calendar of many events at <http://tpl.ca/blackhistory>





Item 2

Toronto's Shelter System Flow Data

Review of current data dashboard

WITH **STEPHANIE MALCHER**, MANAGER,
COORDINATED ACCESS, SERVICE PLANNING AND
INTEGRITY, SSHA

Item 3 SSHA Items & Updates

WITH LAURAL RAINE,
DIRECTOR AND
ASHLEIGH DALTON,
MANAGER - STRATEGIC
POLICY AND SERVICE
PLANNING, SSHA





Item 4

Understanding the hospital
discharge process for people
experiencing homelessness

WITH DR. JESSE JENKINSON (SHE/HER),
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW AT THE MAP
CENTRE FOR URBAN HEALTH SOLUTIONS



Item 5
TAEH Items & Updates

WITH KIRA HEINECK, ED, TAEH

- Fund support services and rent supplement in new affordable housing that is now being developed.
- Sustain existing supportive housing via increased rent supplement and a market-based formula.
- Sustain mental health services, emergency shelters, VAW shelters, and supportive housing through competitive salaries.
- Provide portable rent subsidies, to house people experiencing homelessness, people being discharged, and to free up units in supportive housing.
- Expand the MCCSS *Youth In Transition Worker* funding to help end youth homelessness.
- Support implementation of the Toronto Supportive Housing Growth Plan

Pre-budget key messages

Ontario

Online survey closes Thursday February 10!

#1 - Building on the government's pandemic responses in terms of supports and investments to protect Ontario's health care system, through additional steps in these priority areas:

- Further investments in the health and long-term care sector workforce;
- Additional investments in health and long-term care infrastructure; and
- Additional funding for addictions and mental health supports.

#5 - Directing more government support toward priorities including:

- Housing affordability; and
- Mental health and addiction supports.

#7 - Government actions to invest in workers, through:

- Creating incentives for employers to rehire and expand their workforce.

City of Toronto

Key Messages

- Fund support services and rent supplement in new affordable housing that is now being developed, and in private rental units for people experiencing homelessness.
- Sustain emergency shelter and supportive housing providers through adequate salaries.
- Support implementation of the Toronto Supportive Housing Growth Plan.

Add Your Voice

- Send your Councilor an email before Friday, especially if on Executive Committee!
- Watch for the TAEH Letter to City Council for the February 17th meeting.





Item 6 Environmental Scan

+ FORUM CHECK-IN SURVEY

Forum Check-In Survey Update

1 - Overall, on a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the highest value, how well do you think the Forum is going since we have moved to virtual meetings?

67% - 8

17% - 7

17% - 5

Forum Check-In Survey Update

2.a - Reflecting on the Forum mandate, please tell us what you think is working well and supporting its success.

- Supporting one another during the pandemic - opportunity to connect and share resources, learnings and more.
- The topics covered are of great interest and it is very helpful to hear directly from the community housing and homelessness serving sector partners.
- Information sharing and bringing various stakeholders together in one place is working well.
- We, as a group, I feel I'm being heard, and I feel they may be listening.
- Easy to gather virtually as travel is eliminated. Enjoyed breakout sessions and updates from the City.

Forum Check-In Survey Update

2.b - Please tell us what you think is not working well here.

- Meeting by zoom, though convenient, does not provide the opportunity to network, connect and build relationships.
- I think the TAEH needs more capacity to do some more convening on projects and research.
- With so many different networks and working groups developed over the past two years, sometimes it isn't clear what the objectives of the THSP are and how they align with or overlap with objectives of other groups.
- Talking about Safety and Security in buildings seems to fall on deaf ears.
- Maybe more time for discussion and debriefing housing related struggles. Oftentimes they come in the form of chats during a City presentation. Could maybe facilitate more cross sector understanding after SSHA updates.

Forum Check-In Survey Update

Forum Principles and Objectives

3.1 - Be Client Centered: **50 % 7-8** **50% 3-5**

3.b - Foster trust and true collaboration between the Forum partners: **33% 8-9** **50% 6-7** **17% 3**

3.c - Champion collaborative discussions allowing for multiple views: **88% 7-8** **17% - 3**

Any comments re your answers above? Anything you think the co-chairs should consider moving forward?

Providing more space for different points of view - there are still voices that take up space - the 'usual suspects' which does not always allow for differing/diverse points of view.

Forum Check-In Survey Update

Please share your thoughts – through both a scale of 1 to 10 and the comment field – on how you think we are collectively executing the scope of the Forum as written in 2018:

4.a - On a scale of 1 to 10, the Forum's scope is being executed: **33% 9-10 50% 7 17% 5**

4.b - Please add your comments and advice on how the Forum is executing its scope here:

- TAEH needs more capacity to help execute meet its full potential.
- As I said earlier in another question, I believe the City is listening, and I believe that they were following through. The fact that we have these meetings with them says something.

Forum Check-In Survey Update

5 - Please share up to 3 of your top priorities for agenda items/topics for the coming year.

- Deeper dive into issues of anti-racism/anti-oppression - embedded into every single meeting.
- Deeper dive into truth and reconciliation - led by Indigenous voices at every meeting (beyond the land acknowledgment).
- Building capacity for the sector to build stock, partner on projects and truly invest in housing across the city.
- Creating greater understanding about what is working in Toronto's supportive housing sector - potentially building an updated model including health partners and centered on resident needs.
- Transitioning of emergency housing funding to permanent housing.
- Safety
- Data, Decision Making, Shared Experiences
- Data Strategy

Forum Check-In Survey Update

6.a - Regarding the frequency of the Forum meetings, and how they have increased from 4 times/year for longer meetings held in person to monthly 2-hour virtual meetings now, please tell us if you prefer:

To meet less often – **0%**

To continue with monthly meetings – **83%**

I think the monthly meetings are good, but I can't always attend – **17%**

Forum Check-In Survey Update

7 - Given our experience with COVID-19 and its ongoing impact, please tell us how comfortable you are returning to in-person and/or hybrid meetings once public health guidelines allow it:

Very comfortable – **33%**

Somewhat comfortable – **50%**

Not at all comfortable – **0%**

No opinion – **17%**

8 - How often would you say you participate in the Forum meetings?

Often, almost every meeting – **67%**

About half the time – **33%**

Not too often – **0%**

Never – **0%**

Environmental Scan

- EMERGING ISSUES
- PRIORITIES FOR AGENDA ITEMS





Other business & Close

NEXT MEETING:

MARCH 9 2022

10AM – 12PM