

TIGP Team Report



Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships

Spring 2004

Bringing the generations together — sharing cultures and celebrating diversity!



Black History Month was just one of many opportunities for the generations to connect and share over the past year with TIGP.

President's Report 2004

Another year has passed by and Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships has done a remarkable job in developing new partnerships and raising the needed resources to continue the good work of this organization.

With your help we exceeded last year's fundraising goal! Our programs continue to flourish and our new partnerships have provided much learning, challenge and satisfaction.

Much of our success is due to the commitment, leadership and creative efforts of Executive Director Chris Stewart and Sue McMahon, Manager of Programs and Volunteers. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to them and the other staff and volunteers. Without them the work would not get done.

The coming year will be filled with ongoing projects, the quest for new sources of funding and continued outreach to our volunteers for their help in creating intergenerational "magic" with children, youth and seniors across the many diverse communities of our city. Stay with us. Contribute in whatever way you are able. We appreciate and need your support.

*Susan Davey
President, TIGP Board of Directors*

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Board of Directors

2003-2004

- Susan Davey
- Carol Katsura
- Joyce Misoi
- Joe Salerno
- Jane Wilson
- Sandra Hanmer
- Lorna MacGregor
- Jane Piccolotto
- Russ Smith

Patrons Council

- Paul Godfrey
- The Honorable Margaret McCain
- Dr. Bette Stevenson, O.C.

Funders

- Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
- City of Toronto
- The Ontario Trillium Foundation
- National Crime Prevention Community Mobilization Program
- Private donations, foundations and corporations (see page 8)

TIGP Staff

- Christina Stewart, Executive Director
- Sue McMahon, Manager of Programs and Volunteers
- Teresa Tang, Program Co-ordinator
- Cinzia Limotta, SAHM Co-ordinator

Admin. Volunteers

- Elaine Morgans-Barr
- Sam Kokado
- Ai Murata
- Misuho Yanai
- Shane Park
- Chris Hennick
- Delyana Ivanova
- Rufina Rana

Trainers

- Carol Katsura (Literacy)
- LiChing Ooi (Seniors in Cyberspace)

Fundraising success in 2004!

Thank you to all our volunteers, friends and partners who contributed to another year of successful programs and activities for children, youth and seniors. With your generous help our fundraising efforts topped last year's total, earning TIGP more than \$26,000. A combination of support from foundations, private donors, and board and staff fundraising initiatives contributed to our success this year.

We continue to need your support for 2004-2005. You can help us to support programs for children, youth and seniors by:

- volunteering to help a child read or visit a senior in a nursing home;
- making a donation to TIGP: by cheque, mailed to our office; using your Visa card, called in to us or online at www.CanadaHelps.org, where you can make a secure donation by searching for our name – **Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships** – and following the instructions.

How to Reach Us:

Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships
Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute
800 Greenwood Avenue
Toronto, ON M4J 4B7

Phone: (416) 531-8447
Fax: (416) 531-7337
Email: chris@tigp.org

Visit our website at
www.tigp.org

Our Mission and Mandate

VISION

We work toward a society that values, supports and welcomes the contributions of all individuals throughout their lives. For this reason we engage the participation of people of all ages, backgrounds and experiences in a variety of intergenerational activities.

PRINCIPLES

We believe in:

1. Respecting and valuing the ways of all ages, backgrounds and experiences.
2. Respecting and valuing the thinking of all generations.
3. Eliminating artificial and systemic barriers created by age stereotyping and all other forms of discrimination.
4. Extending and sharing intergenerational support beyond family and acquaintances.

OBJECTIVES

1. We promote intergenerational harmony and lifelong learning.
2. We design and deliver intergenerational support programs in partnership with the community.
3. We design and deliver programs that encourage the participation of individuals of all ages, backgrounds and experiences.
4. We strive to become a centre of best practices for intergenerational programming.
5. We promote and incorporate access and equity principles in all our activities.

TIGP is the major advocate and developer of intergenerational programs in the City of Toronto.

Celebrations & cyberpals at Monarch Pk

Monarch Park Collegiate opened its doors to welcome local community seniors to their first Festive Community Christmas Dinner. Staff, student council members and co-operative education students prepared a superb festive dinner with all the fixings. Music was provided by the talented staff and students. Visitors were thankful for the "pleasant, delightful and educational evening," looking forward to returning to the school for next year's event.

Visiting seniors were also invited to the "Seniors in Cyberspace" program at Monarch Park, where students volunteer to share their computer classroom learning experiences with seniors. The program is an excellent vehicle to bridging the generation gap, with both seniors



and students participating in life-long learning that has developed many positive friendships.



Monarch Park students also volunteered as Cyberpals in an intergenerational pilot Internet penpal program. TIGP volunteer Liching Ooi co-ordinated the pilot where students were matched with community seniors to communicate on a regular basis via the internet.

Cyberpals celebrated the end of the pilot program by meeting their partners face-to-face over breakfast. Although the program has ended, many of the Cyberpals still keep in contact with each other.

*Mary Card, Curriculum Leader
Business Studies/Technology Studies
Monarch Park Collegiate*

*TIGP is pleased to announce that Monarch Park Collegiate will receive the **2004 Norine Cooper Seniors in Cyberspace Award** for enriching the lives of seniors through information technology. Visit Norine Cooper at <http://www.seniorservicesinfo.ca> to learn about programs and services for seniors.*



Checkmate ... euchre ... pokeeno!

Laughter is heard throughout the room as seniors at Greenwood Towers teach students from Danforth Collegiate how to play board and card games.

The Greenwood Towers luncheon program has brought many residents of different backgrounds together with high school students to enjoy social and recreational activities over lunch. The program was initiated by Danforth Collegiate students through a Bell United Wave grant. In addition to bringing different ages together, it has stimulated new relationships between the many cultural groups at Greenwood Towers.

The program has been so successful that we are exploring how we can continue to provide it when funds are no longer available from Bell United Wave. Toronto Community Housing Corporation, in partnership with TIGP and program participants, will be applying to the TCHC's Social Investment Fund to help keep the program going. We hope to continue to run this program, which has made such a difference to all who participate.

*Mario Clementi
Community Health Promoter
CHU #14, Toronto
Community Housing*

FLEMINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES & TIGP

The Ontario Trillium Foundation grant at work:

Marc Garneau Collegiate and Glenyan Manor Seniors join the information highway

It is late Monday afternoon at Glenyan Manor in the Flemingdon Park community. For some, it is just another weekday afternoon. For others, it is an experience in Cyberspace.

The Seniors in Cyberspace program has provided an opportunity for Flemingdon Park community seniors to receive computer and Internet training from high school students. Funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation and National Crime Prevention, this program is a collaborative partnership between TIGP, Flemingdon Neighbourhood Services, Toronto Community Housing, Glenyan Manor Tenants Association and Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute.

Every week, a group of students devote their time to helping seniors use the Internet and e-mail. The program has helped participants gain new skills, but has also connected the younger and older generations within the community. Internet coaching is often conducted in languages such as Mandarin, Urdu or Gujarati, reflecting the diverse community that exists within Flemingdon Park.

Seniors in Cyberspace has generated a great deal of optimism within Flemingdon Park. It has fostered positive relationships among its partners, helped bridge gaps among community members and promoted diversity.

These outcomes only strengthen the idea that "volunteers grow community." Future initiatives including cyber safety training and an Inter-generational Seniors Forum are being organized.

Aalia Jadavji, Flemingdon Neighbourhood Services



Sensitivity to aging

Marc Garneau students attended Seniors in Cyberspace training where they were educated and equipped with communication skills that would benefit them when working with the older generation. The training debunked some myths surrounding the elderly and the interactive elements enabled the students to personally experience some of the issues around growing older, such as decreased vision and mobility.



They gained first-hand knowledge and practical skills that they could apply when volunteering as an Internet coach in the Glenyan Manor Seniors in Cyberspace program.

LiChing Ooi, Trainer Seniors in Cyberspace

Funding from the National Crime Prevention, Community Mobilization Program has allowed us to expand on our initiatives with partners within the Flemingdon community. We are currently developing

As Marc Garneau staff advisers for the Cyberspace program, we are extremely pleased to be partnered with TIGP. The students have not only earned community service hours and experience, but they have gained an appreciation and a sensitivity for an older generation, increased their knowl-

edge by teaching others and developed new friendships. When visiting Glenyan Manor, we have witnessed the students' patient and gentle approach as they guide the seniors through the use of e-mail and the Internet. We look forward to continuing this community partnership between the generations.

**Kelly Barrington, Teacher
Karen Beutler, Teacher
Marc Garneau Collegiate**



The Seniors in Cyberspace program has been a wonderful experience for both the students and the seniors we are working with it. I find that there isn't that much difference between us. We like the same food, movies, places and many other things. This is a great way for us kids and the elderly to mingle and share our views. I really enjoyed this program. There is a lot we learned from each other. I joined this program for my community hours, but now I wouldn't mind doing this even if I do not get community hours for it.

**Thinesh Logeswaran
Marc Garneau Collegiate**

new projects to increase community networking and safety through a community safety website, cyber safety training for seniors, an elder abuse forum and expansion within the Seniors in Cyberspace program.

Elder abuse forums open dialogue



Last fall TIGP co-ordinated and delivered two workshops on the prevention of elder abuse, funded by the City of Toronto Breaking the Cycle of Violence grant, to create a community dialogue and build awareness on this issue. 160 youth and seniors participated in the sessions. The youth in particular were surprised at the extent to which abuse occurs and how it is perpetuated. They felt there is little attention paid to this problem by society and more forums such as this would be helpful. TIGP has developed a template for organizing this type of intergenerational forum. Please contact our office for more information.

A driving force at Danforth



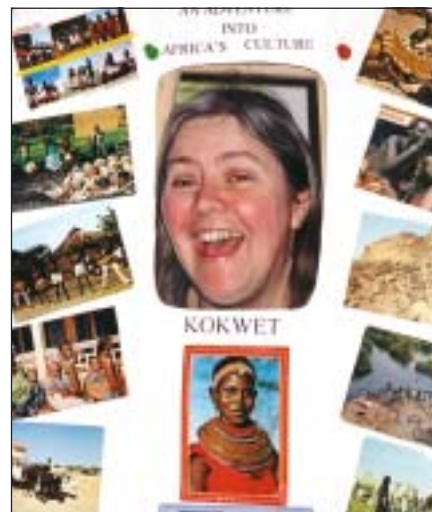
Danforth students collected more than 500 food items for the seniors at Greenwood Towers during the holiday season. The class with the largest donation of food items won a pizza party, courtesy of Toronto Community Housing CHU #14.

TIGP is pleased to announce that the Danforth Collegiate Charity and Volunteer Committee will receive the 2004 Community Service Award for its vision and commitment in developing community service opportunities for youth, while forming a long-term partnership with seniors at Greenwood Towers.

Working Skills Centre partnership

TIGP's partnership with Working Skills Centre (WSC) opens the doors for reciprocal and long-term mentoring and support between seniors and adult students who will be matched for computer coaching. The program content is designed to foster the development of intergenerational friendships. Seniors will be encouraged to mentor WSC student coaches as they look for work and seek other opportunities to participate in Canadian society. Seniors may also help by giving feedback to the WSC students on their performance as a computer coach or continue to communicate with the students to improve their English proficiency.

Celebrating African culture with Kokwet



Kokwet of Africa Cultures, in partnership with TIGP, co-ordinated a Black History Month event where community seniors, volunteers and organizations joined together to celebrate Black History Month. A second photo is on the front page.

Jessie's and TIGP

Jessie's Centre for Teenagers, in partnership with TIGP, hosted an afternoon of training where participants explored intergenerational volunteer opportunities and the aging process. Toronto long-term care facilities have opened their doors and are welcoming the teenagers to participate in volunteering with the elderly. TIGP is working with Jessie's to include an intergenerational component within their volunteer programs. Volunteers are needed to act as grandparents to babies, holding and feeding them in the nursery. Join us at an Open House Event at Jessie's on **Oct. 6, 2004**. Call Sue at (416) 531-8447 for details.



Starting young at Ketchum

When generations come together magic happens! Children from Jesse Ketchum Day Care Centre share precious times and memories with seniors through song and story. The inter-generational spirit can be seen through the smiles and laughter as each generation greets their partner.

Tina Robeznieks, activation co-ordinator at Belmont House, says "the interaction between children and adults is unbelievable and beautiful to watch. Belmont House is very proud of its long-term connection with Jesse Ketchum. We hope our partnership will continue for years to come!"

TIGP is pleased to announce that Belmont House and Jesse Ketchum Day Care Centre will receive the 2004 Community Partnership Award, in recognition of 10 years of sustained partnership.

Keeping the magic alive



TIGP co-ordinated two Intergenerational Networking breakfast meetings with long-term care staff where everyone shared their strategies for implementing successful intergenerational programs. Special thanks to Four Villages Health Centre and Versa Care staff for hosting our first meetings. Watch for notice of the next breakfast meeting being held at Belmont House.

Crafty connections for young and old



Residents from Versa Care and kids from Daycare Connection have lots of fun together making crafts and celebrating special occasions throughout the year.



Sharing our stories

A Salvation Army Meighan Retirement resident says "this program (TIGP) is very valuable in creating an understanding between children and older persons. It teaches us that each individual is unique yet we are all connected and have much to offer each other. We must trust each other, share our stories and experiences, and take care of one another."



Play ball!

Greenwood Towers seniors and Danforth Collegiate students extended their friendships while enjoying an evening together at a recent Blue Jays game, courtesy of City Councillor Case Ootes.

Volunteers and ESL

Have you ever imagined what it must be like to move to a new country, encounter a new culture, but not know the language? This experience happens every day for our new immigrants. But Toronto prides itself as a city that embraces many different people.

Teaching new immigrants the languages of Canada usually falls to the public education system, but this is not enough. So we rely on other resources — people willing to give their time and energy to help new immigrants learn our languages. Volunteers make a measurable difference in teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). The skills they possess are as varied as their interests.

What does the volunteer gain by volunteering? Most are intrigued and willing to learn from the students. I have been in the field of education all my adult life and taught at many levels. I cannot recall any class or group where I was not open to new ideas and thoughts or considered a new approach. An attitude of openness leads to a great experience.

The resources needed by ESL volunteers are few: perhaps access to a library and the support of a teacher or librarian. TIGP negotiates with public schools and provides these facilities to its volunteers.

We often hear of the world where selfishness and greed reigns supreme. When you meet volunteers in whatever area they have chosen to contribute, you are immediately disabused of this notion. Volunteering is a very rewarding occupation for the volunteer and the recipient.

*Dugald F. Matheson, ESL Volunteer
Lord Dufferin Jr./Sr. School*



Russ Smith: always eager to lend a hand

TIGP is pleased to announce that long-term volunteer Russ Smith is the first recipient of our newly created **Volunteer of the Year Award**.

Throughout his involvement with TIGP, Russ has supported the development of community gardening programs, provided hands-on support in our fundraising initiatives, taken a lead hand in supporting staff at programs, joined our organization as a board member, and even filled in for Santa at a moment's notice. Congratulations Russ, we appreciate your ongoing commitment to *Bringing Generations and Communities Together!*



A family affair!

Although all three An brothers attend different schools, they have all caught the intergenerational spirit, volunteering to support TIGP in many ways. L to r, James, Derrick and Howie.

2004 Citizenship Award Recipients

Congratulations to these TIGP volunteers who are being recognized by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration's Voluntary Service Awards:

- Derek Thompson, 25 years.
- Ruth Martin, five years.
- Grace McCrea, five years.
- Chi Pai Sun, five years.
- Bill Devereux, five years.

Thanks King George!



We are pleased to announce our new partnership with King George International College and thank the students who have completed their practicum at our organization. Ai and Sam (above l to r) led the way. We look forward to working with future students.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Elementary Schools

Adam Beck Junior
All Saints
Annette Junior/Senior
Blake Junior
Delta Alternative Junior
Duke of Connaught Junior
Earl Beatty
Earl Haig
Eglinton Junior
Essex Junior/Senior
Glen Ames Senior
Hillcrest Junior
Jackman Junior
Keele Junior
Kensington Junior
Kew Park Montessori
Day School
Lord Dufferin Jr./Sr.
McMurrich Junior
Montrose Junior
Parkdale Junior
Queen Alexandra Middle
Runnymede Junior/Senior
Ryerson Community Jr.
Sprucecourt Junior
Swansea Junior/Senior
West Prep Junior

Secondary Schools

Danforth Collegiate
& Technical Institute
Heydon Park Secondary
Marc Garneau Collegiate
Monarch Park
Riverdale Collegiate

Colleges &

Universities

George Brown College
Humber College
Seneca College
Ryerson University
King George International
College

Day Care Centres &

Parent Resource Centres

Better Beginnings
Clinton School Age
Day Care
Jesse Ketchum Child
Care Centre
Montrose Day Care
Parent Resources –
Gerrard/Moss Park
Special Moments
Day Care
St. Mark's Child
Care Centre

Memberships

Ontario Gerontology
Association
Ontario Health Coalition
United Generations
Ontario
Ontario Community
Supports Association
Volunteer Centre of
Toronto

Agencies &

Organizations

Barton Place
Belmont House
Bridgepoint Health Centre
Castleview Wychwood
Towers
Chester Village
Christian Community
Centre
Christie Ossington
Neighbourhood Centre
Community MicroSkills
Dufferin Mall Youth
Services
Elm Grove Living Centre
Ethiopian Society
Fairview Nursing Home

Fudger House
Four Villages Community
Health Centre
Flemingdon
Neighbourhood Services
Glenyan Manor
Grenadier Retirement
Residence
Greenwood Towers
Tenants Association
Hanson House
Hellenic Home for the
Aged
Heritage Nursing Home
Jessie's Centre for
Teenagers
Kokwet of Africa Cultures
Loyola Arrupe Centre for
Seniors
Lincoln Place
May Birchard Apartments
Maynard Nursing Home
Meals Here and There
Meighan Retirement
Residence
Moore Place
Nisbet Lodge
Norwood Nursing Home
O'Neill Centre
Operation Spring Board -
SOAR

Queen's Retirement
Residence
Rekai Centre
Rexdale Women's Centre
St. Christopher House
St. Clair West Services for
Seniors
Spencer House
Toronto Community
Housing
Versa Care
Woodgreen Community
Centre
Woodgreen Job Centre
Working Skills Centre

Foundations &

Corporations

J.P. Bickell Foundation
The George Lunan
Foundation
Sir Joseph Flavelle
Foundation
Edith Lando Charitable
Foundation
The Catherine & Maxwell
Meighan Foundation
F. K. Morrow Foundation
Bank of Montreal
WestJet

2004 Volunteer Calendar of Events

Volunteer Welcome Back:

Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2004, 1 - 3 p.m.

Volunteer Open House:

Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2004, 1 - 3 p.m.

Jessie's Volunteer Open House:

Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2004, 12:30 - 3 p.m.

Reading Partner Training:

Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2004, 1 - 3 p.m.

Festive Luncheon:

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2004, Noon - 2 p.m.